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PRESENTS THE

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West Circle Series

Happy Birthday Mozart

Jan Eberle
Molly Fillmore
Melanie Helton
Harlan Jennings
Michael Kroth
Peter Lightfoot
Deborah Moriarty
Anne Nispel
Richard Sherman
Corbin Wagner
Guy Yehuda

CONCERT GUIDE
Dr. Marcie Ray

7:30 pm, Monday, January 27, 2014
Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium

Happy Birthday Mozart is generously sponsored by
Selma and the late Stanley Hollander

PROGRAM

Die Zauberflöte Ouverture, KV 620 — Arranged by Joachim Linckelmann

Richard Sherman, flute; Jan Eberle, oboe; Guy Yehuda, clarinet;
Michael Kroth, bassoon;
Corbin Wagner, horn

From *Cosí fan tutte*

Ah, guarda, sorella

Melanie Helton, soprano (Fiordiligi)
Molly Fillmore, soprano (Dorabella)
Deborah Moriarty, piano

In uomini, in soldati

Anne Nispel, soprano (Despina)
Deborah Moriarty, piano

From *Le nozze di Figaro*

Se vuol ballare

Peter Lightfoot, baritone (Figaro)
Deborah Moriarty, piano

Sull'aria

Anne Nispel, soprano (Susanna)
Melanie Helton, soprano (Contessa)
Deborah Moriarty, piano

Voi che sapete

Molly Fillmore, soprano (Elvira)
Deborah Moriarty, piano

From *Don Giovanni*

Là ci darem la mano

Anne Nispel, soprano (Zerlina)
Harlan Jennings, baritone (Giovanni)
Deborah Moriarty, piano

INTERMISSION

From Grosse Messe in c-moll (Great Mass in C minor)

Et incarnatus est

Melanie Helton, soprano
Deborah Moriarty, piano

Domine deus

Melanie Helton, soprano
Molly Fillmore, soprano
Deborah Moriarty, piano

Fantasie für eine Orgelwalze, KV 608 — Transcribed by Don Stewart

***Andante f*-moll für Bläserquintett, KV 616** — Arranged by Wolfgang Sebastian Meyer

***Divertimento Nr. 13 in F Major*, KV 253** — Arranged by Gunther Weigelt

I. Thema mit Variationen

II. Menuet – Allegro

III. Allegro assai

Richard Sherman, flute; Jan Eberle, oboe; Guy Yehuda, clarinet;
Michael Kroth, bassoon;
Corbin Wagner, horn

ARTIST BIOS

Jan Eberle, associate professor of oboe at the MSU College of Music, has been a featured recitalist and concerto soloist throughout the United States. For 18 years, she was principal oboist in the Fort Worth Symphony and has been guest principal oboist with symphony orchestras in Detroit, Houston, Minnesota, and North Carolina. As a member of L'Ensemble de Trois, she won the Coleman International Chamber Music Competition Nadie di Kibort Award and the Southbay Chamber Music Competition. She was a member of the Harvard Chamber Players for three years, and made guest appearances with the Atlanta Virtuosi; Dallas Fine Arts Chamber Players; Suzuki and Friends; and the Oxford String Quartet. Eberle is principal oboist of the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra and instructor at the Chautauqua School of Music during the summers. She has taught at the University of Akron, University of Ohio, and University of South Florida, Tampa. She received her bachelor's degree and a certificate of special study from the Curtis Institute of Music.

Grammy award-winning soprano **Molly Fillmore** has sung with the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Seattle Opera, Washington National Opera, Arizona Opera, Spoleto Festival, and Oper der Stadt Köln (Cologne Opera.) Her appearances as a concert soloist include performances with Boston Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and Utah Symphony, and at Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, Tanglewood Music Festival, Interlochen Arts Festival, and the Kennedy Center Concert Hall. Her appearances in the Met's *Ring Cycle* and their production of *Satyagraha* were shown live in movie theaters in 40 countries as part of the Met's "Live in HD" series as well as on PBS' *Great Performances*. She is on Deutsche Grammophon's DVD and CD of *Die Walküre* from The Metropolitan Opera. A magna cum laude graduate of American University in Washington, D.C., she also holds a M. Mus. degree from the University of Maryland and studied at the Franz-Schubert-Institut in Baden-bei-Wien, Austria. She is an associate professor of voice at the Michigan State University College of Music. Upcoming engagements include the role of Marietta in *Die tote Stadt* for Theater in St. Gallen, Switzerland.

