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Currents: Haiku Music

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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CURRENTS

new-music ensemble in residence at the
University of Richmond

Fred Cohen *Artistic Director*

presents

Haiku

Music

March 19, 1999
Camp Concert Hall
Booker Hall of Music
8:00pm

PROGRAM

out from the darkness
back into the darkness
affairs of the cat
Issa

sweeping up
the passing of spring --
fallen leaves
Buson

FALLEN LEAVES

PETER KNELL

AFFAIRS OF THE CAT

Ms. Werrell, Mr. West, Mr. Hammel, Ms. Lazar,
Mr. Kivrak, Ms. Moquin, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Cohen

OUT OF THE DARKNESS

WILLIAM AVERITT

Ms. Werrell, Mr. West, Mr. Hammel, Ms. Lazar,
Mr. Kivrak, Ms. Moquin, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Cohen

OUT OF THE DARKNESS

LARRY THOMAS BELL

Ms. Schadeberg, Ms. Werrell, Mr. West, Mr. Hammel,
Ms. Lazar, Mr. Kivrak, Ms. Moquin, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Cohen

FOUR MAINE HAIKU

ELLIOT SCHWARTZ

- I. Dreamy, Quiet
- II. Aggressive, Angry
- III. Graceful, Dance-like
- IV. Solemn, Stately

Mr. Hanson

THREE HAIKU

ROBERT FAIRFAX BIRCH

- I. Even the Baby
The New Year's gifts:
Even the baby at the breast,
Puts out her little hands.
Issa
- II. New Clothes
In my new clothing
I feel so different.
I must look like someone else.
Basho

III. Dusk

A village

Where they ring no bells?

Oh! What do they do at dusk in spring?

Basho

Ms. Schadeberg, Mr. Hanson

FOUR HAIKU

ROBERT GIBSON

I. Maple Leaves

Envied by us all,

turning to such loveliness--

red leaves that fall.

Shiko

II. Winter

Mountains and plains,

all are captured by the snow--

nothing remains.

Joso

III. The Sound

Here...there...

the sound of waterfalls is heard--

young leaves everywhere.

Buson

IV. Summer Night

Summer night:

from cloud to cloud the moon

is swift in flight.

Ranko

Ms. Moquin, Mr. Hanson

HAIKU SETTINGS

MEL POWELL

I. Oh you bawdy breeze...

Thatcher working on the roof

I see your bottom!

Issa

Such a fine first dream...

But they laughed at me...they said

I made it up.

Takuchi

Look....the palace
You can glimpse it through that hole
In the mosquito-fog
Issa

II. Icy the moonshine:
Shadow of a tombstone,
Shadow of a pine.
Shiki

Colder far than snow...
Winter moonlight echoing on
My whitened hair.
Joso

III. In all this cool
Is the moon also sleeping
There, in the pool?
Ryusui

Oh, these spring days!
A nameless little mountain
Wrapped in morning haze!
Basho

Ah me! I am one
Who spends his little breakfast...
Morning-glory gazing
Basho

A flitting firefly!
"Look! There!" I start to call--
But there is no one by
Taigi

IV. There is no stir,
Not even one leaf...awesome
Is the summer grove.
Buson

Night is bright with stars...
Silly woman, whimpering:
"Shall I light the lamp?"
Etsuji

Ms. Cable, Mr. Hanson

wherever he goes
he carries his home--
the snail

Deiru

alone, silently
the bamboo shoot
becomes a bamboo
Santoka

BAMBOO

WALTER ROSS

Ms. Werrell, Ms. Lazar, Mr. Kivrak, Ms. Moquin, Mr. Hanson

ALONE, SILENTLY

LARRY THOMAS BELL

Ms. Schadeberg, Ms. Werrell, Mr. West, Mr. Hammel,
Ms. Lazar, Mr. Kivrak, Ms. Moquin, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Cohen

ALONE, SILENTLY

STEPHEN ADDISS

Mr. Hammel, Mr. Cohen

THE SNAIL

STEPHEN ADDISS

Ms. Schadeberg, Ms. Werrell, Mr. West, Mr. Hammel, Mr. Cohen

ALONE, SILENTLY

WILLIAM AVERITT

Ms. Werrell, Mr. West, Mr. Hammel, Ms. Lazar,
Mr. Kivrak, Ms. Moquin, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Cohen

THE SNAIL (SARABANDE)

STEPHAN PROCK

Ms. Werrell, Mr. West, Mr. Hammel, Ms. Lazar,
Mr. Kivrak, Ms. Moquin, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Cohen

Personnel

Jennifer Cable *soprano*
Christine Schadeberg *soprano*
Fred Cohen *baritone and conductor*
Patricia Werrell *flute*
Charles West *clarinet*
Bruce Hammel *bassoon*
Teri Lazar *violin*
Osman Kivrak *viola*
Alyssa Moquin *cello*
Paul Hanson *piano*

NOTES

This concert is presented in conjunction with the Haiku Society of America Annual Meeting at the University of Richmond. Haiku poems consist of three lines, comprising a total of seventeen syllables: five-seven-five.

In Elliot Schwartz's *Four Maine Haiku*, the twelve chromatic pitches are divided into a group of five pitches, a group of four, and a group of three. Each movement consists of seventeen measures using a pre-determined succession of the pitch groups.

Elliot Schwartz is Professor of Music at Bowdoin College.

Robert Gibson's *Four Haiku* is "an attempt at a musical parallel, although there is no fixed number of pitches or rhythms which governs the structure. It is the sense of completeness in a short period of time that I wished to achieve in the musical 'translation.' Each of the poems suggests a season, and taken together they comprise a miniature cycle."

Robert Gibson is Associate Professor of Music at the University of Maryland.

Mel Powell taught at Yale University and became Dean of the school of music at the California Institute of the Arts in 1969. He was an accomplished jazz pianist as well as a highly respected composer using 12-tone technique. In the *Haiku Settings*, he uses interval relations derived from pitch sets to frame the subtle lyricism of the vocal line.

Commissioned Composers

Peter Knell is Assistant Professor of Music at Virginia Commonwealth University.

William Averitt is Professor of Music at Shenandoah Conservatory.

Larry Thomas Bell is Professor of Composition at New England Conservatory.

Walter Ross is Professor of Music at the University of Virginia.

Stephen Addiss is Professor of Art History and Tucker-Boatwright Professor in the Humanities at the University of Richmond.

Stephan Prock is an Instructor of Music at the University of Virginia.