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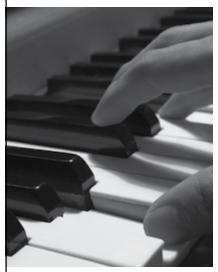


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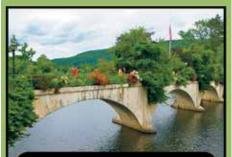


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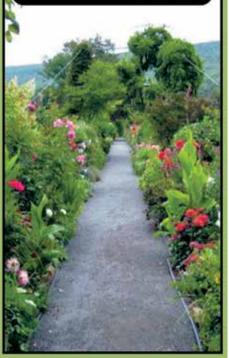




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Thank you for supporting the UMass Amherst Fine Arts Center and the exceptional artists and performances that enrich our community and further the university's mission as a leading institution of higher learning.

The Alumni Association is a proud contributor to the university's mission as well, with yearround programming that provides alumni and students opportunities to learn, network and show their UMass pride.

A highlight of our year-round programming, **Alumni Weekend** keeps alumni connected with one another and with the university. The weekend features reunions, seminars, tours and social gatherings. All are welcome!

We look forward to seeing you on June 5 & 6 for Alumni Weekend 2015. Visit UMassAlumni.com/alumniweekend for details.

Sincerely,

Dr. JC Schnabl Assistant Vice Chancellor for Alumni Relations and Executive Director of the UMass Amherst Alumni Association

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Blood, Sweat, Tears, Earth, Wind, Fire...& a Little Chicago! Sat. March 28th, 2015 at 7:30 PM CLASSICAL SERIES Kevin Rhodes, Music Director & Conductor

All-Orchestral Opening Night Gala Sat. September 27th, 2014 at 7:30 PM

Kings, Angels & Lovers Sat. October 25th, 2014 at 7:30 PM

Beethoven, Mendelessohn & Fuchs Sat. January 24th, 2015 at 7:30 PM

Latin Guitar! Sat. February 21st, 2015 at 7:30 PM

Beethoven & Bernstein Sat. March 14th, 2015 at 7:30 PM

Viennese Choral Spectacular Sat. April 11th, 2015 at 7:30 PM

Season Finale - The Rite of Spring Saturday, April 25th, 2015 at 7:30 PM

Season Sponsor



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For offer details and to order tickets, call 413.733.2291 or visit SpringfieldSymphony.org Sunday, March 1, 2 p.m. Bowker Auditorium

台原偶戲團〈台灣偶戲萬花筒〉

Taiyuan Puppet Theatre Company 〈 A Sea of Puppets 〉

The show will begin with a talk by Ms.Wu Shanshan, Director of the Taiyuan Puppet Theatre Company. A workshop on puppet manipulation for the audience will follow after the main performance.

Spotlight Taiwan events are funded in part by the Ministry of Culture, Republic of China, with special patron Dr. Samuel Yin, with additional support from Five Colleges, Incorporated.

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台灣布袋戲是一種豐富多元的傳統戲曲,包含音樂、雕刻、刺繡與細膩的表演技巧。 台原偶戲團傳承此文化,推廣與保存偶戲藝術,延伸傳統並同時創作新戲。劇團駐台北 大稻埕的台原亞洲偶戲博物館,結合各類表演藝術專才,將台灣偶戲成功地推上國際舞 台。

台原偶戲團的表演包括在一百多年歷史彩樓的傳統戲碼,也有現代劇場型式的演 出,演員、樂師及偶師互動的偶戲。我們的創意灌注在劇本、偶的造型、彩樓舞台造型 等,我們不斷地研究探索實驗音樂、人偶同台演出形式。有不同戲碼適合各種年齡及文 化背景的觀眾。

本團2000年成立以來,已經在五十個國家表演過,從中南美洲的熱帶森林、英國 倫敦的皇家音樂廳及V&A博物館、柬埔寨的鄉下、河內傳統戲曲劇場、西班牙的米勒 之家、荷蘭十七世紀的教堂以及台北大稻埕的廣場,台原偶戲團希望把台灣精緻的偶戲 文化帶到各地,與所有熱愛藝術的觀眾們共享。

Taiyuan Puppet Theatre Company Introduction

Taiwanese glove puppet theatre has a rich and varied tradition in which music, carving, embroidery and a delicate performance technique all come together.

The Taiyuan Puppet Theatre was founded to continue this tradition, while at the same time creating new and innovative music plays. The company is based at the Taiyuan Asian Puppet Theatre Museum in Dadaocheng, the old centre of Taipei.

Our company performs both traditional-style plays on a one hundred-year old stage with live music, as well a modern shows in which puppeteers, actors and musicians interact. The plays are accessible for audiences of all ages and cultural backgrounds.

The company's shows have been performed in over 50 countries around the world, at venues such as the Purcell Room of the Royal Festival Hall and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the rainforests of Central America, the Traditional Opera Theatre in Hanoi, Union Square in San Francisco, the Macau Arts Festival, the Asian Performing Arts Festival in Seoul, Casa Mila in Barcelona, the countryside of Cambodia and, of course, the squares and theatres of old Taipei.

戲碼介紹

台灣偶戲萬花筒 A Sea of Puppets

——踏遍50多個國家表演演出

《台灣偶戲萬花筒》之劇情為典型的才子佳人故事,劇情敘述一位書生路遇不平、 除強濟弱,最後終於贏得美人芳心,是一齣經典而討喜之小品。 本劇劇情簡單易懂、趣味橫生,透過演師五指精細的操弄,表現出生、旦、丑、 雜等各類人物的肢體特色。劇中所設計之小生搖扇、小旦梳妝撐傘、白闊抽煙、武術雜 耍、跳窗等細膩動作表演,是引領觀眾一窺傳統布袋戲堂奧的絕佳入門好戲。三位樂師 的現場演奏配樂,為演出注入活潑的生命力;此外,布袋戲金碧輝煌的彩樓舞台,更是 傳統工藝的經典作品,與好戲呼應,完整呈現屬於台灣偶戲的精緻、精彩!

Introduction of the Performance: A Sea of Puppets

A Sea of Puppets is a traditional Taiwanese glove puppet show performed on a beautifully carved wooden stage. With amazing skill the puppeteers bring the exquisite puppets with embroidered costumes to life. They perform not only delicate gestures, but also exciting fighting scenes and acrobatics. The story is a romantic tale in which a young man saves a girl from the hands of a villain (clown character). In the show we will see all the characters of traditional Taiwanese puppet theatre: the young lady, the scholar, the clowns and the villains.

In this fascinating performance we will see a glimpse of one of the most beautiful theatre performances in the world and the sheer virtuosity of the Taiwanese puppet performance accompanied by music. The show is without words and suitable for an audience of all ages.

