

THE 2015 SOLOS & DUOS SERIES PRESENTS:

Angelica Sanchez/Omar Tamez Duo

The Solos & Duos Series, produced by the Fine Arts Center at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, concludes its 14th season with a concert by **Angelica Sanchez and Omar Tamez, Wednesday, November 18, 8:15 pm, Bezanson Recital Hall.**

Pianist and composer **Angelica Sanchez** moved to New York in 1994 from her native Phoenix, Arizona. Since moving east, she has played with some of the best improvisors in the world, including: Paul Motian, Ralph Alessi, Susie Ibarra, Tim Berne, Mario Pavone and Mark Dresser. Her own groups feature Marc Ducret, Tony Malaby, Drew Gress, and Tom Rainey.

Nate Chinen refers to her “refreshingly unfussy approach to advanced composition...she carries an unforced authority; her virtuosity (not too strong a word) is less solid than fluid, a thing of movement and ease.”

Sanchez’ release, *Life Between*, was chosen as one of 2009’s best in “All About Jazz/NY”. Her debut solo CD, *A Little House*, was featured on NPR’s Weekend Edition in May, 2011. Her Quintet recording, *Wires & Moss*, was chosen as one of best releases of 2012 in “All About Jazz/NYC”. Her duo CD, *Twine Forest*, with Wadada Leo Smith, received Honor Mention as a best release in 2013 in The NYC Jazz Record. Sanchez is a regular member of Rob Mazurek’s Pulsar Quartet, Chad Taylor’s Circle Down w/ Chris Lightcap, Wadada Leo Smith’s Organic, Harris Eisenstadt’s September Trio w/ Ellery Eskelin and Kevin Norton’s Breakfast of Champions.

The New York Times refers to hers as “a loose, cantankerous energy, given shape by some smart writing.”

Mexican guitarist **Omar Tamez** first studied composition with his father, the celebrated Nicandro Tamez. He has performed in more than 144 countries with leading improvisers such as Conny Bauer, Reggie Workman, Wadada Leo Smith, John Lindberg, Pheeroan AkLaff, Rashied Alí, Sonny Fortune, Andrew Cyrille, Sam Rivers, Herb Robertson, Steve Swell, Vincent Chancey, Badal Roy, Steve Gorn, John Hollenbeck, Tyshawn Sorey, Marilyn Crispell and Warren Smith, among many others.

He has led his ensemble, Non-Jazz, for more than 20 years and has extensive experience in the theater, including working with the German company “Theater Des Lachens” directed by Astrid Griesbach and composing the music for “Maria Stuart” by Friedrich Schiller. He also worked with the Mexican actor, director and writer David Hevia, composing the music for “Por el Gusto de Morir” with poems by Malcolm Lowry. With the theater company “Sombrero Azúl”, he composed music for “En la meta” with text by Thomas Bernhard and most recently the music for the classic “Medea”.

He is also the founder, producer and artistic director of the “International Musicians Meeting”, in Monterrey, Mexico.

Tickets are still only \$10 and \$5 (students), and are available through the FAC box office, 413-545-2511 or www.fineartscenter.com.

The Solos & Duos Series is produced by the UMass Fine Arts Center. Thanks to Hotel UMASS.