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DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC



FREE Concert Series SPRING 2015 MUSIC

Global Family Concert

Andrew McGraw, director

Sunday, April 12, 2015

3:00 p.m.

UR Westhampton Green

Rain Location: Camp Concert Hall

MUSIC.RICHMOND.EDU

PROGRAM

Sakura (cherry blossom)/ Hana Ikada (flower boat). River City Taiko. "Sakura" is the Japanese word for "cherry blossoms," which bloom early in spring. The song is a popular tune for the 13-string koto. Festivals celebrating the blooming of the sakura – "sakura matsuri" – are common in Japan, and also in the United States. 3 mins.

Aquarela do Brasil. Brazilian Ensemble (MSEN 195). (samba canção) A. Barroso. 3 mins.

Palpite Infeliz. Brazilian Ensemble (MSEN 195). (samba canção) N. Rosa. 3 mins.

Soli. African Drumming Ensemble (MSEN 203). A traditional rhythm played by the Malinke tribes all over Guinea. This rhythm accompanies the rituals of circumcisions and initiations. One would never hear the rhythm without the appropriate rituals. Even though circumcisions are often done in hospitals today, the rhythm still marks the transition to adulthood. When this Soli is played, the elderly may dance. 5 mins.

Gabor. Gamelan Raga Kusuma. A traditional offering dance performed in the Balinese Hindu temple. Dancer: Kania Maniasa. 8 mins.

Oiuchi Daiko. UR Taiko Ensemble (MSEN 203). "Oiuchi-Daiko" was written by Oedo Sukeroku Daiko. Based in Tokyo and still active today, Oedo Sukeroku Daiko is one of the first professional taiko groups. The song incorporates an "x-pattern" style of playing the drum. 5 mins.

Agua de Março. Brazilian Ensemble (MSEN 195). (bossa nova) A.C. Jobim. 3 mins.

Trem das Onze. Brazilian Ensemble (MSEN 195). (samba Paulista) A. Barbosa. 3 mins.

Raga Des, Raga Kafi. Rhiannon Bell and Matthew Brinard, studying sitar at UR this semester, will perform alap (improvisational phrases), jhala (rhythmic patterns). Tabla: Andrew McGraw. 6 mins.

Please silence cell phones, digital watches, and paging devices before the concert.

Kuku. African Drumming Ensemble (MSEN 203). Popular rhythm from the Manian people of Guinea and Ivory Coast. Played at full moon festivals and when women come back from fishing. They would take their fishing tools and dance in a circle. 5 mins.

Hujan Mas. Gamelan Raga Kusuma. An instrumental work in the virtuosic *kebyar* style. 7 mins.

Matsuri. River City Taiko. "Matsuri" is the Japanese word for "festival." This song is based on traditional festival rhythms, and has become one of the most popular taiko songs in North America. "Matsuri battles," in which soloists compete with one another, have become a prominent feature in performances of this song. 5 mins.

Os Boêmios. Brazilian Ensemble (MSEN 195). (choro) A. de Medeiros. 3 mins.

Sorri, Sou Rei. Brazilian Ensemble (MSEN 195). (MPB) Natiruts. 3 mins.

Dunungba. African Drumming Ensemble (MSEN 203). This is a rhythm from the Malinke people of Guinea. This rhythm was originally a pre-war dance done by men. Nowadays this rhythm and dance are done for settling tough, sometimes bloody and violent wrestling matches to determine the superiority between different age groups in the village. 5 mins.

Legong Kraton. Gamelan Raga Kusuma. A traditional Balinese dance work in the *pelegongan* style. Dancer: Kania Maniasa. 8 mins.

Yataibayashi. River City Taiko. This song is based on festival rhythms from Chichibu, a mountainous area outside of Tokyo. Drummers sitting on a festival float ("yatai") play the song as the float is pushed down the street. A separate rhythm is played on smaller drums as the yatai is turned around corners. 5 mins.

Raga Bhairavi. Deepali Keskar, Khem Rautela and Nirmal Bajekal will present a *tarana* in *Raga Bhairavi* with Shreyas Bhalle, Shreyas Kulkarni on *harmonium* and Anand Keskar on *tabla*. The *tarana* is composed by Pandit Ravi Shankar. 6 mins.

Continued

Balanta. African Drumming Ensemble (MSEN 203). This rhythm is from the Balanta people of Guinea and Senegal. This dance represents the warrior tribe known to be the fiercest defenders of their land. They managed to be one of the groups that did not have its lands usurped by Europeans and they still live outside of country borders. 5 mins.

Yodan Uchi. River City Taiko. Yodan Uchi was written by Oedo Sukeroku Daiko. The song includes a lot of movement, with several drummers playing rhythms on four sides ("yodan") of three drums. 5 mins.

STICK AROUND AND TRY THE INSTRUMENTS!