Tour leader Wu Shanshan

Wu Shanshan is the Executive Director of Taiyuan Puppet Theatre Company where, with a great team, she has been creating performances with actors, puppets and live music. She is also both an actor and theatre educator. Ms. Wu received her training at the Lassaad International Theatre School in Brussels Belgium. She was a Visiting Lecturer and Director at Colorado College, USA in 2012.

Puppeteer Lai Shih-An

Born in 1971, Lai Shih-An is a skilled performer, and has performed over 500 shows with puppet master Chen Xihuang, a national treasure of Taiwanese puppet theatre. Lai started studying puppet carving when still in high school and is skilled at carving various characters of the traditional puppet shows, as well as modern puppets.

Puppeteer Kuo Chien-Fu

Mr. Kuo has a passionate interest in traditional glove puppet theatre since an early age, which resulted in his study of all aspects of the art. In high school he studied puppet manipulation and the making of hats and costumes. In 2012, Mr. Kuo was selected by the Ministry of Culture to become a student with puppet master and national treasure Chen Xihuang for three years. He performs with the company of master Chen, as well as other traditional glove puppet companies. He is currently studying at the Graduate School of Visual Communication Design, of the China University of Technology.

VALLEY CLASSICAL CONNECTION

Explore the many wonderful classical music groups and series available throughout the Pioneer Valley

ARCADIA PLAYERS

Bach—St. John Passion March 14, 7:30 pm, Wesley Methodist Church, \$ Performing the dramatic St. John Passion by J.S. Bach. www.arcadiaplayers.org

HOLYOKE CIVIC SYMPHONY

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March 8, 3 pm, Holyoke Community College, Free Performing works by English composers William Walkton, V. Williams, and Edward Elgar. www.holyokecivicsymphony.org

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition

March 28, 2 pm, McCulloch Auditorium, Free Annual Concerto Competition featuring student performers from Mount Holyoke College.

MHC Symphony Orchestra: Simple Gifts April 17, 8 pm, Abbey Chapel, Free

Performing Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, excerpts from Beethoven's opera *Fidelio*, and other works. www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/music/calendar_spring

MUSIC AT AMHERST CHAMBER SERIES

Mozart's "Great Mass" in C Minor March 7, 8 pm, Buckley Recital Hall, \$ With the Amherst College Choral Society, the ASO performs Mozart's "Great Mass" in C minor, K 427. www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/music

MUSIC IN DEERFIELD

Johannes String Quartet

March 22, 4 pm, Sweeney Concert Hall, \$

Performing with John Dalley, viola and Peter Wiley, cello of the Guarneri Quartet. Works by Esa-Pekka Salonen, Mendelssohn and Brahms. www.musicindeerfield.org

PIONEER VALLEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Rachmaninoff & Sibelius: Jeffrey Biegel, piano March 29, 7 pm, Deerfield Academy PAC, \$

Sibelius's Symphony No. 3 and Rachmaninoff's romantic showpiece, Piano Concerto No. 3. www.pvso.org

SMITH COLLEGE

Spring Oratorio: Mendelssohn's Elijah March 7, 4 pm, John M. Greene Hall, \$ The Smith College Choirs, joined by Penn State Men's Glee Club. perform Mendelssohn's Elijah.

Brahms & Joachim, an Intimate Portrait

March 10, 12:30 - 1 pm, Sage Hall Green Room, Free Edward Klorman, viola and Liza Stepanova, piano perform classical works by Brahms and Joachim.

Music in the Noon Hour

March 24, 12:30 - 1 pm, Sage Hall Green Room, Free Joel Pitchon, violin and Judith Gordon, Piano. www.smith.edu/smitharts

SPRINGFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Beethoven & Bernstein

March 14, 7:30 pm, Symphony Hall, \$ The SSO and pianist Sara Davis Buechner perform Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68 and Bernstein's Symphony No. 2. www.springfieldsymphony.org

UMASS FINE ARTS CENTER

Academy of St. Martin in the Fields With Jeremy Denk, piano March 28, 8 pm, FAC Concert Hall, \$

Denk conducts London's top orchestra from the keyboard. Works include Bach concertos and serenades by Dvorák and Josef Suk. www.fineartscenter.com

UMASS MUSIC DEPARTMENT

UMass Amherst Symphony Orchestra March 6, 8 pm, Fine Arts Center Concert Hall, \$ Performing Mahler's Symphony No. 1 in D major, Debussy's Printemps Symphonic Suite, and more.

Bach in the Subways: 330th Birthday March 21, Locations around Amherst, Free

Part of an international day of celebrations in subways and public spaces, for Bach's 330th birthday. Students & faculty perform at Amherst Books at 8 Main St; Subway at 4 Main St., and more TBA. www.umass.edu/music/eventcalendar Sunday, March 8, 7 p.m. Fine Arts Center Concert Hall

PADDY MOLONEY THE CHIEFTAINS

and SPECIAL GUESTS

Paddy Moloney – uilleann pipes/tin whistle Matt Molloy – flute Kevin Conneff – bodhran/vocals Jon Pilatzke – harp/dance Nathan Pilatzke – dance Triona Marshall – harp/keys Cara Butler – dance Tim Edey – guitar Alyth McCormack – vocals/dance Martin Murray – banjo/mandolin Tara Breen – fiddle/saxophone

Program will be announced from the stage

There will be a 15 minute intermission



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ABOUT THE CHIEFTAINS

Six-time Grammy Award winners, The Chieftains, have been highly recognized for reinventing traditional Irish music on a contemporary and International scale. Their ability to transcend musical boundaries to blend tradition with modern music has notably hailed them as one of the most renowned and revered musical groups to this day.

The Chieftains were formed in 1962 by Paddy Moloney, from the ranks of the top folk musicians in Ireland. It wasn't until 1975 that The Chieftains began playing together full time. Although their early following was purely a folk audience, the range and variation of their music and accompanying musicians quickly captured a much broader audience.

As cultural ambassadors, their performances have been linked with seminal historic events, such as being the first Western musicians to perform on the Great Wall of China, participating in Roger Water's "The Wall" performance in Berlin in 1990, and being the first ensemble to perform a concert in the Capitol Building in Washington DC. In 2010, their experimental collaborations extended to out of this world, when Paddy Moloney's whistle and Matt Molloy's flute travelled with NASA astronaut, Cady Coleman, to the international space station.

