

Cascadia Composers & Portland State University present

Crazy Jane

inner nature

*Art
music
inspired
by the
wild
earth*

Compositions by Susan Alexander
Lisa Ann Marsh • Jennifer Wright • Christina Rusnak

Bonnie Miksch • Stacey Philipps

Karen Bates-Smith • Jan Mittelstaedt • Elizabeth Blachly-Dyson

a benefit concert for Environment Oregon

Friday, November 14, 2014

7:30 p.m. | Lincoln Hall, Room 75

1620 SW Park Ave., Portland OR 97201

tickets \$15/\$10/\$5 students/under 12 free

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Coming Dec. 13: Composers at Play—new art music that has some serious fun with improvisation, at The Community Music Center in Portland. cascadiacomposers.com for more info

Cascadia Composers Present:

The Warbler Sings

*New music by Northwest Composers
Looking East*



Featuring compositions by:

Derek Healey

Paul Safar

Tomas Svoboda

Mark Vigil

With performances by:

David Bender

Mitsuki Dazai

Daniel Heila

Jeff Parsons

Kelly Quesada

Paul Safar

Ken Sokolov

Andrew Teem

Nathan Waddell

Nancy Wood

Friday, Oct. 17, 2014 at 8 pm

First Christian Church

1166 Oak St.

Eugene, Oregon



www.CascadiaComposers.org

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CascadiaComposers/>

Cascadia Composers is a chapter of the
National Association of Composers, USA

Cascadia Composers Present:

The Warbler Sings

New music by Northwest Composers Looking East

Program:

Spider (op. 45) (2013) (text by Shiki) Paul Safar

Nancy Wood, soprano

Paul Safar, piano

Autumn (op. 35) (1982-83) Tomas Svoboda

Mitsuki Dazai, koto

Dragonfly Idyll/Butterfly Idyll

(op. 35) (2005, 2006) Mark Vigil

Daniel Heila, alto flute

Jeff Parsons, harp

Mitsuki Dazai, koto

Paul Safar, piano

**Three Songs from The Silvered Lute – “The Ravine,”
“The Grove of Dark Bamboo,” “The Empty Mountain”**

(op. 107) (2006) (text by Wang Wei) Derek Healey

Nancy Wood, soprano

Paul Safar, piano

Cat on a Wire (op. 39) (2009) Paul Safar

Kelly Quesada, cello

Andrew Teem, dumbek

Ken Sokolov, zills

The Warbler Sings (op. 47) (2014) (text by Basho) Paul Safar

Nancy Wood, soprano

David Bender, trumpet and flugelhorn

Nathan Waddell, double bass

Paul Safar, piano

Kelly Quesada is a cellist based in Eugene, Oregon, where she plays with groups as diverse as the Oregon Mozart Players, Eugene Contemporary Chamber Ensemble and the Portland Cello Project. She is a member of the Pearl Street Quartet, a professional string quartet that teaches and performs throughout Oregon. Kelly immerses herself in a variety of repertoire, from Baroque music to pop songs to contemporary classical and anything in between. She holds performance degrees from the University of Oregon and the University of Alabama, and last year she performed the Dvořák Cello Concerto with orchestra as a winner of the University of Oregon Concerto Competition. In addition to being a performer, Kelly is also an enthusiastic teacher of cello and chamber music to children and adults of all levels. Outside of playing and teaching cello, Kelly enjoys reading classic literature, travelling by bike and drinking exorbitant amounts of tea.

Ken Sokolov basically likes to play anything with strings or skins. He has been a drummer since age 8, got a guitar around age 11, fiddle banjo and mandolin came along a few years later. He has studied west African music, North Indian tabla and still loves to play jazz and funk.

Nathan Waddell is a freelance musician who has performed extensively in the Pacific Northwest. He currently performs in the Eugene Symphony Orchestra and the Eugene Opera. Besides his orchestral work, Waddell is a founding member of the Emerald City Jazz Kings. He is also a member of the Lane Community College Faculty Jazz Ensemble, where he teaches courses in music and gives individual lessons.

