

Upcoming Events

\$ - **General Admission** tickets are \$10 for adult, \$8 for senior (age 60 and older), and free for students with ID and those under age 18. These tickets are available at the door before each performance, online at music.msu.edu, over the phone at 517.353.5340, or in person in Room 102, Music Building, 333. W. Circle Dr., M-F, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m, or at the Wharton Center, 517.423.2000, or 800.WHARTON. A \$2.50 restoration fee added if purchased through Wharton Center.

WCS - **West Circle Series** tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for senior (age 60 and older), and \$5 for students with ID and those under age 18. These tickets are available at the door before each performance, online at music.msu.edu, over the phone at 517.353.5340, or in person in Room 102, Music Building, 333. W. Circle Dr., M-F, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

\$\$ - **Special Admission** tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors (age 60 and older), and \$10 for students and those under age 18. These tickets are only available at the Wharton Center, at whartoncenter.com, or 517.423.2000, or 800.WHARTON. A \$2.50 restoration fee will be added to tickets purchased at Wharton Center.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE OF MUSIC

presents

Faculty Artist Recital

Derek Kealii Polischuk, Piano
Alan Nathan, Piano
Joseph Lulloff, Saxophone
Richard Sherman, Flute

Saturday, April 13, 2012, 8:00 pm
Cook Recital Hall

Program

Four Movements for Two Pianos

Alan Nathan, Piano
Derek Kealii Polischuk, Piano

Phillip Glass
(b. 1937)

Fantasiestücke, Op. 73

- I. Zart und mit Ausdruck
- II. Lebhaft, leicht
- III. Rasche und mit Feuer

Joseph Lulloff, Saxophone
Derek Kealii Polischuk, Piano

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

American Suite

- I. *Grandpa's Grin* (hoe-down)
- II. *The Bird and the Canyon* (dawn at the Grand Canyon)
- III. *Muse* (desert near Phoenix, Arizona; glacial lake, Sierra Nevada Mountains; ocean at night, La Jolla, California)
- IV. *Blue* (Requiem)
- V. *Street Beats* (New York City, a.m.)

Richard Sherman, Flute
Derek Kealii Polischuk, Piano

Bruce Stark
(b. 1956)

Program Notes

The respective movements of *American Suite* were inspired by places I lived in or visited during my youth and young adulthood which left lasting impressions. I composed the piece while residing in Tokyo, after living there for many years. It is a work which, had I remained in America, I probably would not have composed. The most inspiring or impressive memories of one's homeland grow more precious with time and great distance.

Both of my grandfathers were amateur country fiddle players, and the memory of their joy in music making, the happiness I saw on their faces when I was a young boy, stays with me to this day. The celtic influence in my Scottish and Irish roots can be felt in *Grandpa's Grin*, and at one point in the movement a brief quote from *Little Brown Jug*, one of their favorite tunes, appears.

The Bird and the Canyon was inspired by dawn at the Grand Canyon. The striking contrast between a fragile creature stirring in the crisp, cool air of early morning and the vast, inexorable presence of the canyon seemed perfectly suited to a flute and piano duet.

During my college days I visited several places in which music seemed to fill me as though the very air was suffused with an inspiring presence. In *Muse*, three such places are depicted: the desert near Phoenix, Arizona; a glacial lake in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California; the beach at night at La Jolla Shores, California.

I lived in Manhattan from 1982-1989, and at the time of its writing *Blue* was intended as a depiction of the city late at night. However, shortly after its composition the tragic event of September 11, 2001 took place, and the movement took on another meaning for me, in memory of the many individuals who died on that day. *Blue* is a requiem for a city in mourning.

Street Beats depicts the bustling, aggressive streets of New York City.

This evening's performance represents the world premiere of the revised edition of this work, first composed in 2001.

