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Shpachenko & Friends Chamber Music Festival Features New Works for 6 Pianists

Page 1 of 3

An enthusiastic promoter of contemporary music, Cal Poly Pomona music professor and multiple GRAMMY® nominated pianist, Nadia Shpachenko is looking forward to the Winter 2017 Shpachenko & Friends Chamber Music Festival. Dr. Shpachenko is hosting 2 evening performances and 4 master classes with top new music guest artists. The performances will feature the innovative and inspiring Ray-Kallay duo on February 17 and Dr. Shpachenko, Cal Poly Pomona students, staff, and alumni on March 1. One of the most exciting components of this quarter's festival is that CPP piano students will perform 2 newly-written compositions for 6 pianists: Tom Flaherty's "Igor to Please" (inspired by Igor Stravinsky) and James Matheson's "Bagatelle" (inspired by Ludwig van Beethoven) at the Phillip Clark Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser on March 1st at 8:00pm in the Music Recital Hall. Students will perform these piano sextets with Dr. Shpachenko on 3 pianos and 2 toy pianos. Both pieces will also be performed in 4 master classes for the composers of the pieces and the performers who recorded them for Dr. Shpachenko's upcoming album, which will contain new works inspired by older composers. The March 1 concert will also feature Dr. Shpachenko's performances of 2 Piano Concertos: Chopin's Concerto No. 1 and Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody of the Theme of Paganini, with piano students accompanying her, as well as collaborative and solo performances from students, staff and alumni.

Master classes with the Ray-Kallay Duo (comprised of pianists Vicki Ray and Aron Kallay), pianist Genevieve Feiwen Lee, and composers Tom Flaherty and James Matheson will offer coachings and discussions on performances and compositions by CPP students and are free and open to the public.

Concert Performances

Friday, February 17 - **Ray-Kallay Piano Duo Recital**

8:00pm - Tickets \$15 general/\$10 student - Music Recital Hall

Wednesday, March 1 - **Phillip Clarke Memorial Piano Scholarship Fundraiser**

8:00pm - Tickets \$15 general/\$10 student - Music Recital Hall

Master Class Schedule

Thursday, February 9 - **Composition & Performance Master Class with Tom Flaherty**

1:00-3:00pm - Free - Music Recital Hall

Friday, February 17 - **Chamber Music Master Class with The Ray-Kallay Piano Duo**

5:00-7:00pm - Free - Music Building Room #24-105

Thursday, February 23 - **Piano Master Class with Genevieve Lee**

1:00-3:00pm - Free - Music Recital Hall

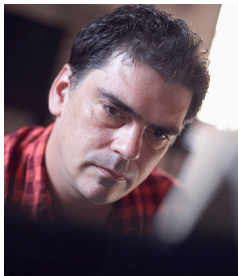
Monday, February 27 - **Composition Workshop & Performance Master Class with James Matheson**

12:00-2:00pm - Free - Music Recital Hall

Event tickets may be purchased online at csupomona.tix.com or at the Music Recital Hall Box Office, #24-188, Monday-Friday 12-1pm and one hour before concert time. Parking \$7. Artists and Events subject to change.

ABOUT THE COMPOSERS

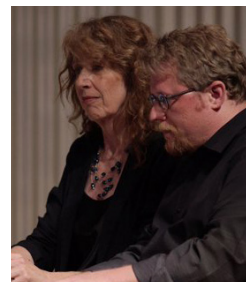
Informed by his experience as a cellist, **Tom Flaherty’s** music is often motivated by colliding rhythms, meters, and tempos, amid widely ranging levels of dissonance. Tom Flaherty has received grants, prizes, awards, and residencies from the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, American Music Center, Meet the Composer, and Yaddo. His music is recorded on the Reference Recordings, Albany, Klavier, Bridge, SEAMUS, Capstone, and Advance labels. Tom Flaherty wrote *Airdancing* and *Part Suite-a* for Nadia Shpachenko’s album “*Woman at the New Piano*,” which was nominated for 58th GRAMMY® Awards in 3 categories, including the Best Chamber Music/Small Ensemble Performance by Nadia Shpachenko and Genevieve Feiwen Lee for his *Airdancing* for Toy Piano, Piano and Electronics. Published by American Composers Editions and G. Schirmer, Inc., his music has been performed widely throughout Europe and North America by such new music ensembles and performers as Volti, Earplay, Dinosaur Annex, Speculum Musicae, Odyssey Chamber Players, Xtet, Ensemble GREEN, and by such performers as Lucy Shelton, David Starobin, Peter Yates, Matthew Elgart, Maggie Parkins, Roger Lebow, Sarah Thornblade, Rachel Huang, Genevieve Feiwen Lee, Nadia Shpachenko, Susan Svrček, Charlotte Zelka, Vicki Ray, Aron Kallay, and Karl and Margaret Kohn. Tom Flaherty currently holds the John P. and Magdalena R. Dexter Professorship in Music and is Director of the Electronic Studio at Pomona College. <http://tomflahertymusic.com/>



