DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMPOSERS LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

presents

A CONCERT IN HONOR OF DR. BEVERLY GRIGSBY'S 90th BIRTHDAY



Paul Hurst, piano DEBORAH KAVASCH, SOPRANO MARY LOU NEWMARK, VIOLIN KATHERINE SAXON. SOPRANO IASON STOLL. PIANO ELAINE K. WERNER, SOPRANO MICHAEL GLENN WILLIAMS, PIANO

> SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018, 3:00 PM CYPRESS RECITAL HALL









PROGRAM

Mary Lou Newmark	<i>Oceanica</i> (2017) <i>Restless Tiger</i> (2009) for electric violin and soundscape
Katherine Saxon	<i>Memories of Silver</i> for voice and piano (2007) Katherine Saxon, soprano Michael Glenn Williams, piano*
Michael Glenn Williams*	Selection from American Gothic Songbook (2016)
David Raiklen	Variations on a Phrase of Grigsby (2017) Katherine Saxon, soprano Michael Glenn Williams, piano* With computer music
Sandra Bostrom-Aguado*	Dialogues in Humanoid Cacophony: Let There Be Peace (2017) soprano, piano, and tape Elaine K. Werner, soprano Jason Stoll, piano*
INTERMISSION	
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Deborah Kavasch	INTERMISSION Admonition (2012) soprano and prerecorded voices Text by Linda Bunney-Sarhad
Deborah Kavasch Richard Derby	Admonition (2012) soprano and prerecorded voices
	Admonition (2012) soprano and prerecorded voices Text by Linda Bunney-Sarhad From <i>Twelve Pretudes</i> (2010) <i>First: "048"</i> <i>Fifth: "027"</i>
Richard Derby	Admonition (2012) soprano and prerecorded voices Text by Linda Bunney-Sarhad From Twelve Pretudes (2010) First: "048" Fifth: "027" Jason Stoll, piano* Character Matters (2003)
Richard Derby Jeannie Gayle Pool	Admonition (2012) soprano and prerecorded voices Text by Linda Bunney-Sarhad From Twelve Pretudes (2010) First: "048" Fifth: "027" Jason Stoll, piano* Character Matters (2003) Jason Stoll, piano* Shakti II (1985) soprano and computer music on tape

Please join us for a reception in room 101 following the recital.

Program Notes and Biographies

Mary Lou Newmark (ASCAP) electric violinist, composer, poet/playwright, holds Master's degrees in both violin performance (USC) and music composition (UCLA). Her works encompass a wide range of styles and techniques, incorporating live performance, original poetry and electronically processed sounds into unique pieces that inhabit their own musical ecosystems. Ms. Newmark is well known as a dynamic performer of her own compositions. She has been featured at Brandeis University, Northern Arizona University, UC Riverside and Palomar College performing multiple works and lecturing on her compositional technique. As an artist of both music and words, Newmark continues to expand her creativity to include works for theater that combine the performing arts to explore social issues. Her latest hybrid theater work, "Breathing Room" was produced at the Greenway Court Theatre in 2015. Critic Ernest Kearney called "Breathing Room" a "disarmingly beautiful musical parable." In January of 2016, Mary Lou won a 2015 SAGE Award for Best Musical Score from the Los Angeles Theatre Critics at ArtsInLA for "Breathing Room." Her third CD, "Room to Breathe" was released in October of 2017. "Room to Breathe" is a safari into the urban wilderness of Los Angeles with her green electric violin. It moves across genres to encounter coyotes, wild birds, a wolf woman, beats, and poetic verse. The CD is available on iTunes and CD Baby. Her website is: www. greenangelmusic.com

Oceanica by Mary Lou Newmark plunges the electric violin into the depths of the ocean. The atmosphere of the soundscape swirls around the soloist evoking schools of fish swimming by and the rush of bubble-filled water. The electric violin is part of the sonic texture, weaving in and out of the foreground. **Restless Tiger** with words and music by Mary Lou reflects concerns about our society's addiction to speed, consumerism and the destruction of our environment as a result. We have lost touch with not only the natural world, but also our own animal bodies and rhythms. The tiger in this work can be seen as the earth getting impatient with our mistreatment and preparing to fight back, or the collective human instinct, rooted in the body that desires to be free. Both compositions are included in Mary Lou's recent CD release, "Room to Breathe."