They performed for Pope John Paul II during his visit to Ireland in 1979 to an audience of over 1.3 million. In 2012, marking The Chieftains' 50th Anniversary, they were awarded the inaugural National Concert Hall Lifetime Achievement Award at a gala event in Philadelphia hosted by The American Ireland Fund *"in recognition of their tremendous contribution to the music industry worldwide and the promotion of the best of Irish culture."*

2012 marked the group's 50th anniversary, and to celebrate this momentous occasion, The Chieftains once again invited friends from all musical styles to collaborate on their latest album, *Voice of Ages*. Featuring some of modern music's fastest rising artists (Bon Iver, The Decemberists and Paolo Nutini among them), this album is proof that their music transcends not only stylistic and traditional boundaries, but generational as well.

The Chieftains are never afraid to shock purists and push genre boundaries and the trappings of fame have not altered The Chieftains' love of, and loyalty to, their roots however- they are as comfortable playing spontaneous Irish sessions as they are headlining a concert at Carnegie Hall. After fifty years of making some of the most beautiful music in the world, The Chieftains' music remains as fresh and relevant as when they first began.

SPECIAL GUESTS

ALYTH McCORMACK

A voice described as having 'spun glass fragility belying a sinewy strength,' accompaniments 'transcendentally timeless and effortlessly contemporary,' combined with the uncomplicated conviction with which she communicates with her audiences have ensured that Alyth is one of the most exciting singers on the Celtic scene. Her vocal talent and her understanding approach give her an ability to cross over diverse singing styles making her comfortable performing with a variety of artists. She was born and raised on the Island of Lewis of the Northwest coast of Scotland After the academy, Alyth returned to her roots and began another education altogether, touring with various bands and projects throughout Germany, Spain, Italy, Estonia, North America, the U.K., Brazil, Ireland, Switzerland, Greece, Austria, Hungary, Norway, and Sweden. During this time she recorded with various artists, appearing on 16 albums to date, and in 2000 released her first solo CD *An Iomall* (The Edge) on Vertical Records. She has appeared at various festivals, Hebridean Celtic Connections, The Edinburgh International Festival, The Lammertree Festival, Hebridean Celtic Festival—and in 2001 performed with her trio as part of "Distilled-Scotland Live in New York."

Alyth also works as an actress performing for both stage and screen. She has worked with such directors as Alison Peebles, Ian McElhinney, and Chris Baldock, and is a founding member of Scottish Theatre Group 'Dogstar,' taking leading roles in their award-winning productions. Alyth has appeared on various film soundtracks, most notably *Festival* by Annie Griffin, winner of the British Comedy Award for Best Comedy Film 2005.

CARA BUTLER

A lover of the stage from very young, Cara started dancing when she was six years old. Under the tutelage of renowned Irish dance master Donny Golden, Cara went on to win numerous Irish dance championships at world-class levels, including five regional and six national titles. Her competitive years were also intermingled with performing with the best of Irish music exports, including Cherish the Ladies, Greenfields of America, and Solas. This year marks her 21st year as the principal female dancer with The Chieftains, who are sixtime Grammy award winners. She has appeared with them numerous times on 'Late Night with David Letterman', 'The Tonight Show with Jay Leno' and 'Late Night with Conan O'Brien'. Cara is famous for her starring role as the lead dancer in the nationwide Folgers coffee commercial, 'A Dancer's Morning', and can be seen dancing in Shania Twain's video, 'Don't be Stupid'. She has also appeared in and choreographed dance sequences with Brad Pitt in 'The Devil's Own' and Cher and Ryan O'Neal in 'Faithful'. In 1999 Cara opened as a principal dancer in Jean Butler and Colin Dunne's 'Dancing on Dangerous Ground' in London's Theatre Royal Drury Lane. She continues to work with her sister of Riverdance fame doing dance workshops and appearing in 'Jean Butler's Masterclass', an instructional DVD.

Cara Butler's expertise lies in her formal Irish dance training but is not limited by it. She is a performer at heart and her various talents have enabled her to excel in many mediums. In 1996 she toured with Ashley MacIsaac showcasing her virtuosity as a singer and dancer. And in 2006 she joined her talents with Triona Marshall and the Pilatzke Brothers - both of The Chieftains - creating TREAD, their own tour de force of traditional music and dance influenced greatly by their mentors in Irish music. Most recently, Cara has joined forces with husband Jon Pilatzke and brother-in-law Nathan Pilatzke creating one of the most dynamic and unique dance shows touring the world today called The StepCrew. This production brings together Irish, Tap, and Ottawa Valley stepdancing and boasts an entire collective of virtuosic percussive dancers and musicians. For full details check out www.stepcrew.com.

JON PILATZKE

Jon Pilatzke is a creator of and performer in one of the most dynamic and unique dance shows touring the world today called The StepCrew. This production brings together Irish, Tap, and Ottawa Valley stepdancing and boasts an entire collective of virtuosic percussive dancers and musicians. For full details check out www.stepcrew.com. Hailing from the Ottawa Valley of Ontario, Canada, Jon has been stepdancing and playing the fiddle for three decades and is the three-time winner of the Canadian Open Stepdancing Championships. He has had the pleasure of performing in many different musical and theatre productions including Bowfire – a virtuosic display featuring ten of Canada's best violinists from all different genres.

For the past eleven years, Jon has been ecstatic to stepdance and play lead fiddle all over the world as a permanent fixture with The Chieftains. Performances with them have included everything from Late Night with David Letterman to the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize Awards. In recognition for their talents, Jon and his brother received a Gemini Award (the Canadian equivalent of an American Emmy) in 2005 and performed alongside The Chieftains for the 2006 Grammy-nominated album *The Chieftains Live From Dublin: A Tribute to Derek Bell*. Jon was happy to expand his horizons in the summers of 2009 and 2012 as the violinist for international sensation Loreena McKennitt, playing at some of the most prominent outdoor music festivals across Canada and throughout Europe.

NATHAN PILATZKE

Undoubtedly one of the most dynamic and energetic stepdancers to ever hit the stage, Nathan has been performing for thirty years. Hailing from the Ottawa Valley of Ontario, Canada, Nathan (who has been aptly nicknamed Crazy Legs) Started stepdancing at the tender age of five. Since 2002 Nathan has been touring the world with Irish supergroup The Chieftains, visiting countries including Sweden, Norway, China, Japan, Australia, and most of Europe and North America. He has performed everywhere from The Ryman Auditorium with Emmylou Harris, Ricky Skaggs, and Allison Krauss to Late Night with David Letterman and Conan O'Brien.

