

Tuesday, March 27, 2007
8:00 p.m.

***OnStage* at Glenn Gould Studio**

with host Shelley Solmes
presents

Ancient Cultures / New Sounds

Bergmann Piano Duo

Elizabeth Laitch Bergmann
Marcel Bergmann

Evergreen Club contemporary gamelan

Blair Mackay, Artistic Director
Mark Duggan
Bill Parsons
Andrew Timar
Richard Sacks
Paul Houle
Ryan Scott
Graham Hargrove

Broadcast dates: Sunday, Sept 2, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. on
 OnStage, CBC Radio Two (94.1 FM)
 Sunday, Sept 2, 2007 at 8:05 p.m. on
 OnStage, CBC Radio One (99.1 FM)

***OnStage* at Glenn Gould Studio**

Recording Producer: Matthew Baird

Recording Engineer: David Burnham

Series Artistic Director: Matthew Baird

Programme

Colin McPhee: Balinese Ceremonial Music (1941)

(1900-1964)

- I *Pemoengkah*
- II *Gambangan*
- III *Taboeh Teloe*

Maurice Ravel: Entre Cloches (1895-97)

(1875-1937) (from *Sites Auriculaires*)

Alexina Louie: The Ringing Earth

(b.1949)

Homage

(from *Afterimages*, 1981)

Marcel Bergmann: Incessant Bells

(b.1965) (Canadian premiere)

Colin McPhee: Music for Two Pianos

- I *Lagoë Tjondong*
- II *Rebong*
- III *Gabor Gong*

courtesy of Colin McPhee Collection, UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive, John Vallier, archivist
edited by Marcel and Elizabeth Bergmann

Intermission

Sundanese, anonymous,: Arang Arang

arranged by Andrew Timar

John Wyre, Island of Silence (1994)

(1941-2006) for gamelan with steel drum, featuring Graham Hargrove

Lou Harrison: Ibu Trish (1992)

(1917-2003)

Henry Kucharzyk: Aria for Sundanese gamelan with Piano 4-hands

(b.1953)

Burhan Sukarma: Rengga Renggi (2000),

arranged by Bill Parsons and Blair Mackay

The Performers

Bergmann Piano Duo

Elizabeth and Marcel Bergmann have been performing together as a duo since 1989. They studied with Arie Vardi at the *Hochschule für Musik und Theater*, Hannover and with Jean-Eudes Vaillancourt at the Université de Montréal.

The Bergmanns received first prize at the International Chamber Music Competition in Caltanissetta, Italy, and were laureates of the 4th Murray Dranoff International Two Piano Competition. In 1993 they became members of the young artists' roster of Yehudi Menuhin-Live Music Now. Their recitals and concerts with orchestra have taken them to many parts of the world, including the United States, Italy, Germany, Holland, Greece and Canada. The duo has appeared at the celebrated Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, the Banff Arts Festival, the Royal Bank Calgary International Organ Festival and Competition, the International Two Piano Symposium and Schubertiade, Miami, the *Tage für neue Musik*, Darmstadt, the *Braunschweiger Kammermusik Podium* and at the *EXPO 2000*, Hannover. Marcel and Elizabeth have also appeared with several North American orchestras such as the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, the New World Symphony and the Canticum Novum of Santa Fe.

The Bergmann Piano Duo has made recordings for the CBC, for several stations of the ARD in Germany and for National Public Radio in the USA. The artists have produced several CDs, which appear on the *CordAria* and *Arktos* labels and have recorded William Bolcom's complete works for two pianos for *Naxos*. As founding members of the International Piano Quartet they had the opportunity to record Stravinsky's *Les Noces* under the direction of Robert Craft at the Abbey Road Studios in London. A compact disc of that encounter first appeared on the *Koch International Classics* label and has been re-released on *Naxos*.

Currently on faculty at the Mount Royal College Conservatory in Calgary, Elizabeth and Marcel have also been involved in various musical activities at the Banff Centre for the Arts and in 2004/2005, served as Artistic Directors of The Murray Dranoff International Two Piano Competition and Foundation in Miami. They are members of the Calgary based group Land's End Chamber Ensemble, recipients of the 2005 and 2006 Western Canadian Music Awards for Outstanding Classical Recording. Committed to supporting the production of new Canadian repertoire, the duo has commissioned and premiered several works by Canadian composers such as Allan Gordon Bell and John Abram. Its extensive repertoire ranges from the baroque to the contemporary and includes numerous own arrangements and compositions.