Melanie Helton has been hailed by *The New York Times* for her "dark soprano that warms the ear." Her successes include Alice Ford in Falstaff and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* at the New York City Opera, Foreign Princess in *Rusalka*, Elsa in *Lohengrin*, Maddalena in *Andrea Chenier* and Leonora in *Il Trovatore* for Seattle Opera. She has also sung title roles in *Lucrezia Borgia* at the Caramoor International Music Festival and *Aida* with Opera Carolina. Other engagements included leading roles with opera companies in Santa Fe, Houston, Dallas, Washington, and Tulsa. She has soloed with the American Symphony Orchestra, and symphony orchestras in Columbus, Rhode Island, Grand Rapids, Ann Arbor, and Lansing, among many others. Her recording of the music of Ricky Ian Gordon, "and flowers pick themselves," was listed as one of the "Best of 2008" in *American Record Guide*. She is professor of voice (soprano) and director of the MSU Opera Theatre at the MSU College of Music.

Baritone **Harlan Jennings** is associate professor of voice at Michigan State University College of Music, and holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Cincinnati. Jennings has appeared with the Cincinnati Opera, Michigan Opera Theatre, St. Louis Municipal Opera, Starlight Theatre of Kansas City, Opera Grand Rapids, Toledo Opera, Lyric Opera of Northern Michigan, Opera Company of Mid-Michigan, Northern Indiana Opera Association, and Kalamazoo Symphony Opera. His forty-odd roles in opera and musical theatre include Sharpless in *Madame Butterfly*, Count Almaviva in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Dr. Malatesta in *Don Pasquale*, Sergeant Belcore in The *Elixir of Love*, Guglielmo in *Cosi fan tutte*, Mack-the-Knife in *Threepenny Opera*, and the

title role in *Don Giovanni*. Jennings has sung with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, Midland Symphony, Kalamazoo Symphony, and Toledo Symphony, and has appeared frequently on Public Television in the "Artistry of ..." series. This spring, Jennings and soprano Anne Nispel will release their second CD, "Crosslights of British and French Song."

Michael Kroth, associate professor of bassoon and associate dean for undergraduate studies at the MSU College of Music, has earned a reputation as an excellent solo, chamber, and orchestral musician having performed in recitals and concerts throughout the U.S. and Germany. He served as principal bassoon with the South Dakota Symphony and Dakota Wind Quintet and has held positions as principal bassoonist with the Air Force Academy Band and the Colorado Springs Symphony Orchestra. Kroth is principal bassoon with the Greater Lansing Symphony Orchestra, a faculty artist at the Colorado College Summer Music Festival, and at the Peninsula Music Festival (Door County, WI). He performs regularly with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and has recently performed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. He has also performed with the Trenton Symphony, the Colorado Ballet, and the Philadelphia Orchestra. He earned his bachelor's degree in bassoon performance from Ithaca College and a master of music in from Temple University. He has released recordings on the Sound Works, Ultrasound, AFSC, and HCS labels.

Peter Lightfoot, described as "vocally brilliant" by *Opera News,* has been heard with companies both here and abroad. He has performed with the New York City Opera, the Greater Miami Opera, the Wexford Festival, Mercatello Festival, L'Opéra de Nice, Opera Cagli, and the Houston Grand Opera to name a few. He has appeared in such operatic roles as Scarpia, Rigoletto, Porgy, Tonio and Count Almaviva. Lightfoot has also been a soloist with orchestras both here and abroad. He is a graduate of the Juilliard School of Music and winner of a National Opera Institute Grant and their bronze medal for performance. Lightfoot is delighted to have joined the faculty at Michigan State University's College of Music where he is associate professor of voice. His CD of Sea Chanties, American Songs, Native American Songs and Spirituals will be released shortly under the Blue Griffin Label and through a Harp grant from Michigan State University.