2005 proved triumphant for Nathan when, together with his brother they garnered a Gemini Award (the Canadian equivalent of the Emmy) for Best Performance in a Variety Program on "The Chieftains in Canada". Back in Canada, Nathan has teamed up with fellow young Chieftains' alumni in an Irish/Canadian traditional music and dance project called TREAD. They were honoured to record their first CD "Live From Matt Molloy's" and have toured Japan, Italy, Scotland, and Ireland extensively. Most recently, Nathan has joined forces with brother Jon Pilatzke and sister-in-law Cara Butler creating one of the most dynamic and unique dance shows touring the world today called The StepCrew. This production brings together Irish, Tap, and Ottawa Valley stepdancing and boasts an entire collective of virtuosic percussive dancers & musicians. For full details check outwww.stepcrew.com

TRIONA MARSHALL

Marshall's playing is "spontaneous, delicately graded, full of rhythmic vitality, and technically impeccable."

- Martin Adams (The Irish Times)

Trained as a Classical Harpist, Tríona was principal harpist with the RTE Concert Orchestra for five years up to 2003, when she was invited to play as guest harpist for the Chieftains. Since then she has performed solely on the Irish Harp playing as both guest harpist with the Chieftains on tours throughout the world and as a solo performer, with performances at the 9th World Harp Congress, the Special Olympics Opening Ceremony held in Croke Park, Dublin, and at the 2005 Edinburgh Fringe Festival where with Thomas Ranjo – sole non-Japanese performer of the Satsuma biwa or "Lute of the Samurai" she successfully performed both Japanese and Irish music with harp and shakuhachi as well as harp and biwa.

As principal harpist with the RTE Concert Orchestra, she likewise explored a number of different styles varying from Jazz to Modern Irish and standard Classical. These included, amongst others, the premiere performance of contemporary Jazz artist Bobby Lamb's "Shining Sea" for harp and Orchestra, a performance of Robert Farnon's "Intermezzo" for harp and strings, Bill Whelan's "Seville Suite" along with the "Concierto de Aranjuez" by Joaquin Rodrigo.

Tríona comes from Portlaoise in Ireland. She is one of five in a family of musicians and started playing the harp when she was seven. After winning numerous harp competitions throughout Ireland, her studies and performances took her around Europe. She also made a number of tours as a member of the EUYO (European Union Youth Orchestra) over four years

TIM EDEY

At just 33 years of age multi-instrumentalist and singer Tim Edey has toured the world and recorded extensively with all of the major names in Celtic roots music including; The Chieftains, Natalie MacMaster+Donnell Leahy, Altan, Capercaillie, Michael McGoldrick, Seamus Begley, Christy Moore, Sharon Shannon, Dougie Maclean, The Barra MacNeills, JP Cormier, Shaun Davey, Session A9, Lunasa, Vinnie Kilduff, Mary Black, Session A9, Julie Fowlis, Frankie Gavin and more.

Tim is also a successful solo artist in the UK and Ireland and East coast of Canada especially, where he sells out shows regularly and in 2012 Tim won two major BBC awards "Best musician" and "Best duo" with Brendan Power the harmonica guru from NZ. Originally from Broadstairs, Kent where he honed his style learning from his father Richard a fine guitarist and listening to Ed Boyd, Steve Cooney and Django Reinhardt. He has lived in Ireland and now resides in Scotland where he is based and tours all over the world regularly.

TARA BREEN

Tara Breen started playing fiddle at the tender age of seven. She has achieved All Ireland titles in every age category over the years, culminating with the Senior Fiddle Title in 2012. She is a member of the Awbeg Céilí Band who won the Senior Céilí Band competition in 2013. Tara has played all over the world including America, China, India, Philippines and most European countries. She was selected by Donal Lunny for the band Ciorras, and from there went on to join the Galician piper Carlos Núñez, with whom she continues to play on a regular basis in Europe. She is currently working on an album with Conor Moriarty and Stephen Rooney.

MARTIN MURRAY

From County Tipperary, Martin Murray is a highly respected instrumentalist and sound engineer. He played banjo, fiddle and mandolin in many bands throughout the 80's and 90's and travelled the world with the Chieftains guesting with them wherever they played. Martin also played and recorded with such luminaries as accordionist Mairtin O'Connor, Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin, Bill Whelan and Liam Clancy amongst others. In 1993 he released his own album A Dark Horse in the company of Frankie Gavin, Matt Molloy, Derek Bell, Gary O'Briain, Seamus McGuire, Jimmy Faulkner, Mairtin O'Connor and more. The album was compared very favourably to his American counterparts by 'The Irish Music Magazine'.

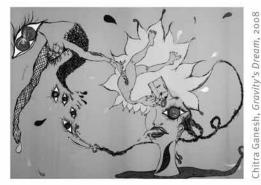
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Thursday, March 12, 7:30 p.m. Fine Arts Center Concert Hall

Song of the Jasmine

Ragamala Dance Company

Aparna Ramaswamy, Ranee Ramaswamy, & Rudresh Mahanthappa, Creators

Concept: Aparna Ramaswamy Creation and Choreography: Aparna Ramaswamy and Ranee Ramaswamy Composer: Rudresh Mahanthappa Dancers: Aparna Ramaswamy, Ranee Ramaswamy, Ashwini Ramaswamy, Tamara Nadel, Jessica Fiala

Musical Ensemble: **Rudresh Mahanthappa** (alto saxophone), **Rez Abbasi** (guitar), **Rajna Swaminathan** (mridangam), **Raman Kalyan** (Carnatic flute), **Anjna Swaminathan** (Carnatic violin) Light Design: **Jeff Bartlett**

Set Design:

Concept by **Ranee Ramaswamy** and **Aparna Ramaswamy** Architectural design by **Anjali Ganapathy** Technical direction by **Jeff Bartlett** and **Louise Robinson** Bell procurement by **Anju Kataria** and **Khazana Gallery** Sound Design: **Maury Jensen** Lighting Supervisor/Production Manager: **Mat Terwilliger** Stage Manager: **Elise Erickson**

Commissioners:

Walker Art Center, Lead Commissioner and Developmental Partner Krannert Center for the Arts, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Lead Commissioner Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland, Co-commissioner Lincoln Center for Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Co-commissioner



The presentation of The Song of Jasmine was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

FROM THE ARTIST

In *Song of the Jasmine* we explore the interconnectedness of the spiritual, the sensual, and the natural that is the lifeblood of the Indian psyche. We are guided by the writings of the 8th century Tamil mystic poet Andal, whose *Sacred Sayings of the Goddess* erases any dichotomy between the sacred and the personal, and seamlessly interweaves the two as she expresses deep longing, anguish, ecstasy, and the desire to merge the soul with the Supreme Consciousness.

For us, her unparalleled intensity of emotion inspires a dynamic world of contemporary interpretive possibility. Our commitment to entwining our Indian and American artistic genres speaks to the cultural fluidity in our hybrid existence and frees us to approach the poetic, visual and aural elements of the work as a sort of prism—different upon each viewing.

