



Celebrity Series • Revelle Series • Discovery Series SummerFest La Jolla • Prodigy Series • Piano Series

NEWS RELEASE

SummerFest La Jolla 2000
Rich Rudy
858.459.3724 x212

National Press Representative
Milina Barry PR
212.333.5307

SUMMERFEST LA JOLLA ANNOUNCES 2000 FESTIVAL PROGRAM August 2-20, 2000

La Jolla, CALIFORNIA... Against the backdrop of southern California's startlingly blue Pacific Ocean, the La Jolla Chamber Music Society presents the 15th annual SummerFest. Now in their third season as Artistic Directors, DAVID FINCKEL and WU HAN have gathered a roll-call of internationally renowned artists to present a festival of the finest chamber music in an intimate setting. More than a concert series, this summer's festival, scheduled from August 2-20, 2000, offers eleven chamber music concerts featuring a wide range of repertoire performed by a stellar group of artists, three composers-in-residence, two visual artists-in-residence with a public art exhibition, multi-disciplinary lectures, round table discussions, pre-concert talks, two family concerts and the annual Workshop at SummerFest—a series of daily coaching sessions for young ensembles. All performances will take place in Sherwood Auditorium at the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, located in La Jolla.

The eminent roster of guest artists include violinists CHEE-YUN, EUGENE DRUCKER, ANI KAVAFIAN, WILLIAM PREUCIL, PHILIP SETZER; cellists DAVID FINCKEL, CARTER BREY, ANDRÉS DÍAZ, FRED SHERRY; violists TOBY HOFFMAN, NOKUTHULA NGWENYAMA, CYNTHIA PHELPS; bassists DONALD PALMA, MICHAEL WAIS; pianists LEON FLEISHER, MAX LEVINSON, KONSTANTIN LIFSCHITZ, CHRISTOPHER O'RILEY and WU HAN; and soprano ANDREA TREBNIK. Distinguished woodwind soloists will join SummerFest this year, including clarinetist DAVID SHIFRIN and flutist CAROL WINCENC. In addition, the BORROMEO QUARTET, one of the most dynamic ensembles on the stage today, will appear at the festival for the first time.

HIGHLIGHTS

SUMMERFEST COMMISSIONS

SummerFest 2000 continues its Composer-in-Residence tradition, expanded this year to include three composers, two world premieres and one West Coast premiere:

Bruce Adolphe returns for his third season as Composer-in-Residence at SummerFest in an expanded role. His intriguingly-titled work “At the still point, there the dance is” will be performed on August 12, in a special program entitled “An Evening with David Shifrin,” spotlighting the distinguished clarinetist, who will join Ani Kavafian, Chee-Yun, Toby Hoffman and Fred Sherry. An author and educator as well as composer and performer, Adolphe is Music & Education Advisor for the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

His 50-plus compositions include four operas, theater pieces, orchestral works and string quartets, many of them composed on commission for distinguished performers such as Itzhak Perlman, David Shifrin, Beaux Arts Trio, the National Symphony and the Miami String Quartet.

Augusta Read Thomas is SummerFest La Jolla’s Composer-in-Residence during the festival’s final weekend. On August 18, the World Premiere of Thomas’s Piece for Solo Cello, commissioned by SummerFest, will be performed by David Finckel, prefaced by a conversation with the composer at a pre-concert talk. Also on the program that evening, Eugene Drucker will perform Incantation for Solo Violin and Christopher O’Riley will perform Two Etudes for Solo Piano. The West Coast Premiere of Fugitive Star will be performed by the Avalon String Quartet on August 17 on the Workshop concert. Not yet 40 years old, Thomas has been Composer-in-Residence for the past three years at the Chicago Symphony and is widely recognized as a rising star among contemporary composers. A partial list of her impressive commissions include the Berlin Philharmonic, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Mstislav Rostropovich, the American Guild of Organists, and SummerFest co-Artistic Director David Finckel, who played the premiere of Ms. Thomas’s cello concerto, Ritual Incantations, to celebrate the Aspen Festival’s 50th anniversary last season.