The text for **Memories of Silver** by Katherine Saxon was derived from Walter de la Mare's poem "Silver". This text, half-remembered, abbreviated, and altered, reveals the original poem in patches, as if it is being seen by moonlight. The music is gentle and full of romantic and impressionistic harmony. The bass line walks slowly depicting the flow of time, the passage of the moon, and the movement of water.

The Lyric for Memories of Silver

Slowly, silently, now the moon Walks the night in her silver shoes This way, that, she peers, sees Silver fruit on silver trees;

The windows catch

Her beams beneath silver thatch.

A mouse scampers by, With silver claw, and silver eye; And listless fish in water gleam By silver reeds in a silver stream. Adapted from "Silver", by Walter de la Mare.

Dr. Katherine Saxon (ASCAP) was born in Santa Monica, California and completed her Ph.D. in Music at the University of California, Santa Barbara, studying with Joel Feigin. Katherine also holds a BA from Williams College in Massachusetts where she studied composition with Ileana Perez-Velazquez and voice with Brad Wells, and a Masters of Music from the University of Oregon where she studied with Robert Kyr and David Crumb. In 2012 Dr. Saxon received first prize in the San Francisco Choral Artists' New Voices Competition for her work Speed and Perfection. Navona Records released her composition East of the Sun/ West of the Moon and Vox Dilect Mei on the album Polarities: exploring the contemporary expanse in March 2014. She was awarded honorable mention in the 2015 American Prize Composition Choral Music Division for Kubla Khan. She has attended the Vancouver Early Music Festival, Madison Early Music Festival, Oregon Bach Festival Composer's Forum, Open Space Festival, the Atlantic Music Festival, the Bowdoin International Music Festival, New Music on the Bayou, the Banff Centre for the Arts and the COSI Opera Creation Lab. She lives in Santa Barbara, CA where she works as a conductor and music educator. More music and information be found at www.katherinesaxon.com.

Michael Glenn Williams (BMI) composes for solo piano, chamber ensembles, choir and solo voice. Works for orchestra include New West Overture, Rising Stars Overture, Oceanic Overture, Tarantella for piano and orchestra, composed for pianist Sean Chen; Princess Concerto for piano, narrator and orchestra; and The Gates of Hell a series of tone poems based on the Rodin sculptures. Williams catalogue for solo piano is extensive, with over twenty suites. Williams also composed for movies including King of the Hill, The Limey, Younger and Younger, The House of Yes, Wonderland and Wicker Park. He also composed cues and performed piano for the TV series Chicago Hope.

American Gothic Songbook is the first volume of three planned volumes honoring and inspired by American Gothic literature. In the first volume, the music translates the Gothic characteristics of melodrama (Lovecraft), terror (The Dunwich Horror), the supernatural (A Ghostly Companion), evolution (Spiders I Have Known). Innocence and obsessive love (Edgar Allen's Waltz) and its loss (Umber Love, The Lonely Spiral). My youthful interest in American Gothic literature stemmed from mystery oppressiveness and terror of Lovecraft's (1890-1930) The Dunwich Horror, Doyle's (1859-1930) Hounds of the Baskerville, Hawthorne's (1804-1864) The Scarlet Letter, and the short stories of Poe (1909-1849). Later I discovered the American Gothic tradition extends from the English Gothic. It is a part of Americana from the beginning, until today. I'm attracted by the intense emotion, mysterious and oppressive settings, the secular themes and supernatural happenings.

—Michael Glenn Williams

"Dialogues in Humanoid Cacophony" (Let There Be Peace) by Sandra Bostrom is scored for Piano, Solo Soprano and Electronic Recorded Accompaniment, this composition is based upon the fact that our industrialized existence has surrounded us with dissonant noise and has not given us any moments of peace and quiet to be able to contemplate what is truly important in our lives. This conflict is heard as the soprano line pleads for peace, and is completely overshadowed. But as the cacophony rages, the other instrumental sounds sometimes ambivalently "want" to join the "peace movement" momentarily but in the end, only two join the soprano's pleading for a time for peace... and quiet, time to listen to one's thoughts and drown out the humanoid racket and meaningless data that surrounds us every moment of our lives.

