

August Events at Kerrytown Concert House

Kerrytown Concert House
415 North Fourth Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Reservations Recommended: call 734.769.2999
Or visit www.kerrytownconcerthouse.com

August Art Exhibit

July 1 – August 26, 2010

Slow Convergence: Digital Montages of Complex Chromatic Textures and Compositions

It had been 23 years since Paul Hickman's last solo screen print or etching. After working with his two young sons for the past 5 years on "The Collaboration" prints, Paul has spent this past year taking the plunge back into printmaking on his own. The many experiences, techniques and styles from his career as a sign painter, graphics director, decorative painter, furniture designer and printmaker have converged to influence his new digital prints. He still has a fondness for textures and subtle underlying images that require some searching to discover.

A reception will take place on Thursday, August 12 from 6 – 8 p.m.

SHORT LISTING:

August 5-7 at 8 pm

Brass Tacks Presents: We Broadcast This Interruption

Sunday, August 8 at 4 pm

Caleb Curtis Quartet

Caleb Curtis, saxophone
Chris Pattishall, piano
Marcos Varela, bass
Clif Wallace, drums

Wednesday, August 11 at 8 pm

Redbud Productions Presents: The Piano Teacher

Friday, August 13 at 8 pm

Jack Wright, saxophones

Bob Marsh, cello/violin/voice

With the Saturnian Chamber Ensemble:

James Cornish, euphonium

Piotr Michalowski, bass/contralto/clarinets/bass flute

Joel Peterson, bass/cello

Saturday, August 14 at 7 pm & 9 pm

Gaida: Levantine Indulgence

Gaida, vocalist

Amir ElSaffar, trumpet

Zafer Tawil, oud

Tareq Abboushi, buzuq

George Dulin, piano

Jennifer Vincent, bass

Tony Advivo, percussion

Saturday, August 21 at 8 pm

Maureen Choi Quartet

Maureen Choi, violin

Johnny O'Neal, piano

Rodney Whitaker, bass

Sean Dobbins, drums

Thursday, August 26 at 8 pm

Marc Levine, violin

Ling-Ju Lai, piano

The Complete Brahms Piano Sonatas

Saturday, August 28 at 8 pm

duo parnas

Madalyn Parnas, violin

Cicely Parnas, cello

LONG LISTING:

August 5-7 at 8 pm

Brass Tacks Presents:

We Broadcast This Interruption

\$15 General Admission

\$5 Students

How far will the dysfunctional family of radio station WBTE go to save their station and their jobs? Join them (ingenue to station manager to would-be benefactor) as they plunge into rescue mode with a dash of insanity — all while the regularly scheduled programs go on! Brass Tacks returns to KCH for an evening of

farce, wit, slapstick and surprises that are part of this original work by Isaac Ellis, James Ingagiola, Anne Rhoades and Rob Sulewski. Cast includes Ellis, Ingagiola, Rhoades, Sulewski, Brian Harcourt, Chris Harrison, Jeffrey Steiger, and others.

Sunday, August 8 at 4 pm

Caleb Curtis Quartet

Caleb Curtis, saxophone

Chris Pattishall, piano

Marcos Varela, bass

Clif Wallace, drums

\$25 Assigned Rows 1-2

\$15 Assigned Rows 3-5

\$10 General Admission

\$5 Students

The Caleb Curtis Quartet performs original acoustic jazz, as well as selections from the standard jazz repertoire. Influenced heavily by composers Thelonious Monk and Wayne Shorter, Curtis' music is introspective, brash, melodic and swinging, reflecting the constant pressures and inspirations of New York City.

Caleb Curtis, saxophone

New York musician Caleb Curtis has shown himself to be an engaging and entertaining saxophonist and composer. He grew up in Ann Arbor in a family that values creativity and happiness, encouraging artistic expression. Curtis studied music at Michigan State University and has performed at popular Michigan venues such as Baker's Keyboard Lounge, The Firefly Club, Cliff Bell's, The Michigan Theater, Orchestra Hall (Detroit), Kerrytown Concert House, The Union, as well as at The Detroit International Jazz Festival and the Lansing Jazz Festival. Curtis appeared as a leader and as a sideman with the Scott Gwinnell Jazz Orchestra and The Paul Keller Orchestra. He also led his band in performances on numerous radio shows in Michigan and New York including The Mitch Albom Show, The Barry Z Show and Live from Blue Lake with Lazaro Vega. Since moving to the East Coast, Curtis has performed at Iridium, Small's Jazz Club, The Garage, Puppet's Jazz Bar, Cleopatra's Needle, Puffin Cultural Forum, and The Jazz Spot, among others. The Caleb Curtis Trio was featured at the 2009 Stoop Celebration presented by F.O.K.U.S. in Brooklyn. He currently performs in a number of ensembles, including a quintet, which he co-leads with bassist Marcos Varela, a Michigan quintet with trumpeter Chris Lawrence, and with the Logan Thomas Quartet. In the past couple of years, Curtis has received DownBeat magazine's Outstanding Soloist Award. He has led his quintet in the invitational, full-scholarship Jazz Aspen Snowmass Band Academy. Curtis has appeared at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage in Washington, D.C. as part of the Betty Carter Jazz Ahead residency. He was also a finalist in the Gene Harris Jazz Competition. In 2008, he traveled with the Michigan State University Jazz Orchestra and Yutaka Shiina to Japan for two weeks of performances and masterclasses.