Song of the Jasmine was born of a close collaboration in which the choreography and the music were constructed simultaneously in a constant artistic dialogue that spanned more than a year.

-Aparna Ramaswamy, Ranee Ramaswamy, Rudresh Mahanthappa

Selections from 'Nachiar Tirumozhi'

"...the state of bliss attained by the total surrender of body, mind and soul, or Atma, to the Paramatman, or the Divine Existence. He has invaded my heart; and while I pine and sigh for his love, He looks on indifferent as if it were all a play. I feel as if my bones had melted away and my long javelin eyes have not closed their lids for these many days. I am tossed on the waves of the sea of pain without finding the boat that is named the Lord of the highest realm.

My vow to him courses through my body like a ripened blossom strung on your bow to release with keening motion the name of the only one capable of ocean-breaths dotted with song cleaved from between beaks. Draw the bow at me, loosening braids of reason until I am an untied string without a knot...

I have nothing left to give. I've expended all at Govinda's feet, who while dancing . . . plucked the stem of me in such heightened state. Frozen in ecstasy, is it fair to be further tormented? If the blazing lord of Arangam finds kindling of virtue, then he will reveal what's outside himself inside me." —Translations by Subramanya Bharathi and the poet Ravi Shankar

ABOUT ANDAL

Throughout her short life, Andal refused to marry any mortal man – Krishna was the sole object of her affection. Her feverish urgency to unite with Him is likened to the unbearable urgency of a fish out of water. It is said that He was so pleased with her devotion that He appeared to her father in a dream, instructing him to bring Andal to the temple at Srirangam, on the banks of the Kauveri River in southern India.

Legend says that the moment she entered the sanctum of the temple, she was surrounded by a blaze of light and was absorbed into the image of Vishnu. She was only fifteen years old.

ABOUT RAGAMALA DANCE

Under the direction of Ranee Ramaswamy and Aparna Ramaswamy, Ragamala creates work that conveys a sense of reverence, of unfolding mystery, of universal celebration. Now in its 22nd season, Ragamala has been hailed by The New York Times as "movingly meditative... [Ragamala] showed how Indian forms can provide some of the most transcendent experiences that dance has to offer." The company has been featured at the American Dance Festival (North Carolina), Lincoln Center (New York), Kennedy Center (Washington, DC), Music Center of Los Angeles (California), University Musical Society (Michigan), Just Festival (Edinburgh, UK), Bali Arts Festival (Indonesia), Soorya Festival (Kerala, India), and National Centre for Performing Arts (Mumbai, India).

Song of the Jasmine premiered at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis in May of 2014. An 11-city tour of the work began in August with a performance at Lincoln Center Out of Doors, which The New York Times called, *"soulful, imaginative and rhythmically contagious."*

For upcoming tour dates in the U.S. and India, please visit: www.ragamaladance.org 612-824-1968 info@ragamala.net

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

RANEE RAMASWAMY and APARNA RAMASWAMY (Concept/Choreography) are Artistic Directors, Choreographers, and Principal Dancers of Ragamala Dance, founded by Ranee in 1992. As dancemakers and performers, they explore the dynamic tension between the ancestral and the contemporary, making dance landscapes that dwell in opposition—secular and spiritual life, inner and outer worlds, human and natural concerns, rhythm and stillness—to find the transcendence that lies in between. As mother and daughter, each brings her generational experience to the work—the rich traditions, deep philosophical roots, and ancestral wisdom of India meeting and merging with the curiosity, openness, and creative freedom fostered in the United States. As protégés and senior disciples of legendary dancer and choreographer Alarmél Valli, known as one of India's greatest living masters, Ranee and Aparna's training in the South Indian classical dance form of Bharatanatyam is the bedrock of a creative aesthetic that prioritizes truthful emotion above all else.

Ranee and Aparna's work is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, National Dance Project, MAP Fund, The McKnight Foundation, New Music/USA, USArtists International and the Japan Foundation, and has been commissioned by the Walker Art Center (Minneapolis), Lincoln Center Out of Doors (New York), the Krannert Center (University of Illinois), the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center (University of Maryland), and the American Composers Forum. Ranee and Aparna were jointly named "2011 Artist of the Year" by the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Their upcoming work, Written in Water, has been selected for a development residency at the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography (MANCC).

Ranee is a 2014 recipient of the Doris Duke Performing Artist Award and currently serves on the National Council on the Arts, appointed by President Obama. Among her many awards are 14 McKnight Artist Fellowships for Choreography and Interdisciplinary Art, a Bush Fellowship for Choreography, a 2011 McKnight Distinguished Artist Award, and a 2012 United States Artists Fellowship.

Aparna's choreography and performance have been described as "a marvel of buoyant agility and sculptural clarity" (Dance Magazine), "thrillingly three-dimensional," and "an enchantingly beautiful dancer," (The New York Times). She has been awarded several honors, including three McKnight Artist Fellowships for Dance and Choreography, a Bush Fellowship for Choreography, an Arts and Religion grant funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, choreographic and travel support from the Jerome Foundation and Minnesota State Arts Board, and the Lakshmi Vishwanathan Endowment Prize from Sri Krishna Gana Sabha (Chennai, India). Her solo work, presented with live music has toured the U.S. and India with support from the National Dance Project and USArtists International, most recently at Narada Gana Sabha (Chennai) and the National Centre for Performing Arts (Mumbai). In 2010, Aparna was named one of "25 to Watch" by Dance Magazine. Aparna is an empaneled artist with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (of the Government of India). She serves on the Board of Trustees of Dance/USA.

RUDRESH MAHANTHAPPA (Composer/Alto Saxophone) - Few musicians share the ability of Rudresh Mahanthappa to embody the expansive possibilities of his music with his culture. The saxophonist/composer hybridizes progressive jazz and South Indian classical music in a fluid and forward-looking form reflecting his own experience growing up a second-generation Indian-American. Just as his personal experience is never wholly lived on one side of the hyphenate or the other, his music speaks in a voice dedicated to forging a new path forward.