New York-based composer **James Matheson** (b. 1970) has rapidly emerged as one of the most distinctive, vital, and creative musical voices of his generation. Among his commissions are works for the New York and Los Angeles Philharmonics, the Chicago and Albany Symphony Orchestras, Carnegie Hall and the St. Lawrence String Quartet. The American Academy of Arts and Letters honored him in December, 2011, with the Charles Ives Living, an award of \$100,000 a year for 2 years (2012-2014). Current and recent commissions include *The Age of Air*, a concerto for two shakuhachi and chamber orchestra; a new solo violin work for Jennifer Koh; and solo piano works for Bruce Levingston and Nadia Shpachenko. James wrote *Cretic Variations* for Nadia Shpachenko’s album “*Woman at the New Piano*,” which was nominated for 58th GRAMMY® Awards in 3 categories. In 2016, Yarlung Records will release a recording of Matheson’s *Violin Concerto*, with soloist Baird Dodge and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra conducted by Esa-Pekka Salonen. The disc will also feature his song cycle, *Times Alone*, performed by soprano Laura Strickling and pianist Thomas Sauer, and *String Quartet*, performed by the Color Field Quartet. From 2009 to 2015, James served as Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic’s innovative Composer Fellowship Program. He is currently Artistic Director of Neighborhood Classics at P.S. 142, a concert series that raises money for one of New York’s most underserved schools through concerts aimed at promoting classical music in the local community. <http://www.jamesmatheson.com/>

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The **Ray-Kallay Duo**, described as having “...grace, power, terrifying technique and a sense of humor all at the same time,” (KPFK) is a genre shattering team dedicated to exploring the sonic possibilities of the multiple keyboard concert. Breaking the mold of the traditional piano duo, Ray-Kallay doesn’t confine itself to the grand piano, often incorporating synthesizers, toy pianos, and keyboards using alternate tuning systems into their highly eclectic concerts. After conquering Enno Poppe’s epic *Rad* for two microtonal keyboards, the duo’s performance of John Cage’s *The Ten Thousand Things* was named a top ten classical concert of 2013 by the LA Times, who called the performance “Exquisite. Every sound sounded considered, alive, worthy of our wonder.” A later studio recording of the same piece garnered them a Grammy nomination for Best Chamber Music Performance. Since



then Ray-Kallay has commissioned and premiered countless works that showcase their unique talents and adventurous spirit, winning them accolades from audiences and presenters alike. Upcoming projects include performances of Mantra by Karlheinz Stockhausen and the premiere of Dylan Mattingly's Dreams and False Alarms. <http://raykallay.com>



A versatile performer of music spanning five centuries, **Genevieve Feiwen Lee** has thrilled audiences on the piano, harpsichord, toy piano, keyboard, and electronics. She enjoys finding music that challenges her to go outside of her comfort zone to sing, speak, act, and play many new instruments. She has appeared as a soloist in France, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, and the Netherlands. For Innova, she recorded Kurt Rohde's ONE for speaking pianist. On Albany, she has a solo piano CD, Elements, featuring works by Tom Flaherty and Philippe Bodin; Looking for Answers, with chamber music by Flaherty; and An American Collage with mezzo-soprano D'Anna Fortunato. She and pianist Nadia Shpachenko recorded two works by Flaherty and Adam Schoenberg for a Reference Recordings CD, Woman at the New Piano, which has been nominated in three categories in the 58th Grammy®

Awards. In the Los Angeles area, Ms. Lee has been a guest performer with XTET, Southwest Chamber Music, and Jacaranda. She is a founding member of the Mojave Trio and also was a member of the Garth Newel Piano Quartet of Virginia and recently performed in Carnegie Hall. She is the Everett S. Olive Professor of Music at Pomona College in California.

Multiple GRAMMY® nominated pianist **Nadia Shpachenko** enjoys bringing into the world things that are outside the box – powerful pieces that often possess unusual sonic qualities or instrumentation. Described by critics as a “truly inspiring and brilliant pianist... spellbinding in sensitivity and mastery of technique,” she performs on piano, toy piano, harpsichord, and percussion in concerts that often also feature recitation, electronics and multimedia. Nadia's concert highlights include solo recitals at Concertgebouw, Carnegie Hall, Bargemusic, the Phillips Collection, and REDCAT @ Disney Hall, as well as numerous appearances as soloist with orchestras in Europe and the Americas.



An enthusiastic promoter of contemporary music, Nadia has given world and national premieres of more than 50 works by Elliott Carter, George Crumb, Daniel Felsenfeld, Tom Flaherty, Annie Gosfield, Vera Ivanova, Leon Kirchner, Amy Beth Kirsten, Hannah Lash, James Matheson, Missy Mazzoli, Harold Meltzer, Adam Schoenberg, Lewis Spratlan, Iannis Xenakis, Peter Yates, and others. Described as “an exceptional recording of newly composed piano works,” Nadia's CD “Woman at the New Piano: American Music of 2013” was nominated for 58th GRAMMY® Awards in 3 categories: Best Classical Compendium, Best Chamber Music/Small Ensemble Performance by Nadia Shpachenko and Genevieve Feiwen Lee for Tom Flaherty's “Airdancing” for Toy Piano, Piano and Electronics, and Producer of the Year, Classical for Marina A. Ledin and Victor Ledin. Nadia's upcoming recording project “Quotations and Homages” features newly-written solo and collaborative works for 6 pianists (performed with Ray-Kallay Duo, HOCKET and Genevieve Feiwen Lee) inspired by a variety of earlier composers and pieces, from Beethoven to Brahms to Stravinsky to Messiaen to Carter to Gubaidulina to The Velvet Underground. Nadia's upcoming recording project “The Poetry of Places” features new solo and collaborative works (performed with pianist Joanne Pearce Martin and percussionists Nick Terry and Ted Atkatz) inspired by diverse buildings.

Nadia Shpachenko is Professor of Music at Cal Poly Pomona University, where she leads the Piano Performance program. She is also on the faculty of Claremont Graduate University, where she teaches Doctoral piano students. Her principal teachers included John Perry, Victor Rosenbaum, and Victor Derevianko. Nadia Shpachenko is a Steinway Artist and a Schoenhut Toy Piano Artist. <http://nadiashpachenko.com>