Joan Tower has been appointed one of this summer’s three Composers-in-Residence, and the festival will present the World Premiere of her new Piano Trio with David Finckel, Wu Han and Chee-Yun on August 6. A companion piece to *And...They’re Off*, this SummerFest commission is but one highlight in what amounts to a mini-survey of her chamber music spread over SummerFest’s first weekend, including her in-memoriam tribute to Olivier Messiaen, *Très lent*, performed by Andrés Díaz and Max Levinson on August 5, and a series of pre-concert talks. A recipient of the prestigious Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition in 1990, Tower travels with remarkable ease between large-scale orchestral works and chamber pieces.

A TRIBUTE TO LEON FLEISHER

SummerFest 2000 will present “An Evening with Leon Fleisher” on August 16. Making his SummerFest debut, Fleisher will perform Perle’s Musical Offerings, for the left hand alone, and he will join Eugene Drucker, Toby Hoffman, and David Finckel in a performance of Brahms’s Piano Quartet No. 3 in C minor, Op. 60. A student of Artur Schnabel, Leon Fleisher is a versatile artist who has appeared with the country’s leading orchestras as both soloist and conductor. Midway through the 1964-65 season, an injury to his right hand curtailed his concert career and he devoted himself to conducting and to important repertoire for the left hand. Fleisher serves on the faculties of the Peabody Conservatory of Music, the Curtis Institute of Music and the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto.

MORE THAN A CONCERT SERIES...

ENCOUNTERS

SummerFest 2000 presents a new, engaging line up of Encounters, the popular series of daily round-table discussions relating to the arts. The Encounters feature guest artists of the festival, arts administrators and members of the international press. Exploring a wide range of topics,

Artistic Directors David Finckel and Wu Han have designed the series to be informative, provocative and engaging. A select list of this summer’s discussions include: “Inside the La Jolla Chamber Music Society,” August 7; “Music in California,” August 8; “Art, Money & Politics,” August 9; “Inside the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center,” August 10; “Inside the Metropolitan Opera,” August 11; “Music and Cyberspace Revisited,” August 14; “Meet Leon Fleisher,” August 15; “Inside the BBC – In a Multi-Media Age,” August 16; and “The Workshop Experience,” August 17. Encounters take place weekdays from 1:00-2:00 p.m. throughout the festival, beginning August 4. A complete roster of participants and topics will be announced in the spring. The events are free and open to the public.

EVENING EXPLORATIONS

The newest component to the festival is the Evening Explorations series, one aspect of the collaboration with the University Art Gallery, University of California, San Diego (UCSD) and SummerFest. In this engaging series, founder and host Bruce Adolphe guides the guests and audience through challenging presentations that investigate the parallels and connections, relationships and resonances between music and art, literature and science. This summer’s Explorations topics are “The Genetic and Environmental Aspects of Musical Composition,” August 7; “Musical Gestures: A Conversation with Choreographer John Malashock,” August 10; and “Metaphor and Music: Meaning, Murder and Mozart,” August 14. The three events are held at the University Art Gallery, at 7:30 p.m., and are followed by a reception. Tickets are \$35 each or \$75 for the series.

WORKSHOP AT SUMMERFEST

In addition to the Family Concerts and Encounters, another distinctive element of the Festival is the Workshop at SummerFest. Three ensembles of outstanding merit, chosen by international audition - the Avalon String Quartet, Ornati String Quartet and Amelia Trio – have been invited to explore masterworks of the chamber music repertoire and a selection of new music under the tutelage of SummerFest’s distinguished guest artists. Throughout the three-week festival, audiences will observe daily behind-the-scenes coaching sessions and follow the musical growth of some of the finest young talent of today's up-and-coming string quartets and piano trios. The Workshop at SummerFest sessions are held weekdays from August 2-16 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., in the Van Schaick Room of St. James-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church. This event is free and open to the public. The audience will hear the results of their intensive preparation at a Workshop Ensemble performance in Sherwood Auditorium on August 17 at 7:30 p.m. The program will include the West Coast Premiere of Augusta Read Thomas’s Fugitive Star, and works by Ravel, Bartok and Brahms.