Dr. Sandra Bostrom-Aguado (ASCAP) is a resident of Los Angeles, taught piano/keyboard, song-writing, music in films and technology at California State University, Northridge. She presently owns Angel Publishing House which publishes sacred and secular choral, instrumental, solo music, and teaching materials for musicians. She has composed over 300 choral and instrumental works which are performed in numerous venues. She has written scores for motion pictures, educational films, commercials and 24 educational books and CDs on teaching keyboard skills. Her publishers include Alfred Music, Lawson-Gould, Choristers Guild, Valiant Educational Products and Gehrmans Musikforlag. She and her company, Angel Publishing House are members of ASCAP and she is presently listed in the Who's Who in Music.

Southern Californian pianist, **Jason Stoll**, has garnered many praises and awards for his performances throughout his career. Concert highlights include many solo recitals throughout his native California, New York, Toronto and orchestral appearances with the Miami Music Festival Orchestra, the California State University, Northridge Symphony, the York Symphony Orchestra, and the Tehachapi Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Stoll has also competed internationally and was named a Semi-finalist in the 2015 Dublin International Piano Competition and Finalist in the 2013 American Paderewski Piano Competition. Currently, Mr. Stoll is a piano instructor and lecturer at California State University, Northridge, and is also an active freelance pianist throughout the Los Angeles area.

Elaine K. Werner, a Sylmar resident, has sung in choirs continuously since fifth grade. She is a retired special education teacher who earned her M.S. in Special Education from California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks and had an undergraduate minor in choral music. Elaine directed congregational choirs in Minnesota and Kansas. She solos for church services and special occasions. She has been singing with the San Fernando Valley Master Chorale that recently presented the West Coast premiere of **The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass** by Carol Barnett and the premiere of **An Oratorio–Moses** by Sergio Barer performed at the Wilshire Boulevard Temple last spring. She currently sings with the Santa Clarita Valley Master Chorale.

Variations on a Phrase of Grigsby: Beverly Grigsby is an inspiring pioneer and brilliant artist, I was amazed when I first heard her work at school. I hope to celebrate and thank her for her contributions by doing something fun with a bit of her work. I begin with two phrases she composed. One is a 6- note series, the other is a phrase that I recorded. Both are

transformed simultaneously, one by traditional acoustic methods, the other by electronic manipulation. A kind of aria for interwoven sounds. The text is from Marie de France, translated by Judith P. Shoaf.

—David Raiklen.

Text for Variations on a Phrase of Grigsby

Whoever gains knowledge from God, science, eloquence. That person should gladly display. Great good flourishes.

When they wrote books in olden days. They knew some day others would come. Add their own meaning too.

Ah ahh Mankind in future tense would develop subtle sense. Whoever gains knowledge from God, science, eloquence. That person should gladly display. Great good flourishes!

David Raiklen was mentored by Oscar winner **John Williams** and Pulitzer Prize winner **Mel Powel**. Dr. Raiklen studied at **USC** and **CalArts** and later taught at those universities. He has worked for the major studios including **Sony, Fox, Disney, Sprint, Mattel, Warner Bros** and **PBS**, plus many independent productions. His projects have starred **Elliott Gould, Doug Jones, Blythe Danner**, and **Martin Sheen**. David made the New York Film Critics Top Ten with the documentary Heist, the short list for an Academy Award[®] for Worth, and Mia, A Dancer's Journey won the **Emmy**. David Raiklen compositions have been performed at the Hollywood Bowl and Disney Hall. He is also host of a successful radio program, Classical Fan Club, where guests include Yo-Yo Ma and John Williams; and is host and leader of The Academy of Scoring Arts seminars. David is currently producing and composing for **Space Command**, a series of epic adventures set in a hopeful future, and producing Virtual Reality experiences.