Nancy Wood has spent her life studying the performing arts. Growing up in Minnesota, she started singing in the Lutheran church as a teen, and performed as a soloist, in ensembles, choirs and musical theater throughout college. She is

also a United States Figure Skating Association Gold Medalist and she toured professionally with Holiday on Ice International. She attended Augsburg College and the University of Minnesota, during which time she studied theater, dance, literature and voice. As a vocalist, she has performed throughout Oregon, including headlining at Jazz De Opus, one of Portland’s premiere jazz venues, as well as performing in the classical concert series, “The Seventh Species”. She wrote the book for the children’s theater musical Nisse’s Dream, and co-wrote the lyrics with composer Paul Safar. She directed, choreographed and performed in Visual Music 2006--2009. She is an accomplished interpreter of contemporary classical art songs and performs regularly for Cascadia Composers, a chapter of the National Association of Composers USA in Portland Oregon, and was the soprano soloist in the Agnieszka Laska Dancers multi-media piece “Lamentatio”. Nancy has performed works by many living composers including Derek Healey, Tomas Svoboda, Jeff Winslow, Jack Gabel, Gary Noland, John McKinnon, and Dan Senn. Nancy is a member of BMI, and the International Dance Council.



Please feel free to stay a bit after the concert and socialize, talk to the musicians and enjoy the Thai food of Ta Ra Rin courtesy of Eva Safar.

Additional thanks go to Sean Brennan, Dan Brugh, Jeff Winslow for various practical help, Kim Still for the amazing poster and program work, and the the First Christian Church of Eugene.

And a big thank you all to you all for supporting NEW music by living composers!

Donations of any size to Cascadia Composers are welcome and are tax deductible. Please drop off to Jeff Winslow at the door or visit www.cascadiacomposers.org.

Healey is now retired from teaching and spends his time with composition and research, living in the Cobble Hill district of Brooklyn, New York.

The Silvered Lute: a Wang Wei Song Album is set to texts of the great Tang Dynasty poet and founder of the Southern School of landscape painters, Wang Wei. It was written during the summer of 2006 for the Chinese-American soprano Mei Zhong. The vocal part is largely pentatonic with occasional pien-tones, the piano part utilizes techniques derived from traditional Chinese instruments, particularly the Gu Zheng, the Qin, the Yang Chin, and the Erhu. The majority of the poems are quatrains and of a quietist, pastoral nature with strong Buddhist overtones. The text is in English, adapted from the original Chinese by the composer.

Performers

Dave Bender is a freelance trumpet player living in Eugene, Oregon. He holds bachelor and masters degrees in trumpet performance from the University of Oregon. Dave performs regularly with the Eugene Symphony, the Oregon Mozart Players, the Girl Circus Orchestra, the Emerald City Jazz Kings, the Fighting Instruments of Karma, the Eugene Hard Bop Collective, OFAM Musical Productions, and many others. Dave composes, arranges, orchestrates, and records. He is the bandleader of the Girl Circus Orchestra, The Cups (swing orchestra), and La Vida Royale (brass quintet). He has performed many solo recitals. Dave is the trumpet teacher at Lane Community College, and maintains his own studio of 20 trumpet students.

Mitsuki Dazai is a graduate of Japan's renowned Kunitachi College of Music in Tokyo, Japan, where she majored in vocal performance in the Western Classical tradition. During the course

of her studies, she felt drawn to the non-western traditions of Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Interest in these areas eventually led Mitsuki on a circuitous route to a discovery of traditional Japanese music and she began intense studies in traditional koto music at the Ikuta School of koto. Originally from Tokyo, Mitsuki enjoys introducing her lovely koto music to the diverse cultures of the world. She has performed professionally throughout Japan, America and Europe since 1997. As a result of her educational-oriented performances throughout Oregon, she was featured on OPB's Oregon ArtBeat program in February of 2010. Since moving to Oregon in 2002, she has been performing extensively throughout the U.S. while serving as guest lecturer at the University of Oregon and Marylhurst University. She has organized numerous concerts of Japanese Music at universities, museums, libraries and community colleges. When returning to Japan she is welcomed as a guest performer and always pays an honorable visit to her respected mentor, Kazue Sawai.