Deborah Moriarty is professor of piano and chair of the piano area at the Michigan State University College of Music, where she is a recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award. A Massachusetts native, she made her debut with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at age 11. She has served on the piano faculty at the New England Conservatory of Music and the University of Lowell. Moriarty attended the Curtis Institute of Music, the Juilliard School, and the New England Conservatory of Music, where she received her Master of Music degree with honors. Major teachers include: Russell Sherman, Theodore Lettvin, and Beveridge Webster. A medal winner in the "Concours Debussy," she is an active recitalist and soloist with orchestras throughout the eastern United States. She has also performed in Belgium, Japan, Colombia, Mexico, China, Italy, and the former Soviet Union. Moriarty is a founding member of the Fontana Ensemble of Michigan, and as an advocate of new music, has participated in numerous premiere performances including Milton Babbitt's "Whirled Series" at Merkin Hall in New York City. She has recordings on the Crystal, CRI, Blue Griffin and Centaur labels.

Soprano **Anne Nispel,** a visiting assistant professor of voice at the Michigan State University College of Music, holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Michigan. Following her concert debut, *The New York Times* stated: "Ms. Nispel has... a clear, attractive timbre, ample power and a good command of languages. She also has a fine sense of style.... [Her singing] has a

charged, dramatic quality." Dubbed the "quintessential soubrette" by the *Virginia Press*, Nispel is noted for her interpretations of Susanna in The *Marriage of Figaro*, Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*, Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi*, and Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, in a career spanning over 30 leading roles with companies that include Kentucky Opera, Virginia Opera, Michigan Opera Theatre, Portland Opera, Kansas City Lyric Opera, and Cleveland Opera. Nispel has appeared with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Lansing Symphony Orchestra, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, and Long Beach Symphony Orchestra. In conjunction with baritone Harlan Jennings, she will soon release her second CD, "Crosslights of British and French Song."

Marcie Ray spent 10 years as a coloratura soprano specializing in Mozart and Menotti roles and now translates her training and experience into her work as a music historian. She holds degrees from the University of Texas (B.M. in vocal performance) and the University of California, Los Angeles (M.M. and Ph.D.), where she was a chancellor's fellow. For her dedication to her students, she has won several teaching awards, including UCLA's most prestigious teaching honor from the Academic Senate Committee. She is assistant professor of historical musicology at the MSU College of Music.

Richard Sherman, professor of flute at the MSU College of Music, is active as a soloist and orchestral musician. He received a bachelor's 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. He has served as principal flute with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and is currently principal flute with Chautauqua Symphony and Lansing Symphony. He has given performances with the Chicago Symphony, the English Chamber Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony and the Toronto Symphony. He has performed as a soloist with many symphony orchestras including those in Columbus, Rochester, Youngstown, and Chautauqua. He has given master classes throughout the U.S., in Australia, and in Taipei, Taiwan. Sherman's most recent album, "French Album Vol. II: Homage to Pedagogy," was released on the Blue Griffin Recording label with pianist Ralph Votapek in 2013. Sherman was recently awarded the College of Music's Dortha J. and John D. Withrow Excellence in Teaching Award.

Corbin Wagner, a highly regarded horn performer, teacher, and longtime member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, was appointed associate professor of horn at the MSU College of Music in 2012. He has received many prestigious performing honors, including third prize at the Munich International Horn Competition, first prize at the Heldenleben International Horn Competition in hand horn, valve horn, and horn quartet. He has performed as a guest with the Farmington Philharmonic and the Pontiac Oakland Symphony. Wagner also performs with the Beaumont Brass Quintet and the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings. He earned a bachelor's degree and master's degree in music from the University of Michigan. Before his appointment to the MSU faculty, he served as adjunct horn professor at Oakland University, the University of Michigan, and Wayne State University.

Guy Yehuda, associate professor of clarinet at the MSU College of Music, has won several international competitions including the Heida Hermanns International Woodwind Competition and the Fischoff Chamber Music Competition. He has toured extensively in Europe, North America, and Israel. As principal clarinetist, he has performed with the Lucerne Contemporary Festival, Chicago Civic, Spoleto Festival, Haifa Symphony, and the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestras, as well as the Israel Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, and the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestras as guest clarinetist. Yehuda has performed as soloist in Carnegie Hall, Chicago Symphony Hall, Casa di Musica in Portugal, and Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv. He is

the clarinet faculty artist in residence at the European summer festivals in Vianden and Saarburg. He is also a published composer and winner of the prestigious America-Israel composition award. Yehuda received his doctorate and master's degrees from Indiana University Jacob School of Music, and received his artist diploma and bachelor's degree from the Glenn Gould Professional Music School at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto.

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