A native of Alberta, **Elizabeth Bergman** received her Bachelor of Music from the University of Alberta studying with Helmut Brauss and continued studies with Arie Vardi at the *Hochschule für Musik und Theater* in Hannover, Germany, acquiring artist and chamber music diplomas. She obtained a Masters degree from the University of Toronto with Patricia Parr and pursued specialized studies (*D.E.S.S - Diplôme d'études supérieures spécialisées*) in duo piano at the Université de Montréal with Jean-Eudes Vaillancourt. Together with her husband, she completed post-graduate studies in duo piano in the *Solistenklasse* in Hannover. Elizabeth has recently taken on the position of Assistant Director of Programmes at the Langley Community Music School in Langley, B.C. . In addition to her active performing career as a soloist and

collaborative pianist, Elizabeth also is nationally and internationally involved as a lecturer and juror of festivals and competitions.

Born in Munich, Germany, **Marcel Bergmann** studied musicology at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich and piano at the *Hochschule für Musik und Theater* in Hannover with Arie Vardi. After obtaining a Bachelors degree, Masters degree and Artist Diploma, Marcel received a scholarship from the Université de Montréal where he and his wife pursued specialized studies in duo piano with Jean-Eudes Vaillancourt. Subsequently, he completed post-graduate work in the *Solistenklasse* in Hannover.

For the last 15 years, Marcel has enjoyed an active musical career as a performer, composer, improviser and teacher. The broad range of musical interest and experience in both, classical and popular music has led to an output in a variety of styles and genres. Bavarian Television, ARTE and other European broadcasting corporations, have featured his music for television productions. Over the past decade, he also has been involved as composer and musical director in many theatre, cabaret and multimedia projects, such as *Baden Rebelliert* (Bruchsal, Germany, 1998, including 30 performances throughout Baden-Württemberg), *Online an der Leine*, which had its premiere during the EXPO 2000 in Hannover/Germany, and *Der Avatar* (2001). In 2004, Marcel Bergmann was a composer-in-residence for Calgary Opera's *Let's create an Opera* programme.

In December 2005, Marcel Bergmann's *Urban Pulse* for two pianos was premiered as the commissioned work for The 10th Murray Dranoff International Two Piano Competition. (Composers previously commissioned include Morton Gould, Ned Rorem, William Bolcom and John Corigliano). Two other two-piano works by Marcel will soon appear as part of the Canadian National Conservatory of Music's *Library Series*. Marcel is an Associate Composer of the Canadian Music Centre and has served internationally as a clinician, juror, lecturer, collaborative pianist and vocal coach.

Evergreen Club contemporary gamelan

Evergreen Club is an ensemble of eight highly skilled Canadian musicians who perform and record using an assortment of bronze and wooden instruments from Indonesia. Collectively these instruments are known as a gamelan – a traditional instrument ensemble that plays an important role in the Indonesian culture.

Formed in 1983 and based in Toronto, Evergreen Club is a unique performing ensemble dedicated to the development and expansion of its repertoire through the commissioning of new works from Canadian and international composers, and interpreting traditional and contemporary Indonesian pieces. The contemporary works written for Evergreen Club highlight both gamelan and gamelan-plus – extended to include guest soloists, guest ensembles, solo and ensemble dance, or auxiliary media (live accompaniment to film, works for tape, etc.). The resulting repertoire reflects an intermingling of cultural sensibilities within a global perspective.

Evergreen Club's numerous concert appearances have delighted audiences within Canada, the United States, Western Europe, Japan and Indonesia. From 1998 to 2000, Evergreen Club toured with the World music ensemble *Heartbeat* founded by the late John Wyre of Nexus. In 1999 and

2005 Evergreen Club was a featured artist at the Festival Presence in Paris, France. In performance and on compact disc recordings, Evergreen Club has presented world premieres for gamelan and gamelan-plus by leading composers such as John Cage, James Tenney, Gilles Tremblay, Walter Boudreau, Lou Harrison, Jon Siddall, John Wyre and many others.

Over the last fifteen years or so Evergreen Club's list of eight CD recordings has grown to include *Sunda song* (Naxos), *O Bali* (CBC Records), and several releases on the Artifact label, the most recent of which is *Translations*.

Blair Mackay has been artistic director of the Evergreen Club Contemporary Gamelan since 1992. Under Blair's direction, Evergreen Club has produced six critically acclaimed CDs, toured internationally, and commissioned an extensive library of contemporary music for gamelan, and gamelan-plus.

Blair began his career in 1976 in Montreal playing jazz and fusion music, while studying classical percussion with Pierre Beluse, and Robert Leroux. Since then, his eclectic performance career as percussionist and drummer has been highlighted in a wide range of musical contexts. In 1988 Blair completed his Master of Music degree in performance at the University of Toronto. Blair is frequently performing for radio, television, and film soundtracks, as well as performing and recording with many orchestras and small ensembles in Toronto, such as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Canadian Opera Company Orchestra, Nexus percussion ensemble, and Hemispheres (an ensemble that combined jazz with contemporary western music). Blair is also the principal percussionist with the Esprit Orchestra, an orchestra dedicated to the performance and recording of contemporary orchestral music, and a member of the contemporary music ensemble, Arraymusic.