Wednesday, August 11 at 8 pm

Redbud Productions Presents: The Piano Teacher

\$12 General Admission

Redbud Productions presents a staged reading and local premier of *The Piano Teacher*, Julia Cho's intensely gripping drama of faded memories. Mrs. K (Sandy Ryder) fondly recalls her years teaching piano to her beloved students, but what went wrong? Will a former student (Deb Wood) uncover her secrets from long ago? Lenore Ferber directs this brilliant new play of memories and the mysterious past.

Friday, August 13 at 8 pm

Jack Wright, saxophones

Bob Marsh, cello/violin/voice

With the Saturnian Chamber Ensemble:

James Cornish, euphonium

Piotr Michalowski, bass/contralto/clarinets/bass flute

Joel Peterson, bass/cello

\$25 Assigned Rows 1-2

\$15 Assigned Rows 3-5

\$10 General Admission

\$5 Students

Enjoy an evening of improvised music with special guests multi-instrumentalist and Detroit native Bob Marsh, as well as Jack Wright, one of the few musicians in North America who has played improvised music exclusively since the 1970s. The duo has been playing together since they met in Detroit in 1986. In 2002, they toured the West Coast and released a recording on Public Eyesore records, "Birds in the Hand." Their music has shifted from a huge web of notes and fast-shifting directions to sound and space. Opening the evening will be Ann Arbor's own Saturnian Chamber Ensemble.

Jack Wright, saxophones

After teaching at Temple University in the 1960s and leaving academia in the early 1970s to engage in radical politics and community organizing, by the late 1970s Wright directed his energies into music. He is one of a very small group of musicians in North America that has played improvised music exclusively since the 1970s. Through years of near constant touring, often performing for audiences in cities and towns where improvised music had never before been heard, he came to be regarded as something of an underground legend. He is unquestionably an original and virtuosic saxophonist, a master improviser who is deeply lyrical, with humor never far away. Today Wright tours frequently in Europe and North America (and in Japan in 2006), making new musical and human connections, bringing European musicians to the U.S. and bringing musicians everywhere together. His vast list of collaborators includes some "name" luminaries (William Parker, Axel Dorner, Michel Doneda, Andrea Neumann, Denman Maroney, Bhub Rainey to name a few) but more significant are the many obscure greats he has played with. He has made over 40 recordings (many published on his own Spring Garden label), performed in over 20 countries, and written extensively and insightfully about music and society for journals such as *Improjazz* (France) and *Signal to Noise* (US), as well as his own website.

Bob Marsh, cello/violin/voice

Bob Marsh is a well-seasoned improviser whose work has involved shaping sounds, words, images and ideas. Originally from Detroit, Marsh arrived in the Bay Area in 2000 after ten years in Chicago where he played

with most of the avant improvisers in that rich and varied scene. Since his arrival on the west coast, multi-instrumentalist and composer Marsh has been busy with several projects. He currently leads or directs String Theory, a string ensemble focusing on textures and microtonics; the Che Guevarra Memorial Marching (and Stationary) Accordion Band, structured and free improv for six to fifteen accordions; Robot Martians, electronics and processed voice; the Out of the Blue Chamber Ensemble, a mixture of reeds and strings; Opera Viva, voiced physical theater; the Quintessentials, a quintet specializing in interpreting graphic compositions based on alterations to the Michelin Road Guide to France; and the Illuminated Orchestra, structured improves for large ensemble. Additionally Marsh is a member of Romus/Diaz-Infante's Abstractions, Jim Ryan's Left Coast Improv Group, Moe! Staiano's Moe!chestra and Tom Bickley's Cornelius Cardew Choir. Bob Marsh tours frequently with his long-term partner, saxophonist Jack Wright. Bob has recently been presenting a solo work involving violin, voice and tap shoes. Marsh's educational background includes a BFA in sculpture and an MA in humanistic clinical psychology. He has studied classical piano, classical guitar and vibraphone and has taught himself various other instruments. He currently is active with cello, accordion, violin, voice, vibraphone and electronics.

