

For Details, Contact:

Teresa Kelly, Music Department Publicist
 Email: tkelly@cpp.edu
 Phone: 909-869-3554

Cal Poly Pomona Music Department

3801 W. Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768
 Phone: 909-869-3554 Fax: 909-869-4145
 Website: <http://www.cpp.edu/~class/music/>

For Immediate Release: September 28, 2016

Fall 2016 Shpachenko & Friends Chamber Music Festival Features Top New Music Performers *Page 1 of 3*

An enthusiastic promoter of contemporary music, Cal Poly Pomona music professor and multiple GRAMMY® nominated pianist, Nadia Shpachenko welcomes top new music performers to her Fall 2016 Shpachenko & Friends Chamber Music Festival. The “brilliant” (Los Angeles Times) HOCKET Ensemble, GRAMMY® nominated Ray-Kallay Duo, and GRAMMY® nominated pianist Genevieve Feiwen Lee will perform with Shpachenko on October 20th at 8:00pm in the Music Recital Hall.

For her album “Woman at the New Piano” Shpachenko commissioned composer Tom Flaherty to write a piece for piano, toy piano, and electronics entitled “Airdancing,” which she and pianist Genevieve Lee premiered and performed many times, earning a GRAMMY® nomination for their recorded performance. For her upcoming album release, which will contain new works inspired by older composers, Shpachenko commissioned Flaherty to write a new piece and double the instrumentation to include 2 pianos, 2 toy pianos, and electronics; and to triple the performers to 6 pianists. The October 20 concert will feature 2 compositions for 6 pianists: Tom Flaherty’s “Igor to Please” (inspired by Igor Stravinsky) and James Matheson’s “Bagatelle” (inspired by Ludwig van Beethoven), which will be recorded by Shpachenko-Lee, HOCKET and Ray-Kallay duos for Shpachenko’s upcoming album. The October 20th concert will also feature Genevieve Feiwen Lee and HOCKET Ensemble performing piano solo and duet compositions by Beethoven, Mayke Nas, Alexander Elliott Miller, Michael Laurello, and Andy Akiho, as well as the West Coast Premiere of an additional piece by Matheson entitled “Alone, in Waters Shimmering and Dark” for solo piano, which will be performed by Shpachenko and included on her upcoming album featuring new works inspired by buildings.

Additional events for the festival will include a master class and recital by pianist Alexander Tselyakov, a leading Canadian pianist who has won top prizes in major piano competitions and will be presenting a varied program of traditional and new compositions by Chopin, Ravel, Scriabin, Carrabré and Gougeon; a piano master class by HOCKET Ensemble; and a chamber music master class and music industry workshop by 5 time GRAMMY® winning producer Elaine Martone.

FESTIVAL EVENTS (all events take place in the Music Recital Hall)

- Thursday, October 13 - **Alexander Tselyakov Piano Master Class** - 1:00-3:00pm Free
- Friday, October 14 - **Alexander Tselyakov Piano Recital** - 8:00pm \$15 general/\$10 student
- Thursday, October 20 - **HOCKET Ensemble Piano Master Class** - 1:00-3:00pm Free
- Thursday, October 20 - **Concert featuring Nadia Shpachenko, Genevieve Feiwen Lee, HOCKET Ensemble, and Ray-Kallay Duo** - 8:00pm \$15 general/\$10 student
- Monday, November 21 - **Elaine Martone Chamber Music Master Class/Music Industry Workshop** - 10:00 am-12:00pm Free

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 ARTISTS

HOCKET is a cutting edge piano duo based in Los Angeles. Brought together by their passion for sharing exciting and eclectic chamber music with the world, members Sarah Gibson and Thomas Kotcheff are both pianist-composers dedicated to commissioning and performing contemporary music. They have performed in some of the most exciting festivals and venues across the country including The Bang on Can Summer Music Festival at MASS MoCA, The Center for New Music in San Francisco, and the Carlsbad Music Festival. Together, they have premiered dozens of chamber and solo piano works and have collaborated with the premier, new music ensembles eighth blackbird and the Bang on a Can All-Stars. HOCKET is a recipient of a Presser Foundation Award to fund two upcoming commercial recordings and has been a selected artist in Firebird Ensemble’s Outstanding Young Artists Initiative. HOCKET is a performing artist on the Schoenhut Piano Company Artist Roster and has been hailed as “brilliant” by Los Angeles Times’ Mark Swed. HOCKET started the current 2015/2016 season as fellows at The Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival followed immediately by a residency at the Avaloch Farm Music Institute where they collaborated with three Kettle Corn New Music composers on new commissions. This season will also include performances in San Francisco, Carlsbad Music Festival, and residencies at The University of Las Vegas and California State University Long Beach. HOCKET is excited to release their debut album this Fall. <http://www.hocket.org>



Sarah Gibson and Thomas Kotcheff

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>



Aron Kallay and Vicki Ray

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



Genevieve Feiwen Lee

Fall 2016 Shpachenko & Friends Chamber Music Festival Features Top New Music Performers Page 3 of 3

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.



Nadia Shpachenko

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>

###