

9th INTERNATIONAL PHAROS CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL

6 - 13 October 2017
The Shoe Factory, Nicosia

Information: Pharos Arts Foundation Tel. +35722663871 / www.pharosartsfoundation.org

Tickets: €15 / €10 Concessions & members of the Pharos Arts Foundation

Box Office: www.pharosartsfoundation.org & Tel. 9666-9003 (Monday - Friday 10:00am-3:00pm)



9th INTERNATIONAL PHAROS CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL

6-13 OCTOBER 2017
THE SHOE FACTORY
NICOSIA



A unique music encounter between East and West, the Traditional and the Contemporary the Past and the Present!



Fri 6 Oct / 8:30pm

CONCERT

WU WEI (Sheng) & NAOMI SATO (Shō)

“Exploring the sounds of the Far East”

The first concert of the 9th International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival will travel us to the Far East and the transcendental sounds of the Chinese Sheng and the Japanese Shō. The Sheng is one of the oldest wind instruments in the world, with a history over 3.000 years. Consisting of several bamboo pipes set in a small windchest, the Sheng has played a significant role in the development of Western musical instruments, including the accordion and the harmonica, as well in the East, where many similar instruments were born out of it. One of these instruments is Sheng’s smaller sibling, the Japanese Shō, which has a very distinct sound, said to be imitating the call of a phoenix, and which has been the source of inspiration for a number of contemporary composers.

The Festival is proud to welcome for the first time in Cyprus the world famous Sheng player Wu Wei, who will join forces with the brilliant Shō player Naomi Sato.

Wu Wei is internationally renowned as an avant-garde Sheng soloist. He has helped to develop Sheng into an innovative force in contemporary music, by creating new techniques, expanding the new repertoire and integrating different styles and genres. He studied the Sheng at the Shanghai Conservatory and was a soloist with the Shanghai Chinese Orchestra before studying at the Hanns Eisler Academy with a DAAD scholarship in Berlin, where he is now based.

Since 1996, Wu Wei has appeared as a soloist with many leading orchestras and ensembles around the world, including the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra under Kent Nagano, the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra under Gustavo Dudamel, the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Ilan Volkov, the Radio France Philharmonic Orchestra and the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra under Myung-Whun Chun, the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, Tokyo Symphony Orchestra under Kazuyoshi Akiyama, the Munich Symphony Orchestra, the Albany Symphony Orchestra New York, the Belgium Symphony Orchestra Valaanderen, the Taipei Symphony Orchestra, Ensemble Modern, Atlas Ensemble, amongst others. Prize winner in a number of international competitions, including the Musica Vitale Competition in Germany, the Global Root World Music Prize and the Herald Angels Award by the Edinburgh International Festival for Composition, Wu Wei has given the world premieres of more than 150 works (including ten concertos for Sheng and Orchestra), by composers including John Cage, Unsuk Chin, Toshio Hosokawa, Enjott Schneider, Joerg Widmann, Guus Janssen, Tan Dun, Chen Qigang, Guo Weijing and Ruo Huang.

Naomi Sato studied the Shō at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and continued her studies at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam. She has appeared as a soloist with a number of orchestras and ensembles including Orchestre de L’Académie Européenne de Musique with Pierre Boulez, Ensemble Labyrinth, Ives Ensemble, Ictus Ensemble and Diotima Quartet. Naomi is a Shō player in Atlas Ensemble in Amsterdam, giving workshops in the Atlas Academy.

Sun 8 Oct / 8:30pm

CONCERT

SHAWN MATIVETSKY (Indian Tabla)

“Tabla: The King of Percussion Instruments”

The second concert of the Festival will be an exciting percussion experience by **Shawn Mativetsky** – one of the most dynamic performers of Tabla in the world and a pioneer in bridging the worlds of Western and Indian classical music. Mativetsky is described by the media as “an exceptional soloist” and “as a leading disciple of the renowned Pandit Sharda Sahai”.

His instrument, the Tabla, is regarded as the king of the percussion instruments and it has a very distinct sound that makes it an integral part of Indian music. Originally associated with the Indian classical dance Kathak as well as the dance traditions of the Tawaifs (sophisticated courtesans during the Mughal rule in the mid-18th century), the Tabla (consisting of two drums, the Bayan and the Dayan) is now used in a variety of genres and styles of Hindustani music. In Northern India, the Tabla is a ubiquitous instrument which accompanies Hindu religious songs (Bhajan), Sikh linguistic performances (Shabad), the ritual music of the Sufis (Qawwali) and Arabic sonnets (Ghazals). Its sophistication and charm has attracted the attention of scholars, musicians and music lovers around the globe. The popularity of the Tabla as a solo instrument continually grows as time goes on, as the instrument can hold its melodic own for hours and yet not sound boring. It is a much sought after instrument in cross-cultural and fusion musical experiments, and apart from classical music, the Tabla has made its mark on devotional, theatre and film music. For his recital in Cyprus, Mativetsky will perform traditional music as well as contemporary music written for the Tabla.





