

For Immediate Release

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(LEFT TO RIGHT) SHANGHAI QUARTET, IMANI WINDS, REBEL BAROQUE, TELEVISION LANDSCAPE

INDOORS AND OUT THROUGHOUT TEN-MONTH SEASON
PEAK PERFORMANCES @ MONTCLAIR 2010/2011 PRESENTS
WIDE RANGE OF MUSIC HIGHLIGHTED BY PREMIERES

Experienced as a whole, the 2010/2011 Peak Performances @ Montclair music season, which travels back and forth through sonic history, reveals similarities, departures, inspirations and innovations in music composition and instruments over the centuries

The series opens on **September 1** with “**Everywhere Is the Best Seat,**” a sound/light installation by composer/architect **Christopher Janney**, who has a long history of creating sonic and light environments in existing public spaces. Inspired by John Cage’s democratic comment, “Everything you do is music/And everywhere is the best seat,” and commandeering the Montclair State University amphitheater, this user-friendly, interactive work invites passersby to create their own sounds and light, thereby giving new, vibrant life to the space. The installation is free, accessible 24 hours a day, every day, and runs through November 14.

Working in collaboration with New Amsterdam Records, Peak Performances presents ***Here There Be Dragons*** on **September 11**, as members of a trio of new chamber-rock groups join forces: **NOW Ensemble** (Judd Greenstein), William Brittelle’s **Television Landscape** and **Victoire** (Missy Mazzoli).

MORE

Then, reaching 2000 years back in musical history, the ever-popular **Shanghai Quartet** will present the world premiere of Lei Liang's "Five Seasons," on **September 12**. Composed for the pipa, an ancient, lute-like string instrument, "Five Seasons" will be performed by renowned pipa master **Wu Man**.

On **October 10**, **Young Concert Artists** will present a quartet of four of its most talented up and coming musicians—Courtenay Budd (soprano), Jose Franch-Ballester (clarinet), Benjamin Moser (piano) and Wonny Song (piano), in a program of works by Poulenc, Mahler, Strauss, Kovács, Beethoven and Schubert.

Sō Percussion, considered America's most innovative percussion ensemble, will present Iannis Xenakis's contemporary polyrhythmic masterpiece "Pleiades" and Cenk Ergün's "Proximity" on **November 6**.

Also scheduled in November is "Town and Country: Music of European Royalty and Aristocracy," a program of 18th century music, designed and performed by New York-based Baroque ensemble **REBEL** and comprising classics by Telemann, Scheffelhut, Fischer, Schmierer and Handel (**November 7**).

Cellist **Carter Brey** and pianist **Christopher O'Riley** will join musical forces in a mixed bill of Bach, Dello Joio and Grieg on **February 5**.

Palestinian oud player/violinist **Simon Shaheen** will be a guest artist in the **Imani Winds** concert that features the world premiere of "Zafir" ("a gentle breath") by Shaheen. The new work is commissioned by Peak Performances to be performed on **February 6**.

The **Shanghai Quartet** returns to perform works by Bridge, Mozart and Bartók on **April 2**.

The season concludes **May 7 and 8** with a world premiere by jazz composer **Fred Hersch** with text and direction by **Herschel Garfein** and multimedia and animation by **Sarah Wickliffe**. Entitled "My Coma Dreams," the full-evening work, scored for 11 instruments and a speaker/singer, was inspired by dreams Hersch experienced during a two-month-long coma in the summer of 2008.

DATE/TIME	COMPANY/ARTIST	PROGRAM
2010		
Sept. 1–Nov. 14	Christopher Janney	<i>Everywhere Is the Best Seat</i> (free in MSU amphitheater, open 24 hours every day)
Sept. 11 at 8pm	NOW Ensemble/William Britton's <i>Television Landscape</i> /Victoire	<i>Here There Be Dragons</i>
Sept. 11 at 10pm	Christopher Janney	<i>Disembodied Voices</i>
Sept. 12 at 3pm	Shanghai Quartet, with guest Wu Man	<i>Five Seasons</i> by Lei Liang and works by Beethoven, Schumann and Wang Huiran
Oct. 10 at 3pm	Young Concert Artists	Featuring soprano Courtenay Budd, clarinetist Jose Franch-Ballester and pianists Benjamin Moser and Wonny Song
Nov. 6 at 8pm	So Percussion, with guests Meehan/Perkins Duo	<i>Bringing Down the Stars and Moving Them Around: Pleiades</i> by Iannis Xenakis and <i>Proximity</i> by Cenk Ergün
Nov. 7 at 3pm	REBEL Ensemble for Baroque Music	<i>Town and Country: Music of European Royalty and Aristocracy</i>
2011		
Feb. 5 at 8pm	Carter Brey and Christopher O'Riley	Works by Justin Dello Joio, Edvard Grieg, and Bach
Feb. 6 at 3pm	Imani Winds, with guest Simon Shaheen	Featuring <i>Zafir</i> ("a gentle breath"), a new work by Simon Shaheen
Apr. 2 at 8pm	Shanghai Quartet	Works by Bridge, Mozart and Bartók
May 7 at 8pm May 8 at 3pm	Fred Hersch	<i>My Coma Dreams</i>

TICKET, TRANSPORTATION AND DINING INFORMATION

All tickets are \$15 and are available at the Alexander Kasser Theater Box Office, by calling 973-655-5112 or online at www.peakperfs.org.

Charter bus service is provided from New York City's Port Authority Bus Terminal – arcade on 41st Street between 8th and 9th Avenues – to the Alexander Kasser Theater (\$10 per person, roundtrip) for all Saturday and Sunday performances. Bus reservations may be made by calling 973-655-5112 or by visiting www.peakperfs.org. For train service, available only on weekdays, go online to www.njtransit.com or call 973-275-5555.

For restaurants close to the Alexander Kasser Theater, visit <http://www.destinationmontclair.com>

Montclair State University is located at 1 Normal Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey 07043.

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