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**Cal Poly Pomona Music Department Announces Songwriters-in-the-Round Concert**

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***Songwriters-in-the-Round: Vicki Peterson, Shelly Peiken, Bleu, Mike Viola, Eleni Mandell, Kelly Jones, Keaton Simons, Mara Connor, Linus of Hollywood, Arthur Winer, & MC Prototype in concert*** • Thursday, February 16th, 8:00 PM in the Cal Poly Pomona Music Recital Hall. Tickets are \$15 general/\$10 student, available at <http://csupomona.tix.com/Event.aspx?EventCode=924193> or through the Publicity Office, 24-142, (909) 869-3554.

The ***Songwriters-in-the-Round*** concert will be preceded by:

***4th Songwriting Summit*** • Thursday, February 16th, 2:00-5:00 PM in the Cal Poly Pomona Music Recital Hall, 24-191. Master classes are FREE and open to the public.

For more information, please contact Prof. Arthur Winer at [ahwiner@cpp.edu](mailto:ahwiner@cpp.edu).

SPECIAL EVENT: ***Songwriters-in-the-Round: Vicki Peterson, Shelly Peiken, Bleu, Mike Viola, Eleni Mandell, Kelly Jones, Keaton Simons, Mara Connor, Linus of Hollywood, Arthur Winer, & MC Prototype in concert***

The Cal Poly Pomona Music Department and the Songwriter Showcase ensemble are pleased to announce an unusual and diverse group of acclaimed songwriters together in concert for an evening of ***Songwriters-in-the-Round*** Thursday, February 16th, 8:00 PM. Featuring songwriters Vicki Peterson (The Bangles), Shelly Peiken (“What a Girl Wants”), Bleu, Mike Viola (Candy Butchers), Eleni Mandell (The Living Sisters), Kelly Jones, Keaton Simons, Linus of Hollywood, Arthur Winer (MacArthur), & MC Prototype sharing the stage for a night of original music.

Tickets may be purchased online at <http://csupomona.tix.com/Event.aspx?EventCode=924193> or at the box office from 12-1 pm on weekdays. \$15 for general or \$10 with student ID.

The Cal Poly Pomona Music Recital Hall is located at 3801 W. Temple Ave., Pomona, CA 91768.

**About the songwriters:**



• **Vicki Peterson**, a founding member and key songwriter for The Bangles, one of the most successful pop music groups of the 1980s and beyond. Vicki wrote the bulk of the band’s first major label release, including cult favorites “James” and “Hero Takes A Fall.” The Bangles produced many hits including the “Manic Monday” and the #1 hit “Walk Like an Egyptian.” The new millennium saw two new studio albums from the Bangles: *Doll Revolution* and *Sweetheart of the Sun*; world tours followed, winning the band the best critical reviews of its career. More information at <http://www.thebangles.com>

• **Shelly Peiken**, has been a prolific, behind-the-scenes force in the music business for more than two decades, during which time her songs have sold in excess of 50 million records. A Grammy-nominated songwriter, she is best known for penning culturally resonant, female-empowerment anthems such as Christina Aguilera’s No. 1 hit, “What A Girl Wants” and Meredith Brooks’ smash, “Bitch.” Shelly’s songs have been recorded by countless successful artists, including Britney Spears, Celine Dion, The Pretenders, Keith Urban, Cher, Brandy, Demi Lovato, Selena Gomez, Miley Cyrus, The Backstreet Boys, Jessie J,



Natasha Bedingfield, Reba McEntire, and many others. They can be heard in many films and television shows, such as *Orphan Black*, *Glee*, *Smash*, *30 Rock*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Orange Is The New Black*, *What Women Want*, *The Blind Side*, and *The Bourne Identity*. She recently authored the book *Serial Songwriter*. More info at <http://www.shellypeiken.com>



• **Bleu McAuley** is an award-winning independent recording artist and a professional songwriter/producer currently living in Los Angeles, California. He started out his career as an artist, making his debut with Columbia Records in 2003 and touring internationally with acts such as John Mayer, Train, Switchfoot, and Hanson. Early successes included a featured track on the platinum-selling *Spiderman* soundtrack as well as being included in NPR's Top Ten Records of the Year. In 2005 Bleu began to focus more on his songwriting and producing for other artists which has lead to a string of cuts with artists like Demi Lovato, Hanson,

Daniel Powter and includes gold and platinum records with artists such as Selena Gomez, Jonas Brothers, Boys Like Girls, and more. He continues to tour, play house concerts, and release records. More information at <http://www.bleutopia.com>

• **Mike Viola** is the new Verve Label Group (VLG) Vice-President of A&R. Based out of Universal Music Group's Santa Monica, California headquarters, Viola was recently appointed to this newly created position as part of Universal Music's re-organized division. A prolific Los Angeles-based singer, songwriter, producer and recording artist, Mike Viola first came into the national spotlight as founder and front man of the Candy Butchers. After three albums with Sony, Mike became known for not only creating music for award-winning films *Get Him To The Greek*, *Walk Hard*, *That Thing You Do!*, but also writing and producing for artists that include Panic! At The Disco, Ryan Adams, Jenny Lewis, Andrew McMahon, Matt Nathanson, New Politics, Fall Out Boy, Brett Dennen, and Mandy Moore. <http://mikeviola.com/mv.html>



