

UC **SANTA BARBARA**  
Department of Music

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**UCSB DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS SPRING 2018 CONCERT SERIES**

*Highlights include the Wind Ensemble's 25th Anniversary Alumni Reunion Concert, the Jazz Ensemble featuring special guest Jeff Babko (Jimmy Kimmel Live), and the Gamelan Ensemble collaboration with Gamelan Sinar Surya and a Tarling ensemble*

(SANTA BARBARA, CA) May 18, 2018—The UCSB Department of Music will present its Spring 2018 Concert Series from Sunday, May 27th to Friday, June 8th, with performances by the Wind Ensemble, Ensemble for Contemporary Music (ECM), Chamber Choir and Women's Chorus, Middle East Ensemble, Gamelan Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Players, Jazz Ensemble, Music of India Ensemble, and Gospel Choir. Highlights include the UCSB Wind Ensemble's 25th Anniversary Alumni Reunion Concert, the Jazz Ensemble featuring special guest Jeff Babko of the *Jimmy Kimmel Live* house band on piano/keyboards, and the UCSB Gamelan Ensemble featuring community gamelan ensemble Gamelan Sinar Surya and a Tarling ensemble.

**[UCSB Wind Ensemble 25th Anniversary Alumni Reunion Concert](#)**

**Sunday, May 27, 2018 | 3 p.m. | Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall**

**Free (reservation recommended)**

Directed by Paul Bambach, the UCSB Wind Ensemble will present its annual Spring concert, which will serve as a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ensemble and an alumni reunion event. The first half of the concert will feature John Frantzen's symphony for band, *Catalyst*, with the composer in attendance. In the second half, the University Wind Ensemble and alumni will perform patriotic works celebrating the Memorial Day holiday such as Morton Gould's *American Salute*, Charles Ives' *Variations on America*, Carmen Dragon's arrangement of Samuel Ward's *America the Beautiful*, and John Phillip Sousa's *Stars and Stripes Forever*. In addition, the concert will also feature graduate assistant Cynthia Vong conducting Eric Whitacre's *Lux Aurumque* as a tribute to victims and survivors of the 2014 Isla Vista event.

**[UCSB Ensemble for Contemporary Music \(ECM\)](#)**

**Wednesday, May 30, 2018 | 5:30 pm | Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall**

**Free UCSB students | \$5 non-UCSB students | \$10 general admission**

The UCSB Ensemble for Contemporary Music's season finale concert, "The Thing Possessed," is wrapped in the spirit world, with exotic traditions of Japan, Guatemala, Southwestern pueblos, and Polynesia all playing their roles. Add to that Hans Werner Henze's *La mano sinistra* and that mistrust of things left-handed, and the result is a mix sure to intrigue. Pianist Evan Losoya plays the Henze, and director Jeremy Haladyna mans the organ bench for his new *Organ Sonata* offered to the mystical Mayan

modern saint, Maximón. French pianist Marie-Agathe Charpagne offers the complete *Mana* by André Jolivet, treating the Polynesian belief in the raw spiritual and ritual power of objects—similar to the Japanese tradition of *Netsuke*, which were elaborate belt closures worn by (bygone) elite Japanese, true art miniatures in the form of magical and mythical creatures. Sara Bashore and Evan Losoya offer a selection from Stephen Hartke's collection on this title for violin and piano. Graduate flutist Cynthia Vong will present *Winter Spirits* by Katherine Hoover for solo flute, inspired by Southwestern *kachina* spirits. Even the soul-plight of birds is plumbed in this unique concert, as duo pianists Jarod Fedele and Keith Sibal offer the piano snapshots comprising William Bolcom's *Bird Spirits*. The Greek legend of the golden ring possessed of invisibility, and obtained by Gyges, comes alive in the work of the same name by Richard Orton, which will be performed by oboist Lexie Callaway-Cole and pianist Jarod Fedele. Rounding out the concert is material by Henri Dutilleux, Alvin Lucier, and two world premieres of works by UCSB graduate composers Scott Perry and M.D. Owensby.