Admonition (2012)

My poet-collaborator, Linda Bunney-Sarhad, wrote this poem inspired by the writings of Hildegard von Bingen for the first Hildegard Festival of Women in the Arts at CSU Stanislaus in 1999. I had been mulling over it for years with thoughts at first of setting it for women's chorus but finally decided to write it for solo voice accompanied by prerecorded voices, i.e. my own voice altered to varying pitch levels to form a chorus using both traditional and extended vocal techniques and manipulated through Logic Pro 9. When I told Linda about my impetus to finally set the poem, she sent me this version which she had just recently revised, and the creative ideas started tumbling out of me! The recording was engineered by composer John Marvin.

—Deborah Kavasch

Hildegard: "These are some of his [the Devil's] characteristics I recognize; for example, wherever he appears, he threatens my identity. He threatens my authority to act, to speak, to heal, to sing. My role becomes obscure, my responsibilities vague but overwhelming. There is nothing I am actually empowered to do...."

Listen, daughter: we see light by the dark, Wholeness by scarring, and life by death. With the darkness of all duty upon you, Do not fear to let your one candle shine.

Then speak what you see, o what is next, and sing the song you have. Ignore the growling chaos in the air.

Find your pitch, then hear: Your one true note brings harmony. And the deeper the night the brighter your one light shines. ©1999, Linda Bunney-Sarhad rev. 2011

The final section of Admonition quotes one of Hildegard's chants, Caritas abundat: "Charity abounds in all things, from the depths to high above the highest starts, And is most loving to all, for to the High King she has given the kiss of peace."

Dr. Deborah Kavasch (BMI), composer, soprano, and specialist in extended vocal techniques, has received grants and residencies in composition and performance from the National Endowment for the Arts, the California Arts Council, The Barlow Endowment Lecture Series, the Ernest Bloch Music Festival and Composers Symposium, the Donne in Musica International Festival and Symposium, and the International Congress on Women in Music, and was a 1987 Fulbright Senior Scholar to Stockholm. She has had works commissioned and performed in North America, Europe, the United Kingdom, and China, and has appeared in concert in major international music centers and festivals. Her extensive range and unique vocal capabilities allow her to assay the traditional repertoire as well as the highly demanding vocal acrobatics of much of the contemporary scene. Her compositional output features much solo and solo vocal chamber music, choral works, instrumental solo and chamber music, wind ensemble and orchestral compositions.

Dr. Kavasch frequently presents on new music and women in music conferences and festivals, has premiered over 75 new works, and has been described as a "multifaceted, multi-timbral vocalist" with "articulate radiance" (Los Angeles Times) and "astonishing range and agility" (Cleveland Plain Dealer) who "blew off the balcony ... thrilling" (Journal SEAMUS), "exuberant" (San Francisco Classical Voice). She is distributed by Fish Creek Music and recorded on Lovely Records, Composers Recordings, Inc., Cambria Recordings, and TNC Classical. Her two CDs of original works, The Dark Side of the Muse and Fables & Fantasies, were released under the TNC Classical label. Dr. Kavasch holds the B.A. in German and B.M. and M.M. degrees in Music Theory/Composition from Bowling Green

State University, Ohio, and the Ph.D. in Music from the University of California, San Diego, where she studied with internationally acclaimed composers Robert Erickson, Kenneth Gaburo, Pauline Oliveros, Roger Reynolds and Bernard Rands. She is currently the Chair of the Department of Music and Coordinator of Music Theory/Composition at California State University, Stanislaus, where she has been a faculty member since 1979.

Shakti II (1985): In the Indian religious tome, Bhagavad-Gita, Shakti represents the Divine Light and the female energy or principle. Shakti II is in one movement but divided into three sections representing Demonic Forces, The Call to Shakti, and The Rapture of the Divine Light. Commissioned by Deborah Kavasch, a specialist in extended vocal techniques, the work utilizes some of these techniques, such as vocal fry. Further use of vocal extension is created by processing Kavasch's voice through the computer and modifying it to become most of the instrumental and choral voices (i.e., the sound source of the accompaniment). Aside from the bells, oboe, harp and sitar sounds, all other instrumental and vocal sounds are modifications of her voice.