-Bruce Stark

Biographies

Joseph Lulloff is professor of saxophone and area chair of woodwinds at the Michigan State University College of Music. He has performed as a member of the wind sections of the Cleveland Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, and Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra, among others. Commenting on Lulloff's recent solo performances of the Ingolf Dahl *Saxophone Concerto* with the Cleveland Orchestra, Dan Resenber wrote in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*: "Lulloff was amazing. He traversed the instrument with seamless agility, filled out phrases for all their expressive worth and achieved dynamics from inaudible purrs to penetrating howls."

He received his bachelor of music and master of music degrees from Michigan State University. He is a recipient of numerous awards for solo performance, including the Concert Artists Guild Award; the Pro Musicus International Music Award; the Teacher/Scholar Award from MSU and the Michigan State University Distinguished Faculty Award in 2006. Lulloff has been featured at World Saxophone Congresses in Tokyo, Valencia, Nuremburg, Montreal and Chicago.

He is featured both as a soloist and ensemble member in numerous recordings on the Arabesque, RCA, Albany, AUR, Veriatza, and Channel Classics labels. Lulloff is a Yamaha Performing Artist and resides in Okemos, Michigan with his wife Janet and son Jordan.

Alan Nathan is assistant professor of collaborative piano at the Michigan State University College of Music. He first gained national attention making his debut at the Washington Opera on one day's notice for an indisposed conductor in Verdi's *Otello*, which led to his being given more than 40 performances of eight productions at the company.

Nathan has also conducted at Pittsburgh Opera, Virginia Opera, Mexican National Opera, and the Spoleto Festival under the direction of Gian Carlo Menotti. He began his operatic career as an assistant to several noted conductors, including Lorin Maazel, Christopher Keene, and Jeffrey Tate. Also experienced in television work, he was the conductor for the 1985 Kennedy Center Honors Broadcast on CBS Television and has appeared as a conductor on Germany's major television network WDR as well as PBS. He frequently appeared as a pianist and accompanist at the Kennedy Center, and made his Lincoln Center debut in 1992.

As an accompanist, he has concertized with many notable names, including James King, Eva Marton, Sherrill Milnes, Samuel Ramey, Maureen Forrester, Cladimir Atlantov, Renee Fleming, Mary Jane Johnson, Richard Leech, Anne Evans, Ermanno Mauro, Molly Fillmore, and Rosalind Plowright

Derek Kealii Polischuk is associate professor of piano and director of piano pedagogy at the Michigan State University College of Music. Polischuk has received critical acclaim for his performances in California, throughout the Midwest and South, and in Hawaii at the Prince Albert Chamber Music Festival and the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Born in San Diego, Polischuk studied with Krzysztof Brzusa before attending the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, where he received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree with distinction under the tutelage of renowned piano pedagogue and concert artist Daniel Pollack.

An enthusiastic supporter of the education of young musicians, Polischuk has presented at meetings of piano teachers in the United State and Canada, including the Music Teachers National Association, the National Group Piano and Pedagogy Conference, and the Multidisciplinary Research in Music Pedagogy Conference. In 2012, Polischuk was the recipient of MSU's Teacher/Scholar Award. Polischuk's recording of Impromptu's by Franz Schubert and Thomas Osborne will be released this spring on Blue Griffin Records.

Richard Sherman is professor of flute at the Michigan State University College of Music. Active as a soloist, orchestral musician, and recitalist, he is a dynamic performer of outstanding dramatic power. He received a bachelor of music degree from the Eastman School of Music, a master of music degree from Northwestern University, and had postgraduate study at the Royal College of Music in London. Sherman is former principal flute with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and is principal flute with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra and the Lansing Symphony Orchestra. He has given performances with the Chicago Symphony, the English Chamber Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony and the Toronto Symphony. Sherman is the recipient of an ITT International Fellowship, and the Henro Cohn Memorial Prize at Tanglewood for most outstanding fellowship student. Of one of his recordings, *Fanfare's* Jerry Dubin writes: "I cannot imagine any of this music being more beautifully or lovingly played than it is here..."