Composer, flutist and video artist **Daniel Heila's** work embraces live musical settings, improvisation, electro-acoustic sound design and projected video as well as traditional format composition, moving image art, sound art and installation. These efforts are largely in response to memory, the mundane and witnessing environment. As a father, his praxis is intimately entwined with the ebb and flow of domesticity. As composer, Daniel has largely been a student of the American experimental tradition from Ives and Cowell to Cage, Nancarrow, Feldman and beyond to Minimalism, Post-minimalism and Totalism. He has also been a composer/performer of rock, and folk music as well as free-improvisation. In his music, often in the form of music theater, he has achieved a balance of realism and abstraction, consonance and dissonance that honors these varied influences.

Texts

Spider (2013) for soprano and piano

Text by Masaoka Shiki

A yellow green spider
Crawling on
A red rose

After killing
A spider, how lonely I feel
In the cold of the night

Crimson plum blossoms
Scattered over the loneliness
Of the bed

Dragonfly Idyll

As you rise and fall in your quiet flight
your armor a sweet repose
Dragonfly, did you know
The sweetest sun is your sweetest friend
Your travels are unmeasured
You have forgotten little
of this time
You skirt across a watery murmur
Or jubilee in a clean meadow
You live in the bottom of the sky
Dragonfly, your world seems beautiful
But not as beautiful as mine
I have the bidding of my Heart

Butterfly Idyll

As you rise and fall in your quiet flight
your armor a sweet repose
Dragonfly, did you know
The sweetest sun is your sweetest friend
Your travels are unmeasured
You have forgotten little
of this time

You skirt across a watery murmur
in your elegant flight
Or jubilee in a clean meadow
You live in the bottom of the sky
I adore
Your eloquence, your patience and de-
meanor
Butterfly, your world seems beautiful
But not as beautiful as mine
I have the bidding of my Heart

The Ravine (from The Silvered Lute)

Text by Wang Wei

Quietly walking he senses the fall of
the laurel flowers.
In night's stillness, the spring moun-
tain is empty.
The moon rises and alarms the moun-
tain birds;
Bursts of song fill the spring ravine.

The Grove of Dark Bamboo

Seated alone in the grove of dark bam-
boo.
I play the qin and hum gently.
Deep in the wood, no one comes;
The bright moon shines over me.
Hmn.

The Empty Mountain

On the empty mountain no one is in
sight
Yet in the distance I hear human voic-
es.
The sun drops slowly into the dark'ning
wood.
Lighting the green hanging moss.

The Warbler Sings

haiku by Basho, curated by Nancy Wood.

I.

Furuike ya kawazu tobikomu
mizu no oto
The old pond a frog jumps in water
sounds
Pond frog plop
The sound of water sound of water
Interlude #1

II.

Stillness the sound of cicadas drives
into the rocks
A bee staggers out of the peony
The dragonfly can't quite land on the
blade of grass

III.

A cold rain starting
I have no hat and?
The banana tree blown by the wind
pours raindrops into the bucket
Winter downpour even the mon-
key needs a raincoat
Interlude #2

IV.

Bush warbler relieves himself on the
rice cakes
On the porch rail
The warbler sings among new shoots of
bamboo of coming old age
With a warbler for a soul it sleeps
peacefully
This mountain willow
Postlude
(old school pond...frog shreds...epic
splash)

Composers

Paul Safar

Paul Safar is a versatile composer/performer and music educator living and working in Eugene, Oregon. In addition to a busy private piano teaching studio, Paul also performs as an accompanist to the soprano Nancy Wood. Paul and Nancy are the co founders and artistic directors of Cherry Blossom Musical Arts, a performing arts non profit organization that produces original, collaborative, live performances. Having received his B. Mus from the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati, Ohio, Paul draws upon his classical music training while often incorporating various popular styles like jazz and rock. He has had his chamber music performed in New York City's CAMI Hall, choir music in Seattle and a folk opera in Ohio. His most recent large scale work is a "Concerto for Electric Guitar and Chamber Orchestra." Paul is a member of Cascadia Composers, the northwest chapter of NACUSA as well as BMI. The Warbler Sings was made possible through the Composer Of the Year Award of the Oregon Music Teachers Association 2013-14.