Saturday, August 14 at 7 pm & 9 pm

Gaida: Levantine Indulgence

Gaida, vocalist
Zafer Tawil, oud
Tareq Abboushi, buzuq
George Dulin, piano
Jennifer Vincent, bass
Tony Advivo, percussion

\$30 Assigned Rows 1-2
\$20 Assigned Rows 3-5
\$15 General Admission
\$10 Students

New York-based Syrian vocalist and composer Gaida performs innovative interpretations of classic and folk songs from the Arabic repertoire, original compositions, as well as a freestyle improvisation over Arabic/African/Latin grooves. Her ensemble "Levantine Indulgence" — named after her debut CD — includes world-recognized musicians such as oudist Zafer Tawil, pianist George Dulin, percussionist Tony Advivo, Tareq Abboushi on buzuq, and Jennifer Vincent on upright bass.

Gaida, vocalist

"[Gaida's] plaintive, gauzy vocals effectively disarmed listeners" — Chicago Tribune

Vocalist Gaida is known for her original and highly personal style marked by great emotional intensity. In her debut album "Levantine Indulgence," she exposes her innermost emotions using her powerful yet refined and expressive voice. Each song is at its core about love, longing and caring. In Gaida's own words, "I will always sing with tears close to my eyes, beats pounding my fragile heart, and care wrapping the world." The wide range of musical styles heard within Gaida's music reflects the diversity of her background. One song may capture the vocal finesse and tenderness of Fairuz, or highly ornate vocal stylings reminiscent of Oum Kalthoum, contrasted by a slow, sultry blues number, followed by a Brazilian, samba-like piece. These various styles flow together organically and naturally; tied together by Gaida's depth of soul and her evocative and

expressive voice, which transcends genre and drives directly into the listener's heart. At home in New York, she has performed at Lincoln Center, Joe's Pub, Le Poisson Rouge and BAM, while outside N.Y. she has played at prestigious venues/festivals such as Lotus Fest, the Kennedy Center and the Arab-American National Museum. Gaida recorded and appeared in Jonathan Demme's recent film "Rachel Getting Married."

Saturday, August 21 at 8 pm

Maureen Choi Quartet

Maureen Choi, violin

Johnny O'Neal, piano

Rodney Whitaker, bass

Sean Dobbins, drums

\$25 Assigned Rows 1-2

\$15 Assigned Rows 3-5

\$10 General Admission

\$5 Student

Jazz violinist Maureen Choi performs with this all-star group. Choi, who is classically trained, will also do a few numbers with concert pianist Michele Cooker.

Maureen Choi, violin

Violinist Maureen Choi is originally from Ann Arbor. She graduated from Michigan State University and is currently finishing an Artist Diploma from the Berklee College of Music in Boston. Ms. Choi performs a wide variety of musical styles, including classical, Latin, jazz and pop. She is expected to graduate from Berklee next May and is currently working on a CD with Rodney Whitaker, Johnny O'Neal and Sean Dobbins.

Johnny O'Neal, piano

There have been three notable events in pianist Johnny O'Neal's career that continue to inspire him: an appearance at Carnegie Hall early in his career when he was the opening solo pianist for Oscar Peterson, his 1998 induction into the Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame and playing the role of Art Tatum in the award winning feature film "Ray." O'Neal's enormous musical gifts were immediately apparent to jazz icon Ray Brown and led to his 1983 debut album "Coming Out." Stints with Ray Brown, Milt Jackson and Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers soon followed. O'Neal has been tapped for appearances by Ray Brown, Milt Jackson, Dizzy Gillespie, Joe Pass, Nancy Wilson, Anita O'Day, Lionel Hampton, Kenny Burrell, Sonny Stitt, Benny Golson, Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis and Clark Terry, among others. Performances on the festival circuits in Europe, Australia, Japan and a recent tour of South Africa have gained O'Neal an international following.