As a soloist, Blair has premiered new works for drumset and percussion in a variety of contemporary, instrumental contexts and has been a featured soloist at festivals in Mexico, Europe, and Canada, as well as on CBC radio. From 1994 to 1998, Blair toured and recorded with the Dangerous Kitchen Ensemble, performing the music of Frank Zappa in Europe, United States and Canada.

Blair is committed to the development of his musical expression not only as a director and performer, but as a composer and co-leader for the septet Mosaic, the trio Pirate Jenny (featuring vocalist Jennifer Moore and guitarist Bill Parsons), and performing contemporary arrangements of works from the cabaret repertoire as well as original material.

Percussionist **Mark Duggan** is a versatile performer and composer, comfortable in many genres. As a performer, Mark has appeared with a variety of ensembles including Toronto New Music Concerts, Continuum Contemporary Music, the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra, the Esprit Orchestra, the National Ballet of Canada Orchestra, the Toronto Symphony and the Art of Time Ensemble. He is also a founding member of the Evergreen Club Contemporary Gamelan (since 1983) which has performed throughout Canada, Europe, Asia and the US.

A graduate of the master's program in world percussion at the California Institute of the Arts, Mark has performed in a wide spectrum of musical contexts appearing with the Philip Glass

Ensemble, the percussion group Nexus and the Ensemble Intercontemporain de Paris directed by Pierre Boulez. As a session player Mark has appeared on dozens of film and commercial recordings. His affinity for the music of Latin America has led him to integrate these influences into his own writing especially with the group Vuja dé. Other projects include several tours of Japan with marimbist Mika Yoshida, performances with Brazilian guitarist Celso Machado, and performances at the Tongyeong International Music Festival in Seoul, South Korea.

As a composer Mark has written for concert, dance, video, and various commercial settings including commissioned works for the chamber trio Sanctuary, Nexus, the Evergreen Club, choreographers Maxine Heppner, Susan Lee, and an array of solo marimba pieces. Mark's recording projects have been twice nominated by both the Juno and East Coast Music Awards most recently in 2003 for the CD "Mistura". In 2001 he received the Freddie Stone Award from the Newfoundland Sound Symposium for his contribution to Canadian contemporary music. Mark's compositions often reflect his ongoing interest in the music of non-western cultures and specifically the language of rhythm. They have been performed in North and South America, Europe and Asia along with numerous broadcasts on CBC radio and television. Mark's most recent CD, Touch Wood, has been described as "an enjoyable CD full of memorable melodies and music that invites the listener into the beautiful world of marimba. He is virtuosic but not esoteric; this is music for listeners." (*Percussive Notes*)

The performance experience of guitarist **Bill Parsons** encompasses jazz, improvised, concert, popular, and world music. As a composer and arranger, he has worked within a wide range of musical settings from jazz and concert music to interdisciplinary works with filmmakers, photographers, theatre directors, and choreographers. Bill Parsons also writes poetry, lyrics, and has co-written a screenplay.

At present, Bill Parsons performs locally and internationally with Evergreen Club contemporary gamelan and with Glass Orchestra – a quartet performing composed and improvised music for glass instruments. Bill also performs in Mosaic – a minimalist jazz septet with a contemporary sensibility for which he composes, performs and records. He has collaborated with visual artist Chuck Samuels, performs with the Montreal based chamber-jazz septet Ulysses, teaches music and studies film.

Among other activities, Bill Parsons has co-directed the development of three other ensembles: Ferro Baci, a "prepared" electric guitar trio; Pirate Jenny, a voice, guitar, percussion trio which interprets cabaret music and creates original songs; and Sunda Duo, which features Indonesian kacapi (20 string plucked zither) and suling (Sundanese bamboo flute).

Andrew Timar has been active in Toronto's New Music and World Music scenes since the 1970's as a composer, musician, teacher, arts administrator and as founding editor of MUSICWORKS magazine. At first he performed, taught bassoon and keyboards and composed music for various media. He has founded several groups whose focus is the development and performance of contemporary concert music, often including multimedia elements. Andrew has composed for, performed and recorded with a number of Toronto-based groups, including Musicdance Orchestra, New Music Co-op, Critical Band, and New Music Concerts. He has performed with legendary artists Jon Hassell, Brian Eno, Trichy Sankaran and Laurie Anderson. Over the past 20 years he has made his mark as a suling (bamboo flute) and gamelan player,

concert organiser and teacher. As a suling and gamelan performer, he has been active throughout Canada, Europe, Japan and Indonesia. Andrew served as the Artistic Director of Evergreen Club contemporary gamelan from 1987 to 1990. Under his direction the group toured Europe and western Canada and released a CD.

