

Makrokosmos Project 7 Presents:

Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman

Thursday, June 24th 2021 @ Portland Piano Company
www.makrokosmosproject.org



The Seasons Part 1: 5-6:30pm

Summer Solstice:

Joan Tower: *Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman*, 6th Fanfare arr. for piano by the composer

Gabriela Lena Frank: *Barcarola Latinoamericana*

Saar Ahuvia, piano

Courtney Bryan: Two Etudes

Jeff Payne, piano

Jessie Montgomery: *Voodoo Dolls*

Pyxis Quartet

Fall Foliage:

Caroline Shaw: *Taxidermy*

Portland Percussion Group

Caroline Shaw: *Gustave Le Gray*

Stephanie Ho, piano

Caroline Shaw: *Ent'racte*

Pyxis Quartet

Part 2: 7-8:30pm

Winter Zephyrs:

Florence Price: *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* (arranged by Florence Price)

Margaret Bonds: *Troubled Water*

Julia Lee, piano

Galina Ustvolskaya: Piano Sonata No. 5

Jeff Payne, piano

Carolyn Quick: *So She Dreamed*

Portland Percussion Group

Spring Journey:

A Tribute to the Late Honorable Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Meredith Monk: Complete Two Piano Works

Ellis Island ~ Obsolete Objects ~ Trekking ~ Phantom Strings ~ Totentanz ~ Tower ~ Urban March ~ Folk Dance ~ Parlour Games ~ Phantom Waltz

DUO Stephanie & Saar

Robert McBride, narrator

Meet the June 24 Makrokosmos Project Team:

Portland Percussion Group: www.portlandpercussiongroup.com

Pyxis Quartet: www.45thparallelpdx.org

Branic Howard, electronics and sound: www.openfieldrecording.com

Saar Ahuvia, piano, co-Artistic Director: www.stephsaarduo.com

Stephanie Ho, piano, co-Artistic Director: www.stephsaarduo.com

Julia Lee, piano: www.pdx.edu

Jeff Payne, piano: www.fearnomusic.org

Orlando Sanchez, video

Robert McBride, narrator

Dear Friends, we are thrilled and honored to have you back for Makrokosmos Project 7:
FANFARE FOR THE UNCOMMON WOMAN!!!

Our country and our community have gone through shared trauma in the last 16 months. It is finally time to come together, heal together, laugh together and celebrate living life to the fullest with music in the air!

The devastating covid-19 pandemic exacerbated problematic fissures in our fragile yet resilient society: racial injustice, climate change, gender inequality, political divisions, economic imbalance- just to name a few. Portland is undergoing reflection, confrontation and strife. But we cannot ignore the progress we have made. The United States has elected its first woman and Asian-American Vice President, Kamala Harris, and we are constantly making headways, pushing for more changes and improvements in every blind spot of our society.

This year, *Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman* celebrates the ratification of the 19th amendment, granting women the right to vote. Makrokosmos Project 7 features 19 women composers, with today's event dedicated to Black, Brown and White composers and the 7/20 event at the Portland Japanese Garden dedicated to Asian and Asian-American composers.

Tonight's programming is in honor of one of our most intrepid champions of equal rights, the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Thank you, Justice Ginsburg, for arguing cases in front of the Supreme Court that paved the way for women to become fiscally independent and take out a mortgage, as well as attend military academies. We

are grateful for your service to this country and your relentless stance on equal protection for men *and* women. ~ Stephanie Ho and Saar Ahuvia

Joan Tower (1938-) is widely regarded as one of the most important American composers living today. Multiple Grammy winner, *Musical America's* 2020 Composer of the Year, *Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman* is a set of six compositions dedicated to “women who take risks and are adventurous.” The 6th Fanfare, completed in 2016, is dedicated to the conductor JoAnn Falletta, the 1st American and 1st woman conductor appointed to the Ulster Orchestra and served on the National Council on the Arts from 2008 to 2012, following her appointment by President George W. Bush.

In **Gabriela Lena Frank's** (1972-) own words: *Barcarola Latinoamericana* (2007) for solo piano is a folkloric piece inspired by the vital folk-fusion musical culture in Latin America today. It is not uncommon nowadays to encounter Andean panpipe ensembles infused with the drumbeats of Columbian *cumbia*, Central American marimba music spiced with South American *sesquiáltera* (“changing sixes”) rhythms, or Mexican mariachi bands that also play Venezuelan *zoropos*, albeit with a rather brassy flare. It is in this spirit that *Barcarola Latinoamericana* was composed.

