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MUSIC@MENLO 2010

Artistic Directors: David Finckel and Wu Han

CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL AND INSTITUTE ON THE SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA ANNOUNCES EIGHTH SEASON

Maps and Legends
July 23–August 14, 2010



NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART CONCERT HALL AT MENLO-ATHERTON OFFERS IDEAL SETTING FOR EXPANDED FESTIVAL OFFERINGS



The Bay Area's premier chamber music festival, **Music@Menlo** presents its eighth season this summer, from **July 23 through August 14, 2010**, on the San Francisco Peninsula. The festival, billed *Maps and Legends*, explores music spanning a wide range of times and places. Featuring music by composers from Vivaldi and Dvořák to Schoenberg and Crumb—works that affirm a nation's identity, marvel at the changing of the seasons, and respond to the trauma of war—*Maps and Legends* sets music as a lens through which we learn about the world we inhabit. Led by Founders and Artistic Directors **David Finckel** and **Wu Han**, the acclaimed chamber music festival and institute bring to Silicon Valley a lineup of many of the world's most accomplished musicians, scholars, and musicologists, as well as a roster of outstanding young artists, for an immersive three-week chamber music experience. Music@Menlo embarks on its eighth season with its most comprehensive offerings to date. The festival's expanded concert series dovetails with the city of Menlo Park's introduction of the Center for Performing Arts at Menlo-Atherton, a new state-of-the-art, 500-seat concert hall that offers an ideal venue for a broader scope of programming. All festival events, including symposia, master classes, and other activities, are held at venues in Atherton, Palo Alto, and Menlo Park, California.

Committed to connecting audiences with chamber music in an intimate setting, David Finckel and Wu Han have set out to create a multilayered, in-depth musical experience. Music@Menlo continues to evolve and expand through its signature programs, which include the thematically inspired **Concert Programs**, the **Carte Blanche** recital series, **Café Conversations**, **AudioNotes**, and the multimedia **Encounter** lecture series. Cultivating the classical music landscape for future generations is a significant component of Music@Menlo's mission, and the education of promising young musicians forms an intrinsic part of this mission. Music@Menlo's **Chamber Music Institute**, an intensive four-week workshop for top young students that coincides with the festival, features open **master classes**, **Prelude Performances**, and **Koret Young Performers Concerts**, along with a daylong chamber music **Open House**, all of which are free and open to the public. The festival artists brought together at Music@Menlo form a faculty that rivals that of the nation's top conservatories.

Music@Menlo 2010 is made possible in part by a leadership grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Additional support is provided by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Koret Foundation Funds, and the many individuals and organizations that share the festival's vision. Lead corporate support comes from MacCorkle Insurance Service and Wells Fargo Private Bank.

2010 HIGHLIGHTS

FESTIVAL ARTISTS

Festival Artistic Directors David Finckel, cellist of the Grammy Award-winning Emerson String Quartet, and pianist Wu Han also serve as Artistic Directors of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York and are cofounders of the Internet-based recording label ArtistLed. Together, they have assembled a stellar roster of thirty-six guest artists for Music@Menlo's 2010 season, sixteen of whom will be making their Music@Menlo debut.

Joining the festival lineup this summer will be pianists **Inon Barnatan, Alessio Bax, Jeffrey Kahane, Gilbert Kalish, Ken Noda, and Wu Han**; violinists **Jorja Fleezanis, Ani Kavafian, Philip Setzer, Arnaud Sussmann, and Ian Swensen**; violist **Beth Guterman**; violinist/violists **Lily Francis and Erin Keefe**; cellists **David Finckel, Ralph Kirshbaum, and Laurence Lesser**; bassist **Scott Pingel**; guitarist **Jason Vieaux**; percussionists **Christopher Froh and Ayano Kataoka**; flutist **Tara Helen O'Connor**; oboist **Jonathan Fischer**; clarinetist **Todd Palmer**; bassoonist **Dennis Godburn**; mezzo-soprano **Sasha Cooke**; tenor **Matthew Plenk**; and baritone **Randall Scarlata**. Two highly acclaimed ensembles, the **Jupiter String Quartet** and the **Miró Quartet**, join the festival this year.