The current manifestations of that trajectory include his latest quintet project Bird Calls which will issue its first release in February 2015 as it undertakes an extended period of live performances. This is 21st Century tribute to Charlie Parker includes a stellar band of pianist Matt Mitchell, bassist François Moutin, drummer Rudy Royston, and 20-year old trumpet prodigy Adam O'Farrill. The 2013 album Gamak featured guitarist David "Fuczynski, whose own microtonal vocabulary opened new possibilities for Mahanthappa's compositional imagination, alongside bassist Francois Moutin and drummer Dan Weiss. The 2010 debut CD by Samdhi (ACT Music + Vision), a multi-cultural ensemble that advances Mahanthappa's blend of jazz and Indian music with modernist electronic music, was described by JazzTimes as "a landmark convergence of styles that didn't lend itself to easy analysis... new music of this caliber hasn't been attempted before." Other recent projects run the gamut from the cross-generational alto summit Apex featuring Bunky Green; trios MSG and Mauger; the quintet Dual Identity co-led with fellow altoist Steve Lehman; and Raw Materials, his long-running duo project with pianist Vijay Iyer. Mahanthappa also continues to partner with Pakistani-American guitarist Rez Abbasi and



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Glenmeadow 24 Tabor Crossing Longmeadow, MA 800.633.6313 glenmeadow.org innovative percussionist Dan Weiss in the Indo-Pak Coalition, while giants in both jazz and South Indian music have recognized his success: he was enlisted by Jack DeJohnette for the legendary drummer's new working group, while a collaboration with the renowned Carnatic saxophonist Kadri Gopalnath resulted in Mahanthappa's critically-acclaimed 2008 CD *Kinsmen* (Pi).

Hailed by the New York Times as possessing "a roving intellect and a bladelike articulation," Mahanthappa has been awarded a Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, two New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowships, and commissions from the Rockefeller Foundation MAP Fund, Chamber Music America and the American Composers Forum. He has been named alto saxophonist of the year in Downbeat's International Critics Polls, Jazztimes' Critics Polls and by the Jazz Journalists' Association numerous times.

Mahanthappa is a Yamaha artist and uses Vandoren reeds exclusively. More information can be found at www.rudreshm.com

REZ ABBASI (Guitar) has been blazing a new trail as a leading figure in South Asian - American cutting edge jazz for over a decade. His work spans far and wide, performing in award-winning groups as Rudresh Mahanthappa's Indo-Pak Coalition and Kinsmen, and Indian multiple Juno award winning vocalist Kiran Ahluwalia's ensemble. In 2013, Abbasi was voted #1 Rising Star Guitarist in Down Beat magazine's prestigious International Critic's Poll. Rez has released several albums as a leader, from acoustic guitar driven guartet music, to electrified organ trio featuring Indian vocals. His ultra - modern quintet, Invocation pulls all aspects of his persona into a cohesive, distinctive voice rarely paralleled in today's jazz. Including band mates, Mahanthappa, Vijav Iver, Dan Weiss, Johannes Weidenmueller and quest, Kiran Ahluwalia, Invocation's debut release, Things To Come (2009) was included in Downbeat magazine's 'best albums of the decade'. That same year he received the prestigious Chamber Music America NJW grant to compose more music for Invocation. Abbasi's new compositions focused on a musical form from Pakistan called, Qawwali. With hard-driving grooves and sophisticated melodies, Suno Suno (2011) ended the year on many critics 'best of' lists. In fall of 2012, Rez released his ninth album and his first ever trio, with John Hebert on bass and Satoshi Takeishi on drums. Continuous Beat hit #1 on the CMJ radio charts with Rez featured on the front cover of CMJ magazine. In 2014 he released his tenth album, featuring the Rez Abbasi Acoustic Quartet (RAAQ). (www.reztone.com)

JESSICA FIALA (Dancer) began training with Ranee Ramaswamy and Aparna Ramaswamy in 2006 and has toured with Ragamala throughout the US and to India and the UK, including performances at the Kennedy Center, the American Dance Festival, and the Soorya Festival. Outside of the company, she has studied rhythm tap and modern dance and continues to perform with choreographers Kaleena Miller and Vanessa Voskuil. Jessica holds an interdisciplinary master's degree in Museum Studies & Cultural Studies through the University of Minnesota, with a thesis titled "Ordering 'the Other': Heterotopias and the Musée du Quai Branly." Most recently, she presented research at the MeLa conference "The Postcolonial Museum" in Naples, Italy (2013), which she has since expanded for publication in the upcoming MeLa collection The Ruined Archive (2015). Jessica has been active at the Walker Art Center since 2009 in roles as a tour guide, blogger, and SpeakEasy facilitator. She is the International Research Coordinator for Forecast Public Art, a Research Associate at Lutman & Associates, and an Administrative Assistant at the Caux Round Table.

RAMAN KALYAN (Carnatic Flute) - Breathing magical melodies on the Indian bamboo flute, virtuoso Raman Kalyan is one of the leading flautists in the Carnatic style of music. Raman with his unique style has captivated audiences globally. Raman has released over 60 CDs and many DVDs. His most recent CD, "Music for Deep Meditation" reached the #1 spot on the iTunes world music charts and remained in the top 50 for more than six months. Raman has also been featured as guest artist in more than 300 commercial recordings & Indian Movies. Apart from being a soloist, Raman has scored music for many audio/video albums, dance dramas and theatre productions. Raman won the "Best Flautist Award" from Madras Music Academy twice for his concerts during December Music Festival 2009 & 2013. Raman is a featured artist in the "Miles from India" tour and performs with legends Glen Velez (Grammy Winner) Dave Liebman (Grammy Winner), Pt. Vishwamohan Bhatt (Grammy Winner), Mandolin Shrinivas, Selvaganesh (Remember Shakti), Darryl Jones (Rolling Stones), John Beasley (Finding Nemo) and has performed at the Montreal Jazz Festival, San Francisco Jazz Festival and Miles from India fest in Paris. Raman has performed with South Indian music legends like Dr M. Balamuralikrishna, Dr N. Ramani, and A.K Palanivel and has also been touring as a special guest with legendary singer and Guinness record holder K.J. Yesudas. Raman's accompaniment for Martha Graham's documentary "The Flute of Krishna" has been appreciated globally and his meditation music YouTube videos have more than 300,000 views. Raman is the founder/president of Indo American Academy of Classical Music, an organization dedicated to propagate the Classical music. (www.ramankalyan.com)

TAMARA NADEL (Dancer) is a disciple of Ranee Ramaswamy and Aparna Ramaswamy. She is a founding member of Ragamala and has toured extensively with the company throughout the U.S. and in Russia, Taiwan, Japan, Indonesia, India, and the U.K. Tamara was a 2006 McKnight Artist Fellow in Dance, and has received grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board, Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, and a Jerome Foundation Travel Study Grant. She has been studying Carnatic music under Lalit Subramanian since 2011. Tamara is also Ragamala's Development and Outreach Director and a teacher at the Ragamala School. She holds a degree in Religious Studies and Dance from Macalester College. Tamara served on the City of Minneapolis Arts Commission from 2008-2010, and currently serves on the board of Minnesota Citizens for the Arts.