Courtney Bryan, a native of New Orleans, is “a pianist and composer of panoramic interests” (New York Times). She blends jazz, experimental/avant-garde, traditional gospel, spirituals and hymns, merging the gap between sacred and secular music. **Jessie Montgomery** is an acclaimed composer, violinist and educator. Growing up in Manhattan's Lower East Side in the 1980's when the neighborhood was going through drastic changes, Jessie Montgomery's music is “turbulent, wildly colorful and exploding with life” (The Washington Post).

The youngest person to ever receive the Pulitzer Prize for Music (2013), **Caroline Shaw's** music is folksy, soulful, direct, emotional, impactful. Her childhood was spent in North Carolina, and now she calls New York City home. She cites Fiona Apple as one of her biggest influences and received an invite from Kanye West to work together on one of his albums.

Born in 1994, Portland-based **Carolyn Quick** is establishing herself as one of the most important voices of our community. Carolyn's commissions include Portland's intrepid Fear No Music, Vancouver Opera's New Works Project, Symphony 21 and Eugene Opera's call for scores: Songs for Quarantine. Both **Margaret Bonds** (1913-1972) and **Florence Price** (1887-1953) are true African-American heroines. Margaret Bonds was one of the few and earliest black students to receive a BM and MMus from Northwestern University, enduring harsh racial and gender discrimination and was never permitted to reside on campus. Florence Price is often referred to as the 1st African-American woman symphonic composer and the 1st African-American woman to have a composition performed by a major US symphony orchestra. Margaret Bonds was a student of Florence Price; the two became dear friends and leaned on each other during difficult times living and composing in Chicago.

Galina Ustvol'skaya (1919-2006) is a fierce personality; her music is out-there expressive, bold, austere, tragic and outrageously brazen- a true iconic composer and one of the most unique musical voices of modern Russia. **Meredith Monk** (1942-) is a New York-based composer, performer, director, vocalist, filmmaker and choreographer. As a pioneer for site-specific artwork, she was the first artist to create a piece in the rotunda of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (*Juice*, 1969). Her films, installations and drawings have been shown in museums and galleries including Exit Art, Frederieke Taylor Gallery, in two Whitney Biennials, and her short films and several of her drawings are included in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art in New York. She was the recipient of the MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Award in 1995 and was awarded the National Medal of the Arts by President Barack Obama in 2015.

THANK YOU, thank you, THANK YOU:

Thank you to the **Collaborative Arts & Culture Foundation** for being Makrokosmos Project's fiscal sponsor. All donations to Makrokosmos Project are **fully tax deductible** to the extent allowed by law.

Our world-class pianos, and this year's awesome outdoor stage + venue are all because of **Portland Piano Company's** incredible generosity. Thank you Mitch and Brenda and the entire team!

Our fantastic videographer tonight is **Orlando Sanchez**. Please stay in touch for videos of tonight's performances, which will be made available for audience members who want to enjoy the music from the comfort of their homes.

Our website designer **Masataka Suemitsu** makes sure that everything online is Makrokosmos-ready.

Thank you to the **Loh Family** for helping out with the reception and just about everything else!

Thank you to our 2021 festival donors and sponsors!!!

Harold Gray ~ Soyoung Kim ~ Larry Vollum ~ Matthew Gross & Valeria Martinez ~ Kristin Podack ~ Portland Piano Company ~ Robert Douglas ~ Anonymous (x7) ~ Mor Ahuvia ~ Elizabeth Schapira ~ Jim Frison ~ Brian Wood ~ Robert McBride ~ Chris Finckel ~ Sheila Pastore ~ Fran Rothman ~ Dobbles Family Estate ~ All Classical Portland

It is not too late to become our financial supporter and make a donation to Makrokosmos Project! Have you checked out our GoFundMe page?:
<https://gofund.me/a1151b98>

Please visit our GoFundMe campaign and make a donation. A donation of **ANY** amount is greatly appreciated and every donation is tax-deductible.

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