Text for Shakti II, by the composer:

Demons Surround me,	Devour my being, My golden being.
Ensare me, Eat at my soul,	Oh shining One
Devour my being.	Summons me from the darkness
2 even my comp.	Into Your light,
Demons	Your Divine Light.
With bestial eyes burning,	8
Evil with burning intent,	Oh Shakti, Shakti
Lightless, flameless burning,	Guide me to the fount of wisdom
Searing to destroy.	And eternal blessedness.
Insidious, heinous grin,	From this doom,
Screaming mouth roaring,	Lift me to the light.
Flaying claw and fang,	©Beverly Grigsby, 1985.
Tear at my soul.	

These two **Pretudes** by Richard Derby are drawn from a larger set of twelve that were written in 2010. "Pretude" is an invented title that suggests a combination of "prelude" and "etude." Each of the twelve pretudes is based exclusively on one of the twelve three-note chords. The first of the pretudes uses the augmented triad "048" (or two major thirds). The fifth pretude is based on the chord "027"—i.e. major second/perfect fourth—and its other forms (two fifths, two fourths).

Dr. Richard Derby (ASCAP) holds a Ph.D. in music composition from the University of California Santa Barbara. In 1977-78 he held a Fulbright Fellowship to study composition with Justin Connolly at the Royal College of Music, London. In 1982 his article "Elliott Carter's 'Duo for Violin and Piano' was published in Perspectives of New Music. A CD of

his chamber music is available from Southwest Chamber Music (swmusic.org). Recent music is posted at soundcloud.com /richardderby. His website is www.richardderbycomposer. com.

Character Matters for solo piano was composed for the American pianist Delores Stevens, a well-known champion of new music. The composer plays with syncopated rhythms, which is the special characteristic of 20th century American musical language. This title has two meanings (a double entendre): that the values (for example, honesty, integrity, respect) held by an individual either gives them honor (and disgraces them) is more significant than what a person has in the way of personal possessions. "Matters" is both a verb and a noun in English; as a verb, it means counts or is of importance; as a noun it means affairs or issues. This is just like how Chinese characters have multiple meanings and represent both internal and external properties. The title also links this piece to nineteenth century "character pieces" of the romantic piano literature.

Dr. Jeannie Gayle Pool (ASCAP) is a composer, musicologist, and producer. Her music has been heard in Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Ohio, Belgrade, Paris, Toronto, Copenhagen, Denmark, and Beijing. She worked as a music consultant and archivist at Paramount Pictures (until 2012) and was the Executive Director of the Society for the Preservation of Film Music from 1990 to 2002. She lectures frequently on women in music and film music history/preservation, mostly in Europe and the United States. She produced the restoration of the original score for Wings (1927) for Paramount's 100th anniversary release on DVD in 2012. She composes for documentary films and shorts and does music research and rights clearance for independent film makers. She produces LP, CD, and cassette recordings for Cambria Records, an independent label in California which specializes in contemporary American music. Dr. Pool grew up in Ohio and studied music in New York City at Hunter College of the City University of New York (B.A. in Music) and Columbia University. She also holds a Master's degree from California State University, Northridge, and received a Ph.D. in Music at the Claremont Graduate University in 2002.

The music of **Dr. BEVERLY GRIGSBY** (ASCAP) has been heard throughout Europe and the Americas. She developed her gift for composition while still in early childhood and during the 1940s became a student of the renowned composer Ernst Krenek. She holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts with honors in Composition and Theory from the University of Southern California and BA and MA degrees in Composition from California State University, Northridge.

Involved with electronically produced music since 1959, she undertook further studies in computer music synthesis at Stanford University's Center of Artificial Intelligence (CCRMA) and at M.I.T. in 1975 and 1976. In 1984, Dr. Grigsby was credited with the first computerized score for an opera, The Mask of Eleanor. The opera was premiered that same year at Le Ranelagh Theatre in Paris where Jean-Philippe Rameau produced his operas in the 18th century. The opera was produced with the assistance of the French Ministry of Culture and as part of the Fourth International Congress on Women in Music. It has been performed in Atlanta (1986); Lexington, Kentucky (1987); Northridge, California (1987); Minneapolis, (1989); Boston (1990); São Paulo and Santos, Brazil (1991); Long Beach, California (1996); Morro d'Oro and Martinsicuro, Italy (1999) and over public radio in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, and Rome.