### [UCSB Chamber Choir and Women's Chorus](#)

**Friday, June 1, 2018 | 7:30 p.m. | Trinity Episcopal Church (1500 State St.)**

**\$5 UCSB students | \$10 non-UCSB students | \$15 general admission**

The UCSB Chamber Choir, under the direction of Grey Brothers, and the UCSB Women's Chorus, under the direction of Tyler Reece, will perform classics and recent works by North American composers. The Women's Chorus program will include a world premiere of one song from *Monochromes* by LA-based composer Daniel Kessner, two pieces from *An Emily Dickinson Suite* by Santa Barbara icon and UCSB Professor Emeritus Emma Lou Diemer, and *Days of Beauty* by Norwegian-American composer Ola Gjeilo. Advocating the works of living female composers, the program will also feature works by Susan LaBarr, Abbie Betinis, and Moira Smiley. The Chamber Choir will sing such choral classics as William Billings' *Creation*, Randall Thompson's *Alleluia*, Alice Parker's *Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal*, and Moses Hogan's *Didn't my Lord Deliver Daniel?* The program will also include works by current choral composers Eric Whitacre and Stephen Paulus; a highlight will be Pulitzer Prize and two-time Grammy-winner Jennifer Higdon's *Deep in the Night*.

### [UCSB Middle East Ensemble](#)

**Saturday, June 2, 2018 | 7:30 p.m. | Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall**

**\$5 UCSB students | \$10 non-UCSB students | \$15 general admission**

Directed by Scott Marcus, the UCSB Middle East Ensemble's Spring concert will feature Special Guest Besnik Yzeiri (a first-year DMA student from Albania specializing in viola), who will lead the Ensemble in his own composition featuring a medley of melodies from Albania, Serbia, Turkey, Greece, and Macedonia. The Ensemble will also present a suite of songs from Iraq, featuring two unique Iraqi rhythms, *jurjuna* and *chobi*, Sam Khattar as solo vocalist, and the Ensemble's chorus. Additionally, Hala Abdul-Baki will present a famous 1944 song by the Syrian-Egyptian singer, Asmahan; Andrea Fishman will present a Sephardic song from Greece; the Ensemble as a whole will perform a beloved Moroccan song from the famed group Nass al-Ghiwane; and Eric Ederer, Jim Grippo, Fred Nadis, Solmaz Soleimani, and others will present instrumental solos. As always, the Ensemble's Dance Company will perform a wonderful variety of dances, from Armenian, Egyptian, Lebanese, and Turkish cultures, with solo vocals by Sam Khattar and Varduhi Sargsyan and choreographies by Cris! Basimah, Ahmet Luleci, and Jatila van der Veen. Finally, Cris! Basimah, the Director of the Ensemble's Dance Company, will present a rousing solo dance finale.

### [UCSB Gamelan Ensemble](#)

**Sunday, June 3, 2018 | 5:30 p.m. | Karl Geiringer Hall**

**Free UCSB students | \$5 non-UCSB students | \$10 general admission**

This special Spring Quarter Gamelan concert will feature three traditional Gamelan ensembles. The UCSB Gamelan Ensemble, under the direction of Richard North since 2015, will present a variety of traditional pieces in both Indonesian and Malaysian styles, including exciting Topeng mask dances. Also directed by Richard North, the Santa Barbara-based community group Gamelan Sinar Surya will present contrasting royal court pieces and ancient village music from West Java. A third ensemble, developed in the 1940s and known as Tarling, will reinterpret traditional Gamelan pieces for guitars and bamboo flute.

### [UCSB Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Players](#)

**Monday, June 4, 2018 | 7:30 p.m. | Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall**

**Free UCSB students | \$5 non-UCSB students | \$10 general admission**

Directed by Robert Koenig, winners of the quarterly UCSB Chamber Music Competition will perform as the UCSB Chamber Players and open the first half of the Spring UCSB Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Players concert. Vlad Vizireanu and the UCSB Chamber Orchestra will open the second half with Gioachino Rossini's overture to *Il Signor Bruschino*, followed by Johannes Brahms' *Academic Festival Overture* and Ludwig van Beethoven's *Symphony No. 8 in F Major, Op. 93*.