VISUAL ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE & EXHIBITION

SummerFest, in collaboration with the University of California, San Diego, presents two Visual Artists-in-Residence: An exhibition at the University Art Gallery featuring individual works by Dale Chihuly and Italo Scanga, as well as collaborative projects created especially for the festival are among the activities planned. Dale Chihuly is renowned for his work in glass, which can be seen in over one hundred seventy museum collections internationally. His glass works range from brightly colored vessels to monumental architectural and outdoor installations. Chihuly's technical and artistic innovations have revolutionized conventional glassblowing. Italo Scanga, a painter, sculptor, printmaker, and glass artist, has been a professor in the Visual Arts Department at UCSD since 1978. Scanga's work blends the mundane and spiritual by using familiar images with brilliant color to explore both daily life and transcendent questions of existence. Scanga's work is represented in public and private collections throughout the world. An opening reception for the artists will be held on August 3, 2000, from 7 to 9pm. The show will be on view at the Gallery through August 26. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 am to 4 pm, and admission is free.

APAP “CLASSICAL CONNECTIONS” SEMINAR

SummerFest has been selected by The Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP) as the host site for its prominent event - The Classical Connections Seminar, August 8 - 12, 2000. The Classical Connections Seminar is a five-day immersion program for arts presenters facilitated by Robert Winter, Director of the Center for the Digital Arts, UCLA. The seminar examines the larger cultural and social context in which classical music has taken place in America, and offers national presenters with a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the SummerFest experience.

FAMILY CONCERTS

Presented on SummerFest's second and third Saturdays, Bruce Adolphe will lead two Family Concerts designed for youngsters of all ages, on August 12 and 19 at 2:00 p.m. Each one-hour concert features music especially chosen for young audiences by Bruce Adolphe and involves audience participation. On August 12 SummerFest salutes San Diego's young musicians in a special one-hour event entitled, "The First Annual Young Performers Showcase," which brings together performers at all levels and includes an array of SummerFest guest artists. All family concerts are free for those 18 years of age and younger, and \$15 for adults.

GALA

This season SummerFest La Jolla presents its annual Gala benefit on August 19 at 6:00 p.m.

A longstanding festival tradition, this year the Gala takes place in the intimate setting of the landmark Rancho Santa Fe home of John and Becky Moores, a local family whose philanthropy extends across the spectrum of San Diego's cultural life. The festive affair will feature a star-studded array of SummerFest artists, including Andrés Díaz, Chee-Yun, David Finckel and Wu Han.

* * *

All chamber music concerts, unless otherwise noted, are in the Sherwood Auditorium located at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, 700 Prospect St., La Jolla. All Workshops and Encounters will take place in the Van Schaick Room of the St. James-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 743 Prospect St., directly across from the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego. All Evening Explorations are held at the University Art Gallery, University of California, San Diego, located at the west end of Mandeville Center on the UCSD campus. Festival single ticket prices range from \$25 to \$50. Subscription packages range from \$75-\$375. Gala tickets are \$600. All tickets go on sale April 1, 2000. To order tickets, for information, or to receive a copy of the SummerFest La Jolla 2000 brochure, please call the SummerFest La Jolla Box Office at 858.459.3728, or fax 858.459.3727, or email: societybox@aol.com. Visit the La Jolla Chamber Music Society web site at www.ljcms.org.

For further press information and photographs, please contact:

La Jolla Chamber Music Society

Contact: Rich Rudy

Tel 858.459.3724 x 212

Fax 858.459.3727

Email: rrudy@ljcms.org

National Press Representative:

Milina Barry PR

Tel 212.333.5307

Fax 212.333.3954

Email: milina@milinabarrypr.com