Rodney Whitaker, bass

Rodney Whitaker is a Michigan treasure and one of the world's renowned jazz bass performers and educators. A Detroit native, he grew up in the city soaking in the sounds of jazz and classical music. He completed a seven-year tenure as bassist with the Wynton Marsalis Sextet and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. He has toured the world over the last twenty years, collaborating with legendary performers such as Dianne Reeves, Mulgrew Miller, Diana Krall, Terence Blanchard, Kathleen Battle, Cyrus Chestnut, Benny Golson, Kenny Garrett, Branford Marsalis, Tommy Flanagan, Curtis Fuller, Donald Byrd, Dizzy Gilispie, Johnny Griffin, Joshua Redman, Cassandra Wilson, Pat Methany, Chick Corea and Roy Hargrove, as well as with leading

symphony orchestras. Now based in East Lansing, Whitaker continues to remember his Detroit roots, serving many of the city's talented students as Director of the Detroit Civic Jazz Orchestra, Musical Director for Jazz Education at the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and Director of the Jazz in the Studio Mentorship Program and summer jazz camp in cooperation with the Arts League of Michigan. Currently, he is on Michigan State University's faculty as Director of Jazz Studies and Professor of Jazz Bass and has built a leading jazz degree program and performing faculty, Michigan State University Professors of Jazz as the Artistic Director. His legacy of teaching promises to be distinguished, with former students currently performing with jazz greats such as Wynton Marsalis, Dianne Reeves, Stephon Harris and many others.

Sean Dobbins, drums

Sean Dobbins got his start as a sought-after Detroit area jazz sideman at a young age, when he would regularly play with Blue Note artist Louis Smith. Though still young by jazz standards, Dobbins has amassed an impressive list of playing companions. He has performed/toured/recorded with Johnny Basset, Benny Golson, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Frank Morgan, Joey DeFrancesco, George Cables, James "Blood" Ulmer, Marcus Belgrave, Larry Willis, Rodney Whittaker, Claude Black, Johnny O'Neal, Paul Keller, Tad Weed, Kurt Krahnke, Jon Hendricks, David "Fathead" Newman, Donald Walden, Cyrus Chesnut, Barry Harris, David Baker, Randy Johnston, Marion Hayden, Mose Allison, and a host of other great musicians. Dobbins is known in his community as a band director, drum teacher and positive influence for many. In 1999, he became the director of the Ann Arbor Public Schools Summer Jazz Program. In one year, the enrollment more than tripled, and in 2001 the group was featured on WEMU. Dobbins frequently plays at venues such as Baker's Keyboard Lounge (Detroit), the Music Hall Jazz Cafe (Detroit), Murphy's Place (Toledo) and Buddy Guy's (Chicago). He currently plays with such groups as Dobbins, Krahnke and Weed; The Modern Jazz Messengers; and other local and national acts.

Thursday, August 26 at 8 pm

Marc Levine, violin

Ling-Ju Lai, piano

The Complete Brahms Piano Sonatas

\$25 Assigned Rows 1-2

\$15 Assigned Rows 3-5

\$10 General Admission

\$5 Student

Marc Levine and Ling-Ju Lai perform an all-Brahms concert featuring the three violin sonatas.

Program:

Sonata No. 1 in G Major, Op. 78

Sonata No. 2 in A Major, Op. 100

Sonata in D Minor, Op. 108

Marc Levine, violin

"Mr. Levine was eloquent as well as technically superb combining technical mastery with emotional perceptiveness and beautiful sound." - Southampton Press

Marc Levine is Artistic Director of the Southampton Cultural Center Chamber Music Series. He has performed extensively in notable venues including Carnegie Hall and Symphony Space and has been a member of notable groups including the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble and the YouTube Symphony Orchestra. As a baroque violinist, Levine was a prizewinner in the 2008 American Bach Soloists International Competition for Baroque Violin and has performed with many top baroque ensembles including Concert Royal, Dallas Bach Society, the Aulos Ensemble and Early Music New York, a group with which he recently recorded on the Ex Cathedra label. Levine is a founding member of the baroque ensemble Flying Forms, known for innovative, interdisciplinary performances. As an orchestral musician, Levine has held concertmaster positions at Indiana University, Stony Brook University, and the Amherst Early Music Institute. Chamber music credits included performances with renowned musicians Philip Sezter, Eugene Drucker, Lawrence Dutton, Arthur Haas, and Gilbert Kalish. Levine holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Stony Brook University and Master and Bachelor of Music degrees from Indiana University.