### [UCSB Jazz Ensemble](#)

**Wednesday, June 6, 2018 | 7:30 p.m. | Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall**

**Free UCSB students | \$5 non-UCSB students | \$10 general admission**

The UCSB Jazz Ensemble will welcome guest artist Jeff Babko (keyboards for *Jimmy Kimmel Live*) as well as featuring several of the Ensemble's graduating students. Trombonists Cameron Swanson, Julian Marks (graduating seniors), and Griffin Hosseinzadeh (departing for a post-doc in Astrophysics at Harvard University) will be featured on Rob McConnell's famous arrangement of *Just Friends*, and alto saxophonist Collin McCrary (transferring to UCLA) will be featured on Maria Schneider's lush *Journey Home*, along with close friend guitarist Lucas Brooker. Clinical psychology graduate student Josh Sheltzer will be featured along with other members of his combo on Chris Potter's *New Year's Day*, including fellow graduate students Evan Monroe (drums), Sinan Isik (piano), and junior standout guitarist Soham Mistry. Bassist Rex Fukuchi, another graduating senior, will be featured with this as they open the concert, as well as playing with the large ensemble throughout the concert. Rounding out the first half of the concert will be Thad Jones' *Cherry Juice* (featuring the saxophone section) and Bob Washut's *Cubaneando* (featuring our young standout trumpet section), and both charts featuring members of the ensemble returning next year, including guitarist Danny Toomey, saxophonists Blake Reader and Milo Bechtloff, trumpeters Kinamee Rhodes and Angel Hernandez, and pianist Reno Behnken. The ensemble will also welcome Santa Barbara percussionist Kevin Winard as special guest on the first half of the concert.

Jeff Babko will join the ensemble and combos for a variety of tunes and styles that reflect his musical identity, including his arrangement of Devo's *Girl U Want*, and his composition *Nostalgia is for Suckas* as performed with a combo led by UCSB staff member Matt Perko (drums), along with being featured soloist on John LaBarbera's *Highland Crossing*, a trio version of Wayne Shorter's *Black Nile*, Frank Mantooth's arrangement of the beautiful ballad *Young and Foolish*, and an arrangement of Bob Berg's rollicking shuffle, *Friday Night at the Cadillac Club*.

### [UCSB Music of India Ensemble](#)

**Thursday, June 7, 2018 | 7:30 p.m. | Karl Geiringer Hall**

**Free UCSB students | \$5 non-UCSB students | \$10 general admission**

Directed by Scott Marcus, the UCSB Music of India Ensemble will present a concert of North Indian classical music featuring performances on *sitars* and *tabla*, beginning with a performance of *rag Durga* by

the first-year students, followed by *rag Jaunpuri* by the advanced students. Neel Agrawal will provide tabla accompaniment. Founded in 1989 by ethnomusicology professor and chair of the Department of Music, Scott Marcus, the UCSB Music of India Ensemble is an official ethnomusicology performance ensemble in the UCSB Department of Music.

### **[UCSB Gospel Choir](#)**

**Friday, June 8, 2018 | 7:30 p.m. | Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall**

**Free UCSB students | \$5 non-UCSB students | \$10 general admission**

Under the direction of Victor Bell, the UCSB Gospel Choir will present their annual Spring concert, featuring traditional and contemporary songs drawn from African American religious traditions. Founded over 25 years ago, the choir is regularly featured in numerous community events and university celebrations, and has been featured on the WB sitcom *The Steve Harvey Show*, *American Housewives*, and Cedric the Entertainer's *The Soul Man*.

Tickets to all events can be purchased online at [music.ucsb.edu/news/purchase-tickets](http://music.ucsb.edu/news/purchase-tickets) or by calling the Associated Students Ticket Office at (805) 893-2064.

Directions and parking information can be found at [music.ucsb.edu/about/maps](http://music.ucsb.edu/about/maps).

### **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 graduates of the voice program can be heard in opera companies around the world.

With over 150 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 [music.ucsb.edu](http://music.ucsb.edu).

For additional information, photos, or to request an interview with an artist, please contact Adriane Hill at [adrianehill@ucsb.edu](mailto:adrianehill@ucsb.edu) or (805) 893-3230. To sign up for the Department of Music's newsletter, please [click here](#). Follow the Department of Music on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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