

UCSB DEPARTMENT *of*
MUSIC

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UCSB Department of Music Fall Concert Series

The UCSB Department of Music presents its Fall Concert Series lineup

The University Wind Ensemble will perform on November 19th, the Middle East Ensemble on November 21st, and the University Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Players on November 23rd.

The Ensemble for Contemporary Music and Jazz Combos will perform on December 2nd, the Gospel Choir on December 4th, and the Women's Chorus on December 6th.

Santa Barbara, CA – November 9, 2015—The UC Santa Barbara Department of Music presents its Fall Concert Series lineup, beginning with the University Wind Ensemble on Thursday, November 19, 2015. Highlights for the November events will include the Middle East Ensemble, featuring Grammy Award-winning soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian; the West Coast premiere of *Skronk* by the University Wind Ensemble, to be introduced by composer John Frantzen; and the University Chamber Orchestra's performance of Dvořák's Symphony No. 8. The December events open with the Ensemble for Contemporary Music's program, "Strings Attached"—a spotlight of composers from the Netherlands, USA, Bulgaria, Slovenia, and Argentina. The Jazz Combos will continue in their tradition of delivering noteworthy interpretations of jazz standards, with a focus on the music of jazz innovators Thelonius Monk and Charles Mingus for their fall concert on December 2nd. The Gospel Choir, directed by the charismatic Victor Bell, will present a concert of praise and traditional gospel music on December 4th, and the Women's Chorus will present a free recital of sacred and secular works on December 6th.

The **UCSB University Wind Ensemble**—under the innovative direction of ensemble founder Paul Bambach since 1993—will present a dynamic program of modern works for wind band on Thursday, November 19, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in UCSB's Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall. Composer John Frantzen will be in attendance to introduce his raucous piece *Skronk* as the program opener, followed by John

Corigliano's *Lullaby for Natalie* (arranged by Peter Stanley Mortin), Vincent Persichetti's *Symphony for Band (Symphony No. 6)*, Carter Pann's *Serenade for Winds* (conducted by graduate assistant Steven Cohen), and Eric Whitacre's nostalgic *October*. The program also boasts a world premiere of student composer Tristan Perez's piece, *The Lost Valley*, and will conclude with the ever-popular *Second Suite in F* by Gustav Holst. **UCSB University Wind Ensemble. Thursday, November 19, 2015. 7:30 p.m. UCSB Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall. Tickets: general admission (\$10), non-UCSB students with ID (\$5), UCSB students with ID and children under 12 (FREE). For tickets, please visit www.music.ucsb.edu or call (805) 893-2064.**

The **UCSB Middle East Ensemble** will present their fall concert on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in UCSB's Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall. The ensemble is thrilled to feature UCSB Voice Lecturer and Grammy Award-winning vocalist, Dr. Isabel Bayrakdarian. Born in Lebanon of Armenian descent, Bayrakdarian is a soprano with an illustrious international career in opera, concert, recitals, as well as film soundtracks and eclectic crossover repertoire. With the ensemble, Bayrakdarian will perform a set of Armenian troubadour songs by *Sayat Nova*, and a set of Arabic songs popularized by *Fairuz* and *Farid al-Atrache*.

Other concert highlights include a number of Egyptian songs, including an '*Abd al-Halim Hafiz* song sung by Mohamed Moharram, a *Sayyid Makkawi* song sung by Sam Khattar, a song associated with the Muslim pilgrimage sung by Samantha Mchammel, and a famous children's song. Gabriela Quintana-Garcia will present a renowned Tunisian song and Andrea Fishman will present a lively Sephardic song from Greece.

As always, the ensemble's dance company will perform a wonderful variety of dances, from the Arabian Peninsula (featuring Sunaina Kale, solo vocalist), Egypt, Greece, and Lebanon/Palestine/Syria, with choreography by Alexandra King and Cris! Basimah. Scott Marcus, Director of the UCSB Middle East Ensemble. Sue Rudnicki, Director of the ensemble's percussion section. Cris! Basimah, Director of the ensemble's dance company. **UCSB Middle East Ensemble. Saturday, November 21, 2015. 7:30 p.m. UCSB Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall. Tickets: general admission (\$15), non-UCSB students with ID (\$10), UCSB students with ID (\$5), children under 12 (FREE). For tickets, please visit www.music.ucsb.edu or call (805) 893-2064.**

The **UCSB University Chamber Orchestra**, conducted by Brent Wilson, will present its annual fall concert on Monday, November 23, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in UCSB's Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall. The program will open with Bernstein's classic, *Candide Overture*, followed by Mozart's Divertimento in Bb Major, K. 137. The program will conclude with Dvořák's masterful Symphony No. 8 in G Major, Op. 88. Winners of the UCSB Chamber Music Competition (the **UCSB Chamber Players**) will open the first half of the concert with works by Brahms, Grainger, and Ferenc Farkas. **UCSB University Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Players. Monday, November 23, 2015. 7:30 p.m. UCSB Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall. Tickets: general admission (\$10), non-UCSB students with ID (\$5), UCSB students with ID and children under 12 (FREE). For tickets, please visit www.music.ucsb.edu or call (805) 893-2064.**