Tomas Svoboda

Born in Paris of Czech parents, December 6, 1939, Tomas Svoboda composed his first opus at age 9 and was admitted to the *Prague Conservatory* 5 years later as its youngest student. By 1962, after graduating from the Conservatory with degrees in percussion, composition and conducting, numerous performances and radio broadcasts of his music brought national recognition to Svoboda, clearly establishing him as Czechoslovakia's most important young composer. In 1964, the Svoboda family departed Czechoslovakia and settled in the United States, where Svoboda enrolled at the Univ. of Southern California in 1966, graduating 2 years later with honors.

In 1981, the first publication of his music brought forth a front cover tribute to Tomas Svoboda by the highly respected Piano Quarterly. In 1985, Svoboda was commissioned to write his "Chorale in E flat, for Piano Quintet, Op. 118" for Aaron Copland's 85th birthday celebration in New York.

In July 2003, the Oregon Symphony Orchestra released an "All-Svoboda" orchestral CD, containing "Overture of the Season", "Symphony No. 1 (of Nature)" and "Marimba Concerto", which was named in a Grammy Award nomination: "Best Instrumental Soloist With Orchestra"; Niel DePon-te, marimba; James DePreist, conductor.

To date, over 50 of Svoboda's compositions have been recorded, including 8 works from his orchestral catalog. Over 1,300 known performances of his music have taken place throughout the world, including 500 orchestral performances, and include such major orchestras as the Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland, San Francisco, Toronto, Monte-Carlo, Prague, Sapporo, Nagoya, plus the national symphonies of Guatemala and Costa Rica. This April 2014, the Janáček Philharmonic (Czech Republic), gave the European premiere of Svoboda's "Concerto for Marimba & Orchestra, Op. 148."

Mark Vigil

I was born in Spokane Washington in 1954. I received my Bachelor's degree in piano performance and composition from the Cornish College of the Allied Arts in Seattle Washington. I received my Master's degree in composition in 1996 from the University of Oregon School of Music. Afterwards, I studied composition privately with Tomas Svoboda for ten years.

I have a website. www.markvigil.com

Dragonfly Idyll-Butterfly Idyll was composed starting in the summer of 2005 and completed in the spring of 2006. It began at the edge of a river near the city of Siletz Oregon. I was really enjoy-

ing watching the dragonflies and the butterflies randomly float across the river. My imagination started to click. I like to dabble in world music and it had been quite a while since I submersed myself in the traditional music of Japan. So, away I went. I wrote the poetry first and in the next six months, wrote the music. I meant it to be just a little compositional fling a little ditty not meant to move Mountains.

Derek Healey

Derek Healey was born in Wargrave, in the South of England, and studied with Herbert Howells at the Royal College of Music, London and with Boris Porena and Gofredo Petrassi in Italy.

Has won prizes in the UK, Italy and the USA and has taught Theory, Composition and Ethnic Music at the Universities of Victoria, Toronto, Guelph and Oregon, finally becoming Academic Professor of Music at the RAF School of music in Uxbridge, England.

Has written works in most genres, having had some fifty works published in the UK, Canada and the USA. His earlier neo-classic style gave way to atonal and aleatoric influences in the 1960's, and from Healey's arrival in North America in 1969, ethnic music became increasingly important.

Works for large ensembles have been played by many orchestras and wind ensembles, and the opera Seabird Island was the first contemporary opera to be taken on a cross-Canada tour.

Recent performances of Healey's vocal music include The Coast of Oregon: the Quest for Aztlan in Portland, March 29th, 2012 (especially written for, and performed by Nancy Wood and a chamber ensemble, conducted by Keith Clarke), and the Morgenstern Lieder performed by the Tesorino Trio in the concert series Und Musik in Gottesdienst, Berlin, April 12th, 2013.