He founded Gamelan Toronto, the city's first permanent Karawitan Jawa (gamelan) group, studying and performing Javanese gamelan and vocal music in 1995. To celebrate *Canada's Year of Asia Pacific* Andrew conceived and directed Gamelan Summit Festival 1997, the first national gathering of gamelan-related performance groups from across Canada, playing host to over 75 performers. His other projects include the groups Nada Rasa, co-directed with Trichy Sankaran; Sunda Duo with Bill Parsons and Suling Nova, featuring his pioneering suling adaptations and performances. These projects feature the suling in various combinations with both Western and Asian instruments and musical languages. As a composer, Andrew has been commissioned to compose for groups such as Arraymusic, Critical Band, Musidance Orchestra, Evergreen Club, Nishigawa Ensemble, Winnipeg Gender Wayang, Aradia Baroque Orchestra, etc, and has produced music for numerous dance and film productions.

As a gamelan instructor, Andrew was invited in 1999 to establish a gamelan studio programme at York University and served as its first Course Director. In 2000 he co-authored a curriculum to teach gamelan and wayang for the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and as its Gamelan Consultant and Programme Director implemented a board-wide programme with three active Javanese gamelan. In 2003/4, he served as co-instructor of the gamelan degung course at Toronto's Royal Conservatory of Music.

Richard Sacks holds a masters degree in percussion from SUNY Stony Brook. He performs with Arraymusic, The Glass Orchestra, New Music Concerts, the Canadian Opera Company, Tapestry New Opera, the Evergreen Club Gamelan and others. He has toured extensively through Europe and Asia. His dance collaborations include the acclaimed "White Snake" Ballet (Xing Dance Company), pieces for Marie-Josée Chartier for premiere in Singapore, for Peter Chin at the N.A.C. and "Art in Open Spaces" with Jessica Runge. He has performed with Robert Desrosiers, Dancemakers, Le Group de la Place Royal, Bill James and Toronto Dance Theatre.

In theatre, Richard's recent work has been as composer/performer for *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Passe Muraille, directed by Kate Lynch), the hit show 'Sibs' (Tarragon), the award winning children's shows, "Dib and Dob" (Roseneath) and "Danny, King of the Basement" (Roseneath) and Pinnocchio (YPT, nominated for a Dora award). He appeared in Joseph Papp's production of *Multinationals and the Heavens* at the New York Shakespeare Theatre, in the premiers of Gilles Maheu's *Peau, chair et os* with Carbone 14 at the Festival de Théâtre des Amériques in Montreal and the Richard Rose/ D.D. Kugler adaptation of Timothy Findley's *Not Wanted On The Voyage* in Toronto.

His own performance pieces mix percussion, theatre and movement in unique ways for soloist and large ensemble exploring a mix of new technologies and traditional theatrical devices. He is the author of *World on a String*, a 50,000 word interactive web-based Sci Fi novel and *The MetaMOOphosis*, a permanent installation of interactive theatre based on Kafka's

'Metamorphosis'. His work can be found at Rik's Café Canadian, a web site focusing on Toronto's rich cultural resources - <http://www.vex.net/rikscafe>

Paul Houle has a multi-dimensional career as international performing artist, master educator, and workshop facilitator. Through his company, *BOOM!*, Paul facilitates human potential by presenting global percussion workshops which are individually designed for corporations, educational and community organizations. He is on faculty at the Royal Conservatory of Music and has developed innovative programs for the *Learning through the Arts*[™] program since its inception. His performance career includes work for many orchestras and chamber music groups as well as radio and television. He performs globally with the Evergreen Club Contemporary Gamelan and has toured with John Wyre's World Drum Orchestra.

Ryan Scott is an acclaimed marimba and multi-percussion soloist. He performs regularly as a solo and chamber musician across Canada and throughout the world. He also plays with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra, the Esprit Orchestra, the Bob Becker Ensemble, The Composers Orchestra, New Music Concerts, Soundstreams Canada, Ensemble Noir, con. Takt, and with violist Rivka Golani. Mr. Scott has been recorded numerous times for CBC radio and for hatART, Naxos, CMC, and CBC Records labels. Mr. Scott also plays in an innovative new duo ArpaTambora, with his wife, harpist Sanya Eng.

Graham Hargrove is a Toronto based percussionist. He studied with Salvador Ferreras at the University of Victoria and with Russell Hartenberger and Beverley Johnston at the University of Toronto. He has performed throughout Canada, Europe and Asia with contemporary music ensembles and with modern dance. He performed over 400 shows as a marimbist in the Toronto production of Disney's, *The Lion King*. His duet album *Reinventions* with Toronto percussionist Nicholas Coulter is heard frequently on CBC radio and a second album *Variations* explores music of Mozart, Bach, Rameau, Scarlatti, and Handel, in their own arrangements.