The **UCSB Ensemble for Contemporary Music**, under the direction of Jeremy Haladyna, will present their fall quarter recital on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 4 p.m. in Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall on the UCSB campus. The program, entitled "Strings Attached," will feature newer selections spanning five

different countries and three continents. The closing movement from Lou Harrison's *Piano Trio* (USA) will open the program, followed by two sets of violin trios in popular dance forms (a Charleston, even!) by Henk Badings (Netherlands). New graduate pianist Petra Peršolja will perform Slovenian composer Aldo Kumar's *A Game of 12*. Bulgarian composer Emile Naoumoff's new Viola Sonata will feature graduate violist and University of Nevada, Las Vegas faculty member, Tianna Harjo. Alberto Ginastera's (Argentina) String Quartet No. 1 will provide a rousing "all-Gaucho" finale. **UCSB Ensemble for Contemporary Music. Wednesday, December 2, 2015. 4 p.m. UCSB Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall. Tickets: general admission (\$10), non-UCSB students with ID (\$5), UCSB students with ID (FREE), and children under 12 (FREE). For tickets, please visit www.music.ucsb.edu or call (805) 893-2064.**

The **UCSB Jazz Combos**, directed by Jon Nathan, will present their fall concert on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in Karl Geiringer Hall on the UCSB campus. Three of the UCSB Jazz Combos will perform at this concert, spotlighting music by jazz greats Thelonius Monk and Charles Mingus. The group is comprised of UCSB music students, as well as graduate and undergraduate students from many different departments across the UCSB campus. A second FREE performance will be given by the UCSB Jazz Combos on Thursday, December 3, 2015 at 4:15 p.m. in the UCSB Music Building, Room 1145. **UCSB Jazz Combos. Wednesday, December 2, 2015. 7:30 p.m. Karl Geiringer Hall, UCSB campus. Tickets: general admission (\$10), non-UCSB students with ID (\$5), UCSB students with ID (FREE), children under 12 (FREE). For tickets, please visit www.music.ucsb.edu or call (805) 893-2064. UCSB Jazz Combos 2. Thursday, December 3, 2015. 4:15 p.m. UCSB Music Building, Room 1145. Admission is FREE.**

The **UCSB Gospel Choir**, under the direction of Victor Bell, will present a concert of praise and traditional gospel music on Friday, December 4, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall on the UCSB campus. The UCSB Gospel Choir presents sold-out performances each quarter and is regularly featured in numerous community events and university celebrations. The Gospel Choir recently produced a CD entitled *Praize Party on the Yard*, and has been featured on the WB sitcom *The Steve Harvey Show*. **UCSB Gospel Choir. Friday, December 4, 2015. 7:30 p.m. Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall, UCSB campus. Tickets: general admission (\$15), non-UCSB students with ID (\$10), UCSB students with ID (\$5), children under 12 (FREE). For tickets, please visit www.music.ucsb.edu or call (805) 893-2064.**

The **UCSB Women's Chorus**, under the direction of Pascal Salomon, will present their fall concert on Sunday, December 6, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in Karl Geiringer Hall on the UCSB campus. The program will open with *Messe Brève*, a literal "short mass" by Léo Delibes, followed by a more modern piece by John Tavener—*Theotoke*, meaning "mother of God," in Greek. The concert will conclude with a piece by James MacMillan entitled *New Made for a King*, a setting of a nativity poem from *Her Maker's Maker* by Michael Symmons Roberts. **UCSB Women's Chorus. Sunday, December 6, 2015. 7:30 p.m. Karl Geiringer Hall, UCSB campus. Admission is FREE. For more information, please visit www.music.ucsb.edu.**

About the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music

From an institution that began life dedicated to training the next generation of music educators, to what is now a fully established research and professional graduate program, graduates of the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music have distinguished themselves both nationally and internationally. Many have gone

on to teaching, either privately or in outstanding secondary school positions, and in more recent years, graduates have joined the faculties of major colleges and universities in the United States and abroad. A number have become widely recognized and published scholars; some are now prize-winning and frequently performed composers, while others are writing for television and film. Alumni are also establishing fine reputations as conductors of orchestras, opera, and choruses. Graduates of the instrumental programs have gone on to solo and orchestral careers with leading orchestras, and our singers can be heard in opera companies around the world.

With over 200 events presented annually, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music offers something for every music lover. The department boasts 26 unique performing ensembles, each with a quarterly concert calendar. Chamber music, large ensembles, opera, contemporary groups, world music, and jazz ensembles make up the department's rich performance calendar, along with lectures, master classes, and presentations from the ethnomusicology, musicology, theory, and composition programs. For a complete listing of performances and lectures for the quarter, please visit the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music website, at www.music.ucsb.edu.

Photos available upon request. Interviews with artists can be arranged with advance notice.

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