PERFORMERS

Gamelan Raga Kusuma, Andrew McGraw, director:

Naomi Benoit, Tara Cassidy, Philip Codrey, Brooke Colquhoun, Kyle Dossier, Mary Elfner, Paul Fleisher, Derrick Gregory, Ryan Hamlet, Sylvania Knorpp, Brian Larson, Angela Lehman-Rios, Kania Maniasa (dancer), Wayan Mastriyana, Vidya Mastriyana, Becky Nelson, John Priestly, Rex Pyle, Ezekial Reed, Audrey Short, Julie Sidartha, Johnny Skaritz, Lee Wall, Jessica Zike

African Drumming Ensemble, Roderick Davis, director:

Michael Amanuel, Kenton Meronard, Mayer Rosso-Villar, Xinyu Zheng

Brazilian Ensemble, Kevin Harding, director:

Emily Gove, Gwen Setterberg, Felicia Taylor, Sharon Lee, Tenzin Tayang, Mayer Rosso-Villar, Travis Cuddy

River City Taiko, Alasdair Denvil, director:

Akira Suzuki, Alasdair Denvil, Audrey Short, Rika Ogawa, Tadao Uchisawa, Toshiko Saito, Tsugumi Fukuma, Yumiko Hwang

UR Taiko Ensemble, Alasdair Denvil, director:

Azmain Taz, Brigid Riley, Gargi Vyas, Mercy Dela Merced, Qiming Chen, Sequioa Roscoe, Tiffany Adams, Miki McCorkle, Kanae Foreman

University of Richmond students can study African Drumming with Mr. Davis for credit. Sign up for MSEN 203 02: African Drumming.

University of Richmond students can study Japanese Taiko Drumming with Mr. Denvil for credit. Sign up for MSEN 203 01: Japanese Taiko.

University of Richmond students can study Brazilian Music with Mr. Harding for credit. Sign up for MSEN 195.

University of Richmond students can study sitar with Ms. Bajekal. Pre-approval is required, however. Submit a Music Lessons Request Form online at www.music.richmond.edu.

For-credit lessons: MSAP 182.

Non-credit, fee-based lessons: MSAP 082.

ABOUT THE INSTRUMENTS

UR's Ewe drum ensemble was constructed in 2008 by drum-makers in residence at the Ghanaian National Dance Ensemble in Accra, and by Abdallah Zakariah. The Ewe drums are played standing upright, using sticks in both hands, accompanied by bells and rattles. In the Ewe community, associations of drummers come together to learn and perform the repertoire, although participation is open to the community and there are male and (less commonly) female groups.

The Japanese word "taiko" means drum, but since the 1950s it has also referred to a new style of ensemble drumming. It was popularized by composer/performer Oguchi Daihachi (1924-2008) and groups like Sukeroku Taiko, Ondekoza, and Kodo. Many taiko pieces incorporate traditional rhythms into new compositions. Taiko was introduced to the United States by Seiichi Tanaka (b. 1943) when he founded the San Francisco Taiko Dojo in 1968. UR's *chu daiko* ("medium" taiko) were made by Toshi Kato in 2013. Following the American tradition of taiko construction, these drums are built from wine barrels.

UR's Balinese gamelan ensemble was made in 2006 by Pande Sukerta, Bali's foremost gongsmith. All of the instruments were handmade over a period of six months. All of the metal instruments are bronze, a material considered sacred in Bali for its musical qualities. The carved panels recount episodes from the Hindu *Ramayana* epic. The ensemble was sanctified in an elaborate ceremony in November 2007, by the Balinese artist/priest Gusti Putu Sudarta. As is custom in Bali he gave the ensemble a name, Raga Kusuma, that fits its unique sound and is meant to bestow good luck on the performers. "Raga Kusuma" means flowering beauty or love. There are several different types of gamelan, with different tunings and instrumentations, used in different ceremonial and theatrical contexts. This set is an example of the gamelan *semara dana*, a rare seven-tone ensemble (most are five).

Gamelan Raga Kusuma is a community gamelan in residence at the University of Richmond. Founded in 2008 by Andrew McGraw and Gusti Putu Sudarta, the ensemble has appeared in performances in Bali, the Smithsonian Institution, the Indonesian Embassy and in several venues along the East Coast. Membership is free and open to the public. Interested? See: www.ragakusuma.org, our Facebook page or email amcgraw@richmond.edu. Rehearsals are held Thursday evenings 7-9 and Sunday afternoons 3-5 at the Global Music Studio at the Weinstein International Center.

River City Taiko grew out of the University of Richmond Taiko Ensemble, which was founded in 2010 by Prof. Paul Yoon. River City Taiko and its accompanying kids group, Stream City Taiko, are currently based at Sabot at Stony Point. www.rivercitytaiko.org.