For her innovative compositions in orchestral, chamber and vocal music, Grigsby has received numerous commissions, major awards, and grants including The National Endowment for the Arts. The Arts International (Rockefeller) Grant, CSUN Distinguished Professor Award, the CSU Chancellor's Maxi Grant, the IAWM Outstanding Music Contribution Award, and yearly ASCAP awards. She was made a Carnegie Mellon Fellow in Technology (1987) and Getty Museum Research Scholar (1997-98) with special interests in the Medieval and Renaissance periods. She has received honors from numerous universities including University of Southern California, Arizona State University, the University of Kentucky, University of Mexico, D.F., and the Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil.

Dr. Grigsby has composed for commercial and documentary films involving such major directors as Francis Ford Coppola and well-known writers as Ray Bradbury. She is Professor Emerita at California State University, Northridge, where she taught theory, composition, and musicology from 1963 until 1993 and served as Director of the Computer Music Studio which she established in 1976. She has been scholar in residence at several universities and conservatories in the U.S., Europe, Mexico, and Brazil. Since her retirement from Cal State Northridge, Grigsby has continued to research, lecture, travel, and produce her music in Europe and the U.S. She was the master composer for the New Music Festival at Ball State University, 1993; the Ernest Bloch Music Festival, 1994; California State University Summer Arts, 1996; and in 1997, Professor of Composition and Counterpoint at California Institute of the Arts. In 1999, she chaired the 11th International Congress of the International Alliance for Women in Music, London, England; in 1999 and 2000 she presided as Presidenta of the International Composition Competition for the Associazione Musicale Haydn of Arezzo, Italy and in 2000 and 2001 as Honorary President of the Vivaverdi Festival, Matera, Italy.

Paul Hurst began his formal training at the piano when five years old, and was teaching, composing, conducting orchestras and playing piano professionally by 17 in the Los Angeles area. Two years later he discovered the beauty and versatility of the harp. With the inspiration and training from harp virtuoso, De Wayne Fulton, a new and exciting musical journey was begun. Early in his career, he was privileged to play harp with some of the "show business greats" at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas, including Diana Ross, Sammy Davis, Jr., Ann Margaret, Paul Anka, and Tom Jones. Hurst applied his experience and a flare for arranging to the harp, and went on to become a world recognized pop harp soloist and music publisher. Hurst's signature interpretations of classical and popular favorites combined with original compositions and improvisations have thrilled audiences throughout the U.S.A., Europe and Japan. Selections from these performances are available on numerous recordings produced by Hurst's own recording label, Safari Productions. Safari has also released recordings of his symphonic composition, Sequoia Rhapsody, a collection of piano improvisations, Terra Sancta, and George Gershwin's solo piano transcription of Rhapsody in Blue.

Hurst now calls the San Francisco Bay Area home and punctuates his concert tours and

active California teaching schedule with writing and recording music.

Hurst produced and performed his first Santa Fe concert series at St. Francis Cathedral and Loretto Chapel during the 2003 season, and continued in 2005 with a new series of concerts, performing as soloist on harp and piano and with local guest artists. He remains an active member of the Music Ministry at St. Francis, now the Cathedral-Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, Santa Fe New Mexico, and was commissioned to write a piece to celebrate the elevation of the Cathedral to Basilica, The House of God, Anthem for Choir, Soprano, Harp, Percussion & Orchestra. As one of the proud sponsors of the 2005 Santa Fe Film Festival, he was the guest harp soloist at the Sixth Annual Milagro Awards Banquet. Paul is Musical Director of the Peninsula Musical Arts Association.

Many thanks to all the performers; the Music Department, California State University, Northridge including Suzan Lee, Program Office Coordinator, and Shawn Kolb, Production Coordinator; NACUSA-LA: Jeannie Gayle Pool, President; Richard Derby, Vice President Dr. Carla Bartlett, Secretary; Dr. Tony Wardzinski, Treasurer; Dr. Katherine Saxon, Publicity Chair; Adrienne Albert, Communications; President Emerita Dr. Deon Nielsen Price; many thanks to Dr. William Toutant.

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