CONCERT PROGRAMS

Music@Menlo's 2010 festival theme, *Maps and Legends*, encompasses a wide musical spectrum over the course of seven Concert Programs and a host of other events. This summer's programs include **The Seasons** (July 23), **The English Voice** (July 25, 26, and 27), **Vienna** (July 31 and August 1 and 2), **Aftermath: 1945** (August 4 and 5), **La Ville-Lumière: Paris, 1920–1928** (August 7), **Spanish Inspirations** (August 9 and 10), and **Dvořák's America** (August 13 and 14).

Complete program information, including repertoire, artists, concert venues, times, and ticket prices, can be found in the festival's season brochure or online at www.musicatmenlo.org

CARTE BLANCHE CONCERTS

Carte Blanche Concerts, Music@Menlo's popular series of artist-curated recitals, showcase individual festival musicians and their singular musical passions. This summer's series complements the season's Concert Program offerings with seminal masterpieces by many of Western music's great composers. American baritone **Randall Scarlata**, making his festival

debut, and pianist Gilbert Kalish open the Carte Blanche series with **Schubert's Winterreise**, one of the signposts of the *lieder* repertoire (July 25 at 2:00 p.m.). Carte Blanche Concert II, **Schumann and Chopin**, marks the bicentennial of two iconic composers of the Romantic era, with **Jeffrey Kahane** at the piano (July 29 at 8:00 p.m.). The cello-piano duo of **David Finckel** and **Wu Han** offers one of its signature recital programs for Carte Blanche Concert III, the five **Beethoven Sonatas for Piano and Cello**, representing a seminal contribution to the cello-and-keyboard literature (August 3 at 8:00 p.m.). Carte Blanche Concert IV, **Found in Translation**, features the eagerly anticipated festival debut of rising piano virtuoso **Alessio Bax**; the recital expands on the 2010 season theme with an ambitious three-part program: **Bach Transcribed, Italy, and Spain and France** (August 8 at 10:00 a.m.).

Concert venues, times, and ticket prices can be found in the festival's season brochure or online at www.musicatmenlo.org.

FESTIVAL RECORDING LABEL

MUSIC@MENLO LIVE, the festival's exclusive recording label, has been praised as "the most ambitious recording project of any classical music festival in the world" (*San Jose Mercury News*) and its recordings have received rave reviews on both sides of the Atlantic. Capturing the live concert experience on disc, the recordings feature performances from each season and are available for purchase at www.musicatmenlo.org and at Music@Menlo's venues throughout the festival. All recordings are produced by Grammy Award-winning recording engineer Da-Hong Seetoo. The newest release in the Music@Menlo *LIVE* catalog, *Being Mendelssohn*, is a six-CD boxed set from the 2009 season capturing the festival's celebration of the Felix Mendelssohn bicentennial.

FESTIVAL ELEMENTS

Discovery, Understanding, Engagement

ENCOUNTERS

Encounters, Music@Menlo's signature series of evening-length multimedia symposia hosted by today's leading musical authorities, add an integral dimension to the festival experience.

This season's four-part Encounter series features "Das Land ohne Musik and the Search for English Musical Identity," led by author and lecturer **R. Larry Todd** (July 24); "Vienna at the Center: The Rise and Fall of a Musical Culture, 1762–1938," led by **Ara Guzelimian**, Provost and

Dean of the Juilliard School (July 30); "Under the Influence: Cultural Collage in Paris during the Early Twentieth Century," with composer **Bruce Adolphe** (August 6); and "Dvořák and the New World," with **Robert Winter** (August 12). Encounters are held at 7:30 p.m. in Martin Family Hall, Menlo School's multimedia facility.

For a complete description of Encounter topics and ticket prices, visit www.musicatmenlo.org or refer to the season brochure.

CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS

An outgrowth of the imagination, generosity, and wide-ranging expertise of Music@Menlo's artist roster, the **Café Conversation** series offers a forum for music- and arts-related discussions, led by festival musicians and guests. These informal discussion events, free and open to the public, are held on select weekdays at 11:45 a.m. at Menlo School.

A complete schedule of Café Conversations, including times, topics, and locations, will be announced on the festival's Web site at www.musicatmenlo.org in June.

