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New Music Café Performance

Part of IWU's New Music Series 1999-2000

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--In celebration of 20th century music, colleagues in the School of Music have put together the New Music Series 1999-2000 at Illinois Wesleyan University.

The series will capture the musical elements of the early part of the 20th century to the present and will include world premieres, music by Eastern European composers, contemporary American composers, IWU Jazz Ensemble, Collegiate Choir and student compositions.

On Thursday, Nov. 4 at 8 p.m., as part of the New Music Series 1999-2000, New Music Café will be presented in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall, 303 E. University Ave., Bloomington.

The New Music Series is coordinated by David Vayo, IWU associate professor of composition and theory. Vayo, an accomplished and prolific composer whose works have been performed live or broadcast more than 200 times, came to IWU in 1991 from Connecticut College in New London, Conn. For 12 consecutive years, Vayo has received an award from the New York-based organization, American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

Vayo started the New Music Café--a concert series of recent music ranging from solo music to chamber groups that features a guest composers--in the early years of his career at IWU.

"One of the things," said Vayo, "that I really want to do at IWU, is get composers interacting with both the performers and the public. That is one of the exciting things about doing recent music is that you can have the chance to actually work with a living and breathing composer."

On Nov. 4, New Music Café will feature "Silhouettes" and "Synapses" by American composer Stephen Heinemann, associate professor of music at Bradley University. Heinemann will play the clarinet for his piece, "Synapses." James Kilbourne, lecturer in music at IWU, will perform his work, "Physical Distortion," and 20 IWU students will be accompanists on the program.

"Silhouettes," Heinemann's most recent work for brass quintets, was commissioned by and premiered at the 1998-1999 Lipa New Music Festival at Iowa State University.

Heinemann is well accomplished in the theory and practice of classical, modern and jazz musical styles, and his compositions are performed frequently in the United States and Canada.

Heinemann's scholarly writings have been published in the journal of the Society for Musical Theory, "Music Theory Spectrum," and the journal of the International Clarinet Association, "The Clarinet."

Also on Nov. 4, the New Music Café will feature "Sonnets from the Portuguese" by composer Libby Larsen with soprano Carren Moham, IWU assistant professor of voice, and under the direction of Sylvanus A. Tyler III, conductor-in-residence at IWU.

A native of Minneapolis, Minn., Larsen received a 1994 Grammy for her work as producer of the CD, "The Art of Arleen Auger," which includes a performance of "Sonnets from the Portuguese." Also, in 1990, Larsen's opera, "Frankenstein: The Modern Prometheus," was selected as one of the eight best classical events of the year by "USA Today."

Moham's operatic repertoire includes roles in operas such as "Cosi fan tutte," "Porgy and Bess," "Don Giovanni," "La Boheme," "Le Nozze di Figaro" and "The Old Maid and the Thief." Moham has performed with the National Symphony Orchestra, the Vienna Symphony Orchestra, the Oklahoma City Symphony Orchestra and the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra. Moham earned a doctor of musical arts degree in voice, with emphasis on vocal pedagogy and black music studies, from The Ohio State University in Columbus.

Sylvanus Tyler III, a 1993 IWU graduate, made his professional debut in 1998 with the Xian Chamber and Symphony Orchestras in Xian, China. Tyler is also an experienced vocalist who sings with the Bel Canto Chorus of Milwaukee, Wis., as a professional chorus member and soloist. Tyler is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, the Conductor's Guild and the American Symphony Orchestra League.

Also, as part of the New Music Series, on Sunday, Nov. 21 at 3 p.m., in Evelyn Chapel, 1301 N. Park St., Bloomington, *Evolutions...Masters of the Twentieth Century*, will be presented. On Saturday, Jan. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall, the IWU Jazz Festival concert will feature guest trumpeter, Bobby Shew. The Midwest premiere of "Invention for Solo Piano: B-A-C-H Recalled" by Mario Pelusi, associate professor of composition and theory and director of IWU's School of Music, and 20th century Italian music will be on Wednesday, Feb. 2, at 7:30 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall. Andrea Padova, winner of the J.S. Bach International Keyboard Competition, will be the guest pianist for this program.

The kickoff of IWU's Symposium of Contemporary Music will be on Wednesday, Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m., in Westbrook Auditorium with a panel discussion featuring guest composer Libby Larsen and IWU faculty.

"These are wonderful programs. It gives our students, both in the School of Music and at the university, opportunities to hear music that they would not normally hear," said Pelusi. "This year, we have really emphasized 20th century contemporary music even more so than we have in past years for a number of reasons," said Pelusi. "One of which is the fact that this is the last year of the millennium and the end of this century. However, we plan to continue this musical series into the next century."

Following is list of performances scheduled under the New Music Series 1999-2000:

Nov. 4, 4 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Cypress String Quartet, open readings of IWU student compositions

Nov. 4, 8 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

New Music Café, featuring Libby Larsen's *Sonnets from the Portuguese* with Professor Carren Moham, soprano, and Conductor-In-Residence Sylvanus A. Tyler III. Also featuring music by guest composer Stephen Heinemann (Bradley University), and IWU Professor James Kilbourne

Nov. 21, 3 p.m., Evelyn Chapel

Evolutions...Masters of the Twentieth Century Program II: "Development"

Middle-period music of Schonberg, Shostakovich, and Schnittke, performed by IWU faculty and students

Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Student Composition Recital

Jan. 22, 12:45 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

IWU Jazz Festival concert, featuring guest trumpeter Bobby Shew, Thomas Streeter, professor of brass instruments and theory, director

Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Student Composition Recital

Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Andrea Padova, guest pianist, featuring the Midwest premiere of *Invention for Solo Piano: B-A-C-H Recalled* by Mario Pelusi, associate professor of composition and theory and director of the IWU School of Music, and twentieth-century Italian music

Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Symposium of Contemporary Music, panel discussion featuring guest composer Libby Larsen and IWU faculty

Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Symposium of Contemporary Music Concert, music by guest composer Libby Larsen

March 5, 3 p.m., Evelyn Chapel

Evolutions...Masters of the Twentieth Century Program III: "Coda"

Featuring excerpts from Schonberg's masterpiece *Pierrot Lunaire* with Professor Joy Calico, reciter, and later music of Shostakovich and Schnittke, performed by IWU faculty and students

March 21, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Collegiate Choir Home Concert, Scott Ferguson, associate professor of music and director of choral activities, conductor with guest composer

Ivan Hrusovsky (Slovak Republic) and contemporary music from New Zealand, the Czech Republic, Great Britain, and the United States

March 23, 4 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Lecture by guest composer Ivan Hrusovsky (Slovak Republic)

March 23, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Music of Ivan Hrusovsky

March 28, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

New Music Café, Guest composer TBA, also featuring the world premieres of a new work for chamber orchestra by Mario Pelusi, associate professor of composition and theory and director of the IWU School of Music, and *Porch Music* by David Vayo, associate professor of composition and theory, on a text by Robert Bray, R. Forrest Colwell Professor of English

April 13, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Student Composition Recital

April 14, 7:30 p.m., Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Jazz Ensemble Senior Night Concert, Thomas Streeter, professor of brass instruments and theory, director