Wed 11 / 8:30pm

CONCERT

ENSEMBLE C BARRÉ
SARAH MARIA SUN (Soprano)
Under the direction of SEBASTIAN BOIN

“Western Composers Reflecting Eastern Music”

The third concert of the Festival will host for the first time in Cyprus the outstanding **Ensemble C Barré** which will join forces with soprano Sarah Maria Sun, under the direction of **Sebastian Boin**. Associated with the National Centre for Musical Creation of Marseille and having appeared in such venues and festivals as the Philharmonie de Paris, the Grand Théâtre de Provence, Festival Les Musiques and Festival de Chaillol, C Barré is an ensemble of unique personality, quite distinct from today’s musical landscape. The makeup of the Ensemble is unrivalled (clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, percussion, accordion, mandolin, guitar, harp, cimbalom, keyboards, cello and double-bass) and is enriched by the dynamism and thirst for experimentation of its musicians. Furthermore, the Ensemble regularly takes on other instruments – as in the case of their concert in Nicosia, which will also include instruments such as bouzouki, the Armenian Duduk and zithers. In the last few years, C Barré has performed at the Philharmonie de Paris, Festival of Île de France, Radio France, Festival of Marseille, Festival Les Musiques, the Grand Théâtre de Provence, amongst others. **Sarah Maria Sun** is one of the foremost leading singers in contemporary music. She began her training in the Bel Canto style and eventually shifted to contemporary music, appearing under the baton of conductors such as Sir Simon Rattle, Kent Nagano, Peter Rundel, Thomas Hengelbrock, Susanna Mälkki, Heinz Holliger and Christoph Spering, with orchestras such as the Berlin Philharmonic, Leipzig Gewandhaus, Philharmonic Orchestra Dresden, and Tokyo-Symphony Orchestra.



Programme:

Iannis Xenakis (1922-2001)
Nyuyo (1985) for saxophone soprano, bouzouki, guitar & cimbalom

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)
Three Japanese Lyrics [Akahito, Mazatsumi, Tsaraiuki] (1912-13) arr. for soprano, guitar & cimbalom

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)
Songs from the Chinese (1957) for high voice & guitar

Alexandros Markeas (b.1965)
Taximi (1995) for bouzouki & electronics

Mikel Urquiza (b.1988)
World Premiere for soprano, saxophone, accordion & percussions

George Christofi (b.1982)
World premiere for duduk, accordion, percussions, bouzouki, zither & cimbalom

François Rossé (b.1945)
World premiere for duduk, accordion, percussions, bouzouki, zither & cimbalom



Fri 13 Oct / 8:30pm

CONCERT

LINGUA FRANCA ENSEMBLE

“Soundscapes of the eastern Mediterranean traditions”

The 9th International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival will end its journey through the various world music traditions in an eastern Mediterranean flair with the **Lingua Franca Ensemble** in a unique programme, which will also include world premieres by composers Vasilis Filippou and Andreas Tsiartas. The Ensemble, comprising Michalis Cholevas (Yayli Tanbur, Tarhu, Ney), Giannis Koutis (Oud, Guitar), Michalis Kouloumis (Violin) and percussionist Ruven Ruppik (Riq, Darbuka, Frame Drums, Marimba), circumnavigates on a musical wandering during which the rich eastern Mediterranean traditions and western music elements blend and compose colourful soundscapes. The Ensemble creates and performs music with respect to the character of the modal music cultures. Being free from the need to create expressive exaggerations, the Lingua Franca Ensemble leads the audience on an emotional journey, offering euphoria. All the members of the Lingua Franca Ensemble are graduates of the Codarts University of the Arts, Rotterdam. In 2015, the Lingua Franca Ensemble was selected among several ensembles from all corners of the world, to participate in the Sharq Taronalari festival/contest held in Uzbekistan, representing Cyprus, Greece and Germany. The committee of the competition awarded Lingua Franca Ensemble with the Soul of Devotees Special Award. The Lingua Franca Ensemble is actively involved in music education. Both as an ensemble and as individuals, its members give workshops and seminars on their field of expertise. Furthermore, Michalis Cholevas and Michalis Kouloumis are regular teachers of the World Music Department of the Codarts University, having as main subject Modal Music of the Eastern Mediterranean cultures.

INTERNATIONAL PHAROS CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL:

The first Festival of its kind to be organised in Cyprus (in 2009), the International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival has established itself as one of the most innovative and cutting-edge annual music events in the Eastern Mediterranean. Under the artistic direction of the internationally renowned Cypriot composer, Evis Sammoutis, the Festival is dedicated to the promotion of new music: The well-established masterpieces of the contemporary music literature of the 20th century as well as new works by the younger generation of composers. The Festival has so far presented hundreds of Cyprus premieres as well as a great number of world premieres by composers who have been especially commissioned by the Foundation to write new pieces for the occasion.

THIS YEAR’S EDITION:

The 9th International Pharos Contemporary Music Festival is focused on the evolution of traditional music into what we now identify as ‘new music’. Entitled **“EAST music WEST”**, the Festival aims to stand as the meeting point of traditions from east to west, from the past to the present: a crossway in which instruments from various cultures mingle with their western descendants, a hybrid platform where the joint but also the contrasting music elements from various traditions around the globe are exposed, and a unique sonic experience where oral and improvisational practices are combined with modern notation and compositional techniques. The Festival will present four distinct concerts, while a number of other corresponding activities, such as lectures, workshops and educational activities, will take place throughout the week.

 **Pharos Arts Foundation**

GET CONNECTED



Visit our Website
www.pharosartsfoundation.org



Like on Facebook
www.facebook.com/PharosArtsFoundation



Follow on Twitter
www.twitter.com/PharosArts



Watch on YouTube
www.youtube.com/user/Pharosartsfoundation



on Instagram
www.instagram.com/pharosartsfoundation/