Ling-Ju Lai, piano

“The depth of the sound sinks in with startling poignancy as Ling-Ju Lai lets the notes linger long in the air...a moment of musical insights to savor.” - The Baltimore Sun

Ling-Ju Lai, concert pianist and harpsichordist, has garnered consistent favorable reviews of her creative interpretation of Baroque keyboard music. In the fall of 2009, Lai appeared as the featured soloist with the Ann Arbor Camerata and performs extensively with the group as the principal keyboardist. In the same year, Lai made her first appearance as the artist in-residence at The Utah Valley University with recital and concerto engagements. As a soloist, Lai has participated in numerous acclaimed music festivals and competitions, such as the Bach Festival in Leipzig, the Vlaanderen Festival at Bruges, the William Kapell International Piano Competition in Maryland and the SEHKS International Harpsichord Competition in Florida. In 2001, she was named the “Rising Star” by two of Taiwan’s most prestigious performance organizations: the National Taiwan Concert Hall and the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra. Lai holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The University of Michigan and graduate degrees from The Eastman School of Music, where she was awarded the Performer’s Certificate for her excellence in performance.

Saturday, August 28 at 8 pm

duo parnas

Madalyn Parnas, violin

Cicely Parnas, cello

\$25 Assigned Rows 1-2

\$15 Assigned Rows 3-5

\$10 General Admission

\$5 Student

“An astonishing mix of pungency and finesse.” - Berkshire Record

Violinist Madalyn Parnas and cellist Cicely Parnas are gifted young soloists and chamber musicians in their own right. Together, they have collaborated as duo parnas for the last dozen years, winning first prize in an international chamber music competition at Carnegie Hall, releasing two internationally acclaimed CDs, and earning rave reviews for performances of 21st century compositions written for them by award-winning

composers. duo parnas has performed numerous concerts with orchestras, including the New York String Orchestra and the Albany Symphony Orchestra. Forthcoming performances both in solo and duo concertos are scheduled with the Schenectady Symphony (New York), the Verde Valley Sinfonietta (Arizona) and the St. Petersburg Chamber Orchestra (Russia). Madalyn and Cicely are the granddaughters of legendary cellist Leslie Parnas, winner of the Tchaikovsky Competition and charter member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

Program:

Partita No. 3 in E Major - Johann Sebastian Bach
Suite No. 1 in C minor - William Bolcom
Duet for Violin and Cello in D Major - Joseph Haydn
Duo for Violin and Cello - Bohuslav Martinů
Suite for Violin and Cello - William Bolcom

Madalyn Parnas, violin

American violinist Madalyn Parnas has firmly established her place on the concert stage as both a brilliant and charismatic soloist and a gifted chamber musician with a rare and exceptional sensitivity. Born in 1991, this young artist has already performed more than forty concertos with orchestra in the United States, and is now preparing for her upcoming Russian, Swiss, and French debuts. With equal passion, Madalyn has devoted her energy to chamber music performing with sister cellist Cicely as duo parnas since 1997. Lifelong study of piano trio literature prepared Madalyn and Cicely for collaboration with the great artist Peter Serkin, which began in 2007. Mr. Serkin, impressed with their “rich, thoughtful approach...” and the “purity of their playing,” began performing numerous concerts with them as the Parnas/Serkin Trio shortly thereafter. Madalyn has been featured in numerous national magazines and newspapers, and on many radio programs including WQXR’s “McGraw-Hill Young Artist Showcase” and NPR’s “From the Top.” The critics have dubbed Madalyn “a dazzler,” “a show-stopper,” and “a musical phenomenon.” Madalyn, a recipient of the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Artistic Excellence Award, is a graduate student in the prestigious Artist Diploma Program studying with Jaime Laredo. A former student of James Buswell at NEC, Madalyn graduated summa cum laude in Music and French from The College of Saint Rose. She performs on a 1715 Alessandro Gagliano violin made in Naples.

Cicely Parnas, cello

Born in 1993, cellist Cicely Parnas is one of the finest young artists performing today, a unique presence on the concert stage recognized for her highly individualized sound, exquisite tone, and spontaneous creativity fueled by an affable fearlessness. Cicely began cello studies at age four, and made her orchestral debut at nine. Since then, Cicely has performed over thirty times as a guest soloist with orchestra, including the New York String Orchestra conducted by master musician and conductor, Jaime Laredo, and David Alan Miller’s Albany Symphony. Three of Cicely’s concerto performances have been presented on WQXR’s “McGraw Hill Young Artist Showcase” in New York, and she has claimed six first prizes in national and regional soloist competitions. Cicely, still an undergraduate, is also a full-tuition scholarship recipient in the prestigious Artist Diploma Program at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music studying with renowned cellist Sharon Robinson. Cicely performs on a 1790 William Forster violoncello.