ASHWINI RAMASWAMY (Dancer) has studied Bharatanatyam with Ragamala's Artistic Directors Ranee Ramaswamy and Aparna Ramaswamy—her mother and sister—since the age of five. She has been accepted as a student of Bharatanatyam legend Alarmél Valli, one of the greatest living masters of the form. She has toured extensively with Ragamala, performing throughout the U.S. and in Russia, Taiwan, Indonesia, Japan, the U.K, and India. Ashwini is a 2012 McKnight Artist Fellow for Dance, and the recipient of two Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grants for Dance and a Metropolitan Regional Arts Council Next Step Fund grant. Ashwini recently began choreographing and is continuing to create new work. Ashwini is Ragamala's Director of Publicity and Marketing and holds a degree in English Literature from Carleton College. She currently serves on the board of Arts Midwest.

ANJNA SWAMINATHAN is a budding artist in the field of South Indian Carnatic Violin. A disciple of the late violin maestro Parur Sri M.S. Gopalakrishnan and Mysore Sri H.K. Narasimhamurthy, she has been trained in both Carnatic classical and Western classical styles of violin. As a theatre artist and dramaturg with interests in postcolonial thought, gender and gueer theories, and Hindu vedantic philosophy, Anjna often engages in artistic work that ties together multiple aesthetic forms towards a critical consciousness. Using her hybrid and interdisciplinary perspective, she seeks a space for her deep-rooted vocabulary within the contemporary artistic landscape. Anina frequently takes part in interdisciplinary collaborations, often developing scores and providing musical accompaniment for dancers and dance companies, most notably, Ragamala Dance (Minneapolis), with whom she has been working for the past four years, as well as Ragamala's principle dancer and soloist, Aparna Ramaswamy. Anina also performs regularly with the ensemble RAJAS, curated by her sister and frequent collaborator, Rajna Swaminathan, which brings together contemporary musicians to explore new directions of composition and improvisation. More recently, Anjna has delved into the realm of composition, and was commissioned to create original music for playwright/performer Anu Yadav's (Washington, D.C.) powerful one-woman-play Meena's Dream. In the summer of 2014, she was a participant at the celebrated Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music in Alberta, Canada. Anjna holds a Bachelor's degree in Theatre from the University of Maryland, College Park. (www.anjnaswaminathan.com)

RAJNA SWAMINATHAN is an accomplished young artist in the field of South Indian classical percussion – mridangam. She is a disciple and protégé of mridangam maestro Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman. She has accompanied many renowned musicians widely in the US, Canada, and India. She has also performed extensively in the December Music Festival in Chennai. She frequently presents workshops on South Indian rhythm, most notably at the Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music, the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, and the KOSA International Percussion Camp. Over the past three years, she has been collaborating with distinguished artists in New York's jazz and creative music scene, including saxophonist Steve Coleman and pianist Vijay Iyer. Rajna is active as a composer-performer for dance and theatre works. Most notably, she has toured widely with the acclaimed Ragamala Dance (Minneapolis), as well as with Ragamala's celebrated artistic director Aparna Ramaswamy in her solo work. Rajna's most recent engagement as a composer is RAJAS, a nascent project that brings together contemporary musicians to explore new directions for composition and improvisation rooted in Indian musical concepts. She holds degrees in Anthropology and French from the University of Maryland, College Park. (www.rajnaswaminathan.com)

JEFF BARTLETT (Light Design) has been honored to light Ragamala Dance since A Canticle of Mary in 1994. He has lit many of the company's signature works, including Sacred Earth, 1,001 Buddhas: Journey of the Gods, Yathra/Journey, The Transposed Heads, Body and Soul, Bhakti, Sthree, and Ihrah. A dance lighting specialist based in Minneapolis, Jeff has lit scores of artists in hundreds of productions over more than two decades. His design work has been recognized with 2010 and 2005 Sage Awards for Dance; a 2008 Artist of the Year listing in City Pages; and a 2003 McKnight Theater Artist Fellowship. Jeff is Production Manager at the Weitz Center for Creativity at Carleton College.

Support for the creation of Song of the Jasmine was provided by the National Endowment for the Arts; the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts; the MAP Fund, a program of Creative Capital, supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; New Music/USA's Commissioning Music/USA program, made possible with generous annual support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and endowment support from The Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Francis Goelet Charitable Lead Trust; the RBC Foundation USA; The McKnight Foundation; Target; the General Mills Foundation; the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund; Ragamala's Board of Directors Institutional Growth Fund; the generous support of Ragamala's "Rasika Circle," including Prakash and Usha Asirvatham, The Goodale Family Foundation, the Dale Schatzlein and Emily Maltz Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation, Ranee Ramaswamy and David McKay, Wallace and Margaret McKay, and Anonymous; and Friends of Ragamala.







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J.S. Bach 1685-1750	Keyboard Concerto No.2 in E major, BWV 1053 Allegro Siciliano Allegro
	Jeremy Denk, Piano
	— INTERMISSION—
J.S. Bach	Keyboard Concerto No.4 in A major, BWV 1055 Allegro Larghetto Allegro ma non tanto
	Jeremy Denk, Piano
Antonín Dvořák 1841-1904	Serenade for Strings in E major, Op.22 Moderato Tempo di valse Scherzo: Vivace Larghetto Finale: Allegro vivace

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS



"Explosive, mercurial, spontaneous, totally involving" CLASSICAL SOURCE, DECEMBER 2013

The Academy of St Martin in the Fields is renowned for its polished and refined sound, rooted in outstanding musicianship. Formed by Sir Neville Marriner in 1958 from a group of leading London musicians, the Academy gave its first performance in its namesake church in November 1959. Originally directed by Sir Neville from the leader's chair, the collegiate spirit and flexibility of the original small, conductor-less ensemble remains an Academy hallmark which continues today, with virtuoso violinist Joshua Bell as its Music Director. Together they explore symphonic repertoire to perform 'chamber music on a grand scale'.

Highlights of this season include London concerts and international tours with pianist **Jeremy Denk**, clarinettist **Martin Fröst** and violinist **Julia Fischer**. Principal Guest Conductor **Murray Perahia** tours with the orchestra to Europe in August and September and on an exciting tour of Asia in November. Joshua himself will undertake four tours with the Academy this season, travelling as far afield as South America and the Middle East, as well as two tours of Europe.

The orchestra's programmes for this season contain many gems from the chamber music and classical repertoire; look out for Schubert's String Quintet, Dvorak's Serenade for Strings, Mozart's Eine Kleine Nachtmusik and Schoenberg's Verklärte Nacht among others. The Academy's winter concert at St-Martin-in-the-Fields, Walking in the Air, will pay tribute to the work of composer Howard Blake, including a newly commissioned arrangement of The Snowman, conducted by the Academy's Life President Sir Neville Marriner.