• **Eleni Mandell** has released ten critically acclaimed solo records and three records with her band, The Living Sisters. A native of Los Angeles, she is inspired by the landscape of her hometown and the nation; by words, melodies and even her two children who have toured the country and Europe with her multiple times. A collection of songs written by Mandell and sung by the likes of Jackson Browne, Priscilla Ahn, Inara George (Bird and Bee) and others, is due to be released in 2016 on Yep Roc Records. <http://elenimandell.com>

• **Keaton Simons** has enjoyed international recognition for his role in the singer-songwriter/pop world while on major labels Maverick and CBS Records. The Los Angeles Times described the voice of their native son as having a "lived-in quality that will echo in our minds and hearts for years to come." In 2008 Keaton released his first full-length album, *Can You Hear Me*, co-produced with David Bianco (Tom Petty, Bob Dylan) and in 2013 followed with *Beautiful Pain*, co-produced with Mikal Blue (Colbie Caillat, Jason Mraz). Proving that genres are just a state of mind, Keaton Simons has even had success in the hip hop world as a writer, musical director, singer, bassist and guitarist with notable acts like Chris Cornell, Snoop Dogg, Gnarls Barkley, Tre Hardson of The Pharcyde and underground hip hop legend Medusa. He's also performed on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson*, *Last Call with Carson Daly* and *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*. Keaton's music is regularly placed in feature films and television shows, including *Suits*, *Miss Sloane*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *Private Practice*, *NCIS*, *Malcolm in the Middle* and *Numb3rs*.

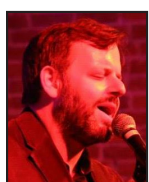


• **Prof. Kelly Jones** teaches songwriting in Cal Poly Pomona's Music Department. She is an accomplished vocalist and songwriter who has worked with artists and producers Teddy Thompson, Richard Thompson, Buddy Miller, Daniel Lanois, Mike Viola, Adam Schlesinger, and Brian Blade. In addition to her work as a solo artist, Kelly played bass and sang backing vocals as a part of Mandy Moore's band on *Ellen*, *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Jimmy Fallon*, and *The View*. She tours Europe and Japan singing with Brian Blade's *Mama Rosa* project. Her latest album is *Little Windows*, a collaboration with Teddy Thompson. <http://kellyjones.com>



• **Linus of Hollywood** is a singer/songwriter and record producer from Hollywood, CA, whose solo music puts a modern twist on classic 1960's/1970's pop themes. He's released six solo albums since 1999, with *Something Good* released in 2014. His solo music has been featured in the hit TV shows *Weeds* and *Californication*, and his songwriting and production skills have been called on by a diverse group of artists (Cheap Trick, Diddy, Charlatans UK, Bowling For Soup to name a few). He is currently composing music for TV/Film and commercials (*Team Hot Wheels*, *Modern Family*, *Barbie*, *Lalaloopsy*).  
<http://www.linusofhollywood.com>

• **Mara Connor** is a singer/songwriter from Los Angeles and a graduate of Vassar College. She is currently finishing her debut album in Nashville with Andrija Tokic (producer of Alabama Shakes), featuring Langhorne Slim & Joseph Arthur. As a songwriter, Mara recently wrote the debut single for Alexandra Shipp (star of *X-Men*) and was chosen to participate in the annual Lester Sill Songwriters Workshop in LA as well as the ASCAP Foundation New York Songwriters Workshop.



• **Prof. Arthur Winer** (host) teaches music technology, the recording arts, songwriting, music business and more in the Music Industry Studies program at Cal Poly Pomona. He is the creator and director of the *Songwriter Showcase* concert series. Prof. Winer is also the founder and songwriter for the indie rock band MacArthur. MacArthur's 13 song album *The Fall Guy* is available at  
<http://macarthur.bandcamp.com>.

• **Will Bissic AKA MC Prototype** is an alumnus of Cal Poly Pomona's Music Industry Studies program. Bissic has competed on two National Poetry Slam teams, performed at the world's largest Independent Hip Hop Festival, and has taught workshops on writing, performing, and music business. More information at  
<http://mcprototype.com>



### About the Songwriter Showcase ensemble

In 2007, Prof. Arthur Winer hosted a master class with acclaimed songwriter Mike Viola. Mike was running a bit late, so Prof. Winer had students go up on stage and perform to pass the time. Prof. Winer quickly realized that students performing original songs would make a fabulous concert, and the *Songwriter Showcase* emerged.

Now, the *Songwriter Showcase* is an official Music Department ensemble to promote the creativity of Cal Poly Pomona's student songwriters. Songwriters from throughout the University perform original songs in all styles of popular music accompanied by producers, musicians and vocalists from the Music department.

Cal Poly Pomona students must audition original songs to be included in the 14<sup>th</sup> *Songwriter Showcase*. This year's auditions will be held January 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. The 14<sup>th</sup> *Songwriter Showcase* concerts will take place May 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in the Music Recital Hall. For more information, please contact Prof. Arthur Winer at [ahwiner@cpp.edu](mailto:ahwiner@cpp.edu).