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Steinway Artist Vicki Ray To Perform Solo Piano Recital “Exquisite Corps(e)”

The Fall 2014 Shpachenko & Friends Chamber Music Festival will feature special guest pianist Vicki Ray, a Steinway Artist and 2013 Grammy Award nominee, who presents a solo piano concert “Exquisite Corps(e)” on Wednesday, November 5th at 8:00pm in the Music Recital Hall. Ms. Ray will also present a free master class at 12:00pm in the Music Recital Hall that same day.

Tickets for the recital are \$15 general admission and \$10 for students and are available online at <http://csupomona.tix.com> or at the Music Recital Hall Box Office #24-188 one hour before show time and Monday thru Friday from 12-1pm.

The “Exquisite Corps(e)” recital includes a new work co-composed by CalArts current composition faculty as well as works by Mel Powell, James Tenney, Stephen “Lucky” Mosko, and Arthur Jarvinen. Ray will be joined by violinist Sarah Thornblade for the performance of “Trembling” by Morton Subotnick.

Known for thoughtful and innovative programming, Ray seeks to redefine the piano recital in the 21st century with concerts that often include electronics, video, recitation and improvisation. As noted by music critic Alan Rich, *“Vicki plans programs with a knack for marvelous freeform artistry...what she draws from her piano always relates in wondrous ways to the senses.”*

As a founding member of Piano Spheres, an acclaimed series dedicated to exploring the less familiar realms of the solo piano repertoire, her playing has been hailed by the Los Angeles Times for *“displaying that kind of musical thoroughness and technical panache that puts a composer’s thoughts directly before the listener.”*

Described as *“phenomenal and fearless”*, Vicki Ray is one of the leading interpreters of contemporary piano music. A long-time champion of new music she has worked with some of the most prominent composers of our time. Ms. Ray has commissioned and premiered numerous works, running the gamut from established composers to emerging young artists. *“Most of my solo concertizing features work by living composers. This is a responsibility I take extremely seriously. If music, especially the piano repertoire, is to grow and expand in the coming decades then it must have proponents who can translate its myriad challenges to the audience in a passionate, colorful and articulate manner.”*

Ray is currently head of the piano department at the California Institute of the Arts, where she has been on the faculty since 1991. In 2010 she was awarded the first Hal Blaine Chair in Music Performance. For the past six years she has served on the faculty at the Bang on a Can summer festival at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art.

Sarah Thornblade is the associate principal second violin of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. She is an avid chamber musician and a member of both the Eclipse quartet (a new music string quartet) and X-tet. Sarah has performed throughout the country and abroad and her playing has been described by the L.A. Times as *“rapturously winning”* and has been called a *“marvelously versatile violinist”* by the Santa Barbara News. Currently, she is on faculty at Pomona College.

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SHPACHENKO & FRIENDS CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Vicki Ray, piano
with Sarah Thornblade, violin

"EXQUISITE CORPS(E)" a solo piano concert
with a new work co-composed by CalArts current composition faculty



*"Trembling" by Morton Subotnick
performed with violinist Sarah Thornblade*

Works by Mel Powell
James Tenney
Stephen "Lucky" Mosko
Arthur Jarvinen

Wednesday
November 5, 2014
Music Recital Hall

Master Class
with Vicki Ray
12:00pm - Free

Concert
8:00pm
\$15 general
\$10 student

Tickets are available at the Box Office 12-1pm Mon- Fri and
one hour before showtime or online at csupomona.tix.com



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