AUDIONOTES

Hailed by the *New York Times* for "finding intelligent ways to inform the audience about music," Music@Menlo has produced a new series of **AudioNotes**, innovative recordings of preconcert listener guides, in preparation for the coming festival season. AudioNotes CDs and MP3s—provided free of charge with each advance ticket purchase—put the music in historical and cultural context, illustrated by musical examples and discussions with the festival artists, offering audiences a unique opportunity to get inside the music before entering the concert hall. By arming listeners with an informed perspective in advance of the performance, AudioNotes enrich the concert experience and prepare listeners for a rewarding musical journey. This summer, the popular series sets the stage for an in-depth exploration of the 2010 festival, *Maps and Legends*. AudioNotes are authored and narrated by Artistic Directors David Finckel and Wu Han and Artistic Administrator Patrick Castillo.

CHAMBER MUSIC INSTITUTE

Music@Menlo's Chamber Music Institute offers a rigorous professional training ground and a wide array of performance opportunities to a group of rising young musicians and brings them into contact with a world-class roster of classical music luminaries that rivals that of the nation's top conservatories. For four weeks each summer, the musicians of the Institute's elite International

Program for pre- and semiprofessional artists and the Young Performers Program for pre- and early-conservatory-level students work closely with the festival's artist-faculty in coachings, master classes, and other events, culminating in the festival's **Prelude Performances** and **Koret Young Performers Concerts**. These highly anticipated performances showcase the young artists of the Chamber Music Institute and constitute a vital component of the festival's artistic programming. This summer's thirteen Prelude Performances and five Koret Young Performers Concerts complement the season's main concert series and represent a cornerstone of Music@Menlo's educational mission.

Prelude Performances feature the Institute's International Program artists; Koret Young Performers Concerts feature the students of the Young Performers Program. Both series are free and open to the public.

Visit www.musicatmenlo.org for a detailed calendar of Chamber Music Institute events.

CHAMBER MUSIC OPEN HOUSE

On **Saturday, July 24**, Music@Menlo welcomes the community for a daylong series of Open House events on the campus of Menlo School, offering visitors a special opportunity to discover the inner workings of the festival. The day begins with a **Q & A Coffee** (8:30 a.m.) with Artistic Directors David Finckel and Wu Han. **Open rehearsals** (on this day only) and **open coachings** allow audiences to observe the creative process in action, as festival artists and Chamber Music Institute students prepare for upcoming concerts. The day's offerings also include the season's first **Prelude Performance** (5:30 p.m., free) in Stent Family Hall, and first **Encounter**, "Das Land ohne Musik and the Search for English Musical Identity," led by R. Larry Todd in Martin Family Hall (7:30 p.m., tickets required).

AMERICAN PUBLIC MEDIA PARTNERSHIP

This summer, the festival welcomes the return of American Public Media as Music@Menlo's exclusive broadcast partner. Performances from the festival will air nationwide on *Performance Today*, the country's largest daily classical music program, which airs on 245 stations and reaches more than 1.2 million people each week, and via Classical 24, a live classical music service broadcast on 250 stations and distributed by Public Radio International. Hosts and producers from American Public Media also participate in the festival as event moderators and educators. Visit www.americanpublicmedia.org for archived festival performances, photos, and interviews. American Public Media is the leading producer of classical music programming for public radio,

including *Performance Today*, *SymphonyCast*, *Saint Paul Sunday*, *Pipedreams*, *Composers Datebook*, and *Classical 24*.

VISUAL ARTS AT THE FESTIVAL

Each season, Music@Menlo invites a distinguished visual artist to exhibit a selection of work at Menlo School throughout the festival and showcases the artist's work in the festival's publications. This summer, the festival spotlights **Alex S. MacLean**. A pilot and photographer, MacLean has flown his Cessna 182 over much of the United States documenting the landscape. Trained as an architect, he has portrayed the history and evolution of the land from vast agricultural patterns to city grids, recording changes brought about by human intervention and natural processes. His powerful and descriptive images provide clues to understanding the relationship between the natural and the constructed environments. MacLean's photographs have been exhibited widely in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia and are found in private, public, and university collections. He has won numerous awards, including the 2009 CORINE International Book Award for *OVER: The American Landscape at the Tipping Point*, the American Academy of Rome's Prix de Rome in Landscape Architecture for 2003–2004, and grants from foundations such as the National Endowment for the Arts. MacLean maintains a studio and lives in Lincoln, Massachusetts. There will be a Café Conversation on July 29 (11:45 a.m.) featuring a discussion with the artist, followed by an artist's reception, both of which are free and open to the public.

