



ZELTSMAN MARIMBA FESTIVAL

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85 MUSICIANS GATHER IN NEW BRUNSWICK FOR ZELTSMAN MARIMBA FESTIVAL JUNE 28 – JULY 11

ZMF 2015 CONCERT SERIES AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY FEATURES WORLD-CLASS FACULTY / PERFORMERS

Pius Cheung • Emmanuel Séjourné • Julie Spencer • Gordon Stout
Mike Truesdell • Jack Van Geem • Nancy Zeltsman & more!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mike Truesdell
mike@ZMF.us
608-347-2029

New Brunswick, NJ—Zeltsman Marimba Festival 2015 at Rutgers University, co-sponsored by Mason Gross School of the Arts, is the 13th edition of one of the world's premier marimba events. The two-week festival (which changes location each year) has a two-fold mission: to educate marimba performers, and to share exceptional marimba music with the community.

Participants work closely with faculty in an intensive, fun, music-seminar environment centered on marimba performance. The world-class faculty, participants and guests are featured in a series of ten concerts to which the public is warmly invited. The ZMF 2015 Concert Series presents music in diverse styles, and offers an unparalleled chance to experience the versatility of the marimba and hear an impressive slate of performers. This summer marks ZMF's first visit to Rutgers.

ZMF 2015 will bring together more than 85 performers and composers—international virtuosi and dedicated up-and-coming artists—assembling in New Brunswick from 18 states across the U.S. as well as Mexico, Colombia, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Japan, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Many past participants have gone on to describe their experience at ZMF as “life-changing.”

[MORE]

OF SPECIAL INTEREST — Michael Tilson Thomas' "Island Music"

The July 3rd concert at 7:30 pm at Rutgers' Nicholas Auditorium offers a special treat: San Francisco Symphony maestro Michael Tilson Thomas' stunning percussion composition.

"The 30-minute work is "a doozy, beginning in mystery and closing in riotous celebration. The island in question is Bali, and one of the currents that flows into the music is gamelan (both its sounds and the development of its rhythmic structures). But the piece also reflects the origins of the [marimba], the melting pot of American popular music of the '30s ... and Tilson Thomas's informed knowledge of such folk-influenced concert works as Bartok's Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion. Simply sensational."
– The Boston Globe

ZMF 2015 CONCERT SERIES

Ten world-class concerts featuring ZMF 2015's Faculty and guest artists

All concerts will take place on the Rutgers University campus.

Admission: \$15 adults | \$10 students/seniors | \$5 afternoon concerts (all)

Cash, credit or checks accepted | Advance sales via www.ZMF.us / "2015 Concerts"

Performer biographies at www.ZMF.us / "Faculty & Guests"

Mike Truesdell / Marimolin Reunion

Sunday, June 28 7:30 PM Schare Recital Hall / Marryott Music Building

- Percussion virtuoso Truesdell draws fascinating connections between fascinating pieces.
- Marimolin, the duo of marimbist Nancy Zeltsman and violinist Sharan Leventhal, was much celebrated from 1985 to 1996. This rare concert commemorates 30 years since their debut!

Emmanuel Séjourné / Brandon Ilaw

Wednesday, July 1 7:30 PM Rehearsal Hall 104 / Nicholas Music Center

- ZMF 2015 Showcase Artist Brandon Ilaw was a 2014 prize-winner of the prestigious Tromp International Percussion Competition (the Netherlands).
- From Strasbourg, France, the celebrated percussionist/composer Emmanuel Séjourné will perform an eclectic and fun program on vibraphone and marimba including his compositions.

ZMF Weekend: Julie Spencer / "Island Music"

Friday, July 3 7:30 PM Nicholas Auditorium / Nicholas Music Center

- Faculty artist Julie Spencer will perform some of her best-loved, most soulful, unique works.
- Michael Tilson Thomas' unforgettable percussion adventure will feature the two soloists for whom the piece was composed: Jack Van Geem and Nancy Zeltsman. (More at top of page)

ZMF Weekend: Rutgers Youth Percussion Ensemble

Saturday, July 4 2:00-2:50 PM Rehearsal Hall 104 / Nicholas Music Center

Directed by Peter Saleh, students in grades 9-12 bring the percussion section front and center.

ZMF Weekend: Nancy Zeltsman / various artists

Saturday, July 4 7:30 PM Rehearsal Hall 104 / Nicholas Music Center

- ZMF's Artistic Director debuts her new solo marimba program "Rendezvous" (and also commemorates the 30th anniversary of Andrew Thomas' landmark marimba solo, "Merlin").
- The second half of the concert includes a colorful array of pieces performed by ZMF faculty and other artists.

[MORE]

ZMF Weekend: Excelsis Percussion Quartet

Sunday, July 5 4:30-5:20 PM Rehearsal Hall 104 / Nicholas Music Center
Four outstanding women percussionists who are elevating the art form!

ZMF Weekend: Pius Cheung / Yuhan Su

Sunday, July 5 7:30 PM Shindell Choral Hall / Mortensen Hall

- Showcase Artist Yuhan Su (from Taiwan) will perform a set of solo and chamber music including saxophone, guitar and voice.
- Pius Cheung, the extraordinary Chinese/Canadian marimbist/percussionist and Young Concert Artists winner, will perform original pieces and music of Bach, Piazzolla and Paul McCartney.

Jack Van Geem / Stephanie Webster

Wednesday, July 8 7:30 PM Schare Recital Hall / Marryott Music Building

- ZMF Showcase Artist Stephanie Webster brings music from the 70s' Nueva Cancion in Latin America—a time of political turmoil and social injustices reflected in expressive music.
- Jack Van Geem (recently retired Principal Percussionist of the San Francisco Symphony after 32 years) will perform his new solo marimba program “Music of Argentina.”

Gordon Stout / various Artists

Friday, July 10 7:30 PM Rehearsal Hall 104 / Nicholas Music Center

- Marimba-world legend Gordon Stout will perform a set of his own compositions for marimba, percussion and drum set, joined by ZMF participants and other guests.
- The concert opens with a colorful assortment of pieces to surprise, challenge and entertain!

Participants Marathon Concert

Saturday, July 11 1:00-5:00 PM Rehearsal Hall 104 / Nicholas Music Center
Your chance to hear over 40 impressive marimba performers in solo and ensemble settings.

About Zeltsman Marimba Festival

Zeltsman Marimba Festival is a world-class music festival that brings together top faculty from around the world with participants looking for an intensive learning and performing opportunity. Since 2001, the festival has been held nearly every summer in varying locations in order to reach more participants and audiences—including Wisconsin, Massachusetts, California, New Jersey, as well as the Netherlands, Japan and China! ZMF is regarded as the highlight of the marimba calendar.

The festival is the brainchild of Nancy Zeltsman, a leading marimba performer, recording artist, teacher, author and festival director. Since 1993, she has taught marimba in positions that were created for her at Berklee College of Music and at The Boston Conservatory, where she is Chair of the Percussion Department. Nancy created ZMF to bring people together to share unforgettable, stimulating musical experiences in an atmosphere of support and camaraderie.

“Marimbists aren’t household names, but we hope the public will take a leap of faith and come out to hear some remarkable performances, and exciting, thought-provoking, and moving music,” says Zeltsman.

For more information about the Zeltsman Marimba Festival, visit www.ZMF.us.

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