In addition to our concerts, our players continue to reach out to young musicians and adult learners through Outward Sound, the Academy's education programme. This year's projects include workshops for school children, professional development partnerships and lifelong learning schemes all creating opportunities for everyone to connect and create music with the orchestra.

With over 500 recordings to date, the Academy is one of the most recorded chamber orchestras in the world. The orchestra received their first gold disc for their recording of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* in 1969 with the 2007 recording with Joshua Bell reaching No.1 on the Billboard Classical Chart. Their soundtrack for the film *Amadeus* won 13 gold discs alone, while in 1996 *The English Patient* picked up an Academy Award[®] for Best Music, with a soundtrack performed by the Academy. In March 2013 the orchestra and Joshua Bell released their first recording on Sony Classical under his leadership, Beethoven's Symphonies 4 and 7. Their recoding of Bach violin concertos will be released September 2014.

The Academy's US tours are supported by the American Friends of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. If you would like to join our American Friends, please send an email to **afasmf@gmail.com** for more details.

For more information, please visit www.asmf.org.

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JEREMY DENK

One of America's most thought-provoking, multi-faceted, and compelling artists, pianist Jeremy Denk is the winner of a 2013 MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship, the 2014 Avery Fisher Prize, and *Musical America*'s 2014 Instrumentalist of the Year award. He has appeared as soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the symphony orchestras of Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, and London, and regularly gives recitals in New York, Washington, Boston, Philadelphia, and throughout the United States.

In 2014-15, he launches a four-season tenure as an Artistic Partner of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra; makes debuts with the Cleveland Orchestra under Susanna Mälkki and the New York Philharmonic led by Esa-Pekka Salonen; appears as a soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and San Francisco Symphony; and performs Bach concertos with Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London and on tour throughout the US. Future engagements also include his appearances at the BBC Proms, London's Wigmore Hall, and his recital debut at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam.

In 2014 Denk served as Music Director of the Ojai Music Festival, for which, besides performing and curating, he wrote the libretto for a comic opera. The opera will be presented by Carnegie Hall in the 2014-15 season. To coincide with the release of his second Nonesuch Records album, *Bach: Goldberg Variations*, Denk opened the 2013-14 season with performances of the "Goldbergs" in Boston, Chicago, and Washington, and went on to perform them as part of the Barbican's season in London. The album reached number one on Billboard's Classical Chart and was featured in "Best of 2013" lists by the *New Yorker* and the *New York Times*. Other season highlights included his return to Carnegie Hall with the San Francisco Symphony and Michael Tilson Thomas, and appearances at the Tanglewood Festival playing the *Goldberg Variations* and with the Philadelphia Orchestra playing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1. Last Summer, he also appeared on tour with the Australian Chamber Orchestra playing Bach.

Denk is known for his original and insightful writing on music, which Alex Ross praises for its "arresting sensitivity and wit." The pianist's writing has appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *New Republic, The Guardian,* and on the front page of the *New York Times Book Review.* One of his *New Yorker* contributions, "Every Good Boy Does Fine," forms the basis of a memoir for future publication by Random House. Recounting his experiences of touring, performing, and practicing, his blog, *Think Denk*, was recently selected for inclusion in the Library of Congress web archives. For his work as a writer and pianist, *Out* magazine included Denk on its "Out 100" list celebrating the most compelling people of 2013.

In 2012, Denk made his Nonesuch debut with a pairing of masterpieces old and new: Beethoven's final Piano Sonata No. 32, Op. 111, and György Ligeti's Études. The album was named one of the best of 2012 by the *New Yorker*, NPR, and the *Washington Post*, and Denk's account of the Beethoven sonata was selected by BBC Radio 3's *Building a Library* as the best available version recorded on modern piano. Denk has a long-standing attachment to the music of American visionary Charles Ives, and his recording of Ives's two piano sonatas featured in many "best of the year" lists. In March 2012, the pianist was invited by Michael Tilson Thomas to appear as soloist in the San Francisco Symphony's American Mavericks festival, and he recorded Henry Cowell's Piano Concerto with the orchestra. Having cultivated relationships with many living composers, he currently has several commissioning projects in progress.

Denk has toured frequently with violinist Joshua Bell, and their recently released Sony Classical album, *French Impressions*, won the 2012 Echo Klassik award. He also collaborates regularly with cellist Steven Isserlis, and has appeared at numerous festivals, including the Italian and American Spoleto Festivals, and the Santa Fe Chamber Music, Verbier, Ravinia, Tanglewood, Aspen Music, and Mostly Mozart Festivals.

Jeremy Denk has earned degrees from Oberlin College, Indiana University, and the Juilliard School. He lives in New York City, and his web site and blog are at jeremydenk.net.

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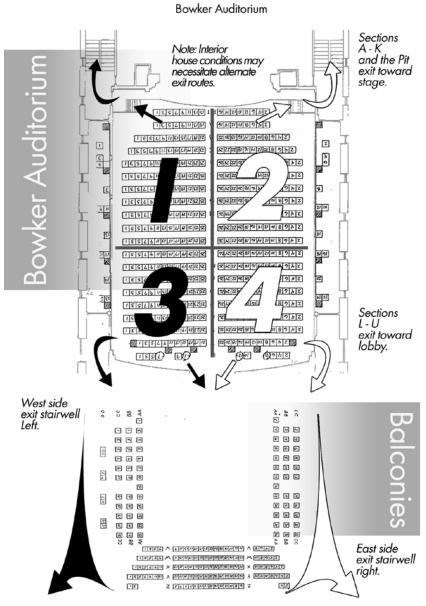
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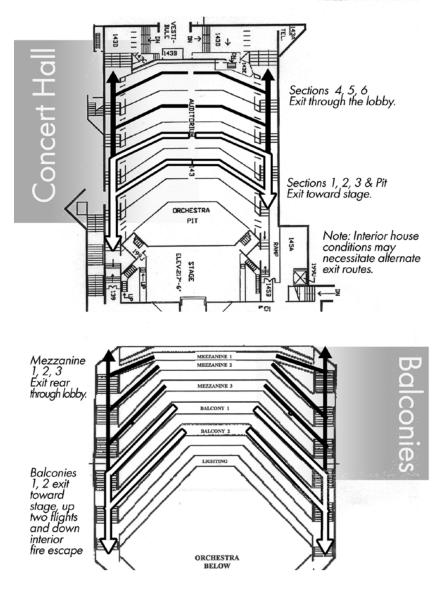
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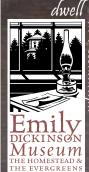
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