ABOUT MUSIC@MENLO

Music@Menlo, an internationally acclaimed chamber music festival and institute under the artistic direction of cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han, was founded in 2003. Based at Menlo School in Atherton, California, and an important part of the San Francisco Bay Area's dynamic cultural fabric, Music@Menlo is noted for its world-class chamber music performances, extensive audience engagement programs, intensive training for preprofessional musicians through its Chamber Music Institute, and efforts to enrich and expand the global chamber music community.

ABOUT THE ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

Music@Menlo Artistic Directors **David Finckel** and **Wu Han** are two of today's most esteemed and influential classical musicians. Their appearances currently take them to the world's most prestigious concert series and festivals as soloists, as a duo, and, in David Finckel's case, as a member of the Grammy Award-winning Emerson String Quartet. In addition, they are the

creators of classical music's first musician-directed and Internet-based recording label, ArtistLed, a trendsetting industry innovation that recently released its twelfth recording, *For David and Wu Han*. Together, David Finckel and Wu Han have a unique ability to envision and realize innovative projects, be it in the recording arena with ArtistLed, on the world's great concert stages, or as directors of esteemed arts institutions. In recent years, David Finckel and Wu Han have become widely recognized for their initiatives in expanding audiences for classical music and for guiding the careers of countless young musicians. In recognition of their widespread contributions to the field of chamber music and their artistic excellence both on and off the stage, David Finckel and Wu Han were named Artistic Directors of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in 2004; this winter, they renewed their contract for a second five-year term. Recent initiatives taken on under the auspices of the Chamber Music Society involve the establishment of two new multiyear teaching residencies in Seoul, Korea, and Taipei, Taiwan. For more information, visit www.davidfinckelandwuhan.com.

TICKETS & INFORMATION

Festival concerts and events will be held in four venues this summer:

- Stent Family Hall, Menlo School, Atherton
- Martin Family Hall, Menlo School, Atherton
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Palo Alto
- The Center for Performing Arts at Menlo-Atherton, Atherton

Concert Program ticket prices are as follows:

- St. Mark's Episcopal Church: \$38/\$52 adult; \$10/\$25 student & youth
- Stent Family Hall: \$72 adult; \$35 student & youth
- The Center for Performing Arts at Menlo-Atherton: \$50/\$60 adult; \$20/\$30 student & youth

Most Concert Programs will be performed on more than one night.

Carte Blanche Concert ticket prices are as follows:

- Stent Family Hall: \$70 adult; \$35 student & youth
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church: \$45/\$65 adult; \$15/\$32 student & youth
- The Center for Performing Arts at Menlo-Atherton: \$55/\$65 adult; \$25/\$32 student & youth

Encounter ticket prices are as follows:

- Martin Family Hall: \$42 adult; \$20 student & youth

Seating for ticketed concerts at the Center for Performing Arts at Menlo-Atherton and St. Mark's Episcopal Church will be reserved. Seating in Stent Family Hall and Martin Family Hall and for all free events will continue to be by general admission.

Prelude Performances and **Koret Young Performers Concerts** by Chamber Music Institute artists are free and open to the public and will be held in a mix of the following venues:

- Martin Family Hall
- Stent Family Hall
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church
- The Center for Performing Arts at Menlo-Atherton

Because of the popularity of these events, a free seat pass is required for all Prelude Performances and Koret Young Performers Concerts. One seat pass per person may be requested at the will-call table starting one hour prior to the start of the performance. Seat passes cannot be reserved in advance and seating is by general admission.

For information, a schedule of concerts and events, or to receive a copy of the Music@Menlo 2010 season brochure, please visit www.musicatmenlo.org or call Music@Menlo's administrative office at 650-330-2030. To order tickets, visit Music@Menlo's Web site at www.musicatmenlo.org or call Music@Menlo's ticket office at 650-331-0202.

PRESS

For photographs, press tickets, or further press information on Music@Menlo, please contact:

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This press release is available online at www.musicatmenlo.org.