STANFORD CELEBRATES “VISIONS OF ASIAN MUSIC” WITH THE SIXTH ANNUAL STANFORD PAN-ASIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL PRESENTED FEBRUARY 05-21 ON THE STANFORD CAMPUS

http://panasianmusicfestival.stanford.edu

STANFORD, CA – January 13, 2010 – Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival artistic director and founder Jindong Cai has announced details of the 2009 festival, to be presented February 05-20 at Stanford University.

Highlights include:

• A concert entitled “Do You See My Heart?” by Iran’s multi-talented – and controversial -musician Mohsen Namjoo
• A performance of “Seen and Unseen” by Gamelan Sekar Jaya showcasing the exhilarating gamelan music and dance traditions of Bali, a feast for ears and eyes
• An impressive line-up of guest artists and collaborators, including the St. Lawrence String Quartet; virtuoso percussionist Beibei Wang, visiting from China; versatile koto player Shoko Hikage; and a special collaborative performance by some of the Bay Area’s most talented Asian instrumental masters
• An opportunity to meet some of the most talented and sought-after Asian composers and listen to their innovative orchestral works, including Tan Dun’s Concerto for Paper and Orchestra; Zhou Long’s Poems from Tang; Takuma Itoh’s Concerto for String Quartet and Orchestra; and Dohi Moon’s Fragile Wave for Laptop Computers and Orchestra
• Elegant Gatherings, a series of live performance and demonstration events exploring music and its relationship to ink painting, calligraphy, poetry, healing, and faith in Chinese tradition (in collaboration with Cantor Arts Center)

Now in its sixth year, the Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival has established itself as one of the most important Asian music festivals in the U.S. The festival is dedicated to promoting an understanding and appreciation of music in contemporary Asia through an annual series of concerts and academic activities. Each year the festival features an art form or geographical region. This year, we will focus on Asian music in a visual context, incorporating dance, calligraphy, painting, and performance into the music-making process.

As Professor Cai notes, “In many Asian musical traditions, music has never been absolute - it has always been related to other art forms and had social content. In other words, it has always been
‘multi-media.’ I hope this festival will serve as a looking glass through which people can literally see – as well as hear – the colorful musical traditions we are featuring.”

Our guest artists will be joined by Stanford's own talented ensembles and together will present outstanding traditional and contemporary music from Asia. The Stanford Symphony Orchestra, Stanford Philharmonia Orchestra, Stanford New Ensemble, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet will perform works by Mohammed Nejad (Iran), Zhou Long (China), Tan Dun (China), Dohi Moon (Korea), Chen Yi (China), and Takuma Itoh (Japan), among others. Additionally, many of the composers and guest artists will participate in pre- and post-concert discussions to discuss a range of topics with audience members.

**STANFORD PAN-ASIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL 2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

1. **Opening Night:**  
   **Deladidi: Do You See My Heart?**  
   An Evening with Iranian Musician Mohsen Namjoo  
   (in collaboration with Stanford Iranian Studies)  
   Friday, February 5, 2010, 8:00 PM in Dinkelspiel Auditorium  
   (7:00 pm pre-concert talk: *Music in Iran after the Revolution* with Mr. Namjoo)  
   Tickets $20/$10  
   Praised as Iran’s Bob Dylan, the controversial performer Mohsen Namjoo (b. 1976) presents a program stemming from his unique experience of Iranian musical and spiritual traditions; fellow Iranian musicians from the Bay Area will join the performance.

2. **Asian Masters and Stanford New Ensemble**  
   Saturday, February 6, 2010, 8:00 PM in Dinkelspiel Auditorium  
   Tickets $10/$5  
   The Stanford New Ensemble featuring a diverse array of accomplished Asian instrumental soloists to present an exciting program of solo, ensemble, and improvised works. Featuring performances by Mohammed Nejad (Iran), Yongping Tian (China), Shoko Hikage (Japan), and Shriram Brahmanandam (India), among others.

3. **Saint Lawrence String Quartet and Stanford Philharmonia, Jindong Cai, conductor**  
   Friday, February 12, 2010, 8:00 pm in Dinkelspiel Auditorium.  
   Tickets $10/5  
   The St. Lawrence String Quartet will join forces with the Stanford Philharmonia Orchestra presenting the West Coast premiere of young Japanese-American composer Takuma Itoh’s *Concerto for String Quartet and Orchestra*. The concert also will feature Hawaii-based Canadian composer Neil McKay’s koto concerto *Voice of the Phoenix*, as well as Menlo Park native Henry Cowell’s *Ongaku* (1957).

4. **Sekala-Niskala: Seen and Unseen (world premiere)**
An Evening with Gamelan Sekar Jaya  
Saturday, February 13, 2010, 8:00 in Dinkelspiel Auditorium  
Tickets $20/10  
The Bay Area premiere gamelan ensemble Gamelan Sekar Jaya—aclaimed internationally for its innovative work with the music and dance of Bali—performs the world premiere of Sekala-Niskala: Seen and Unseen, a new music-dance suite exploring the Balinese concept of the visible and invisible worlds. Spanning works both centuries old and newly created, the concert will focus on creative exploration and collaboration across cultures—themes that have helped define the fifty-member "Bay Area treasure" (Danceteria).

5.  
**Paper and Poetry, Fire and Waves**  
An Evening with the Stanford Symphony Orchestra, Jindong Cai, conductor  
Friday, February 20, 2010, 8:00 pm in Dink  
Tickets $10/5  
The concert will feature the husband and wife composers Zhou Long and Chen Yi and their works: Song of Eight Unruly Tipsy Poets from Tang by Zhou Long, and Rhyme of Fire by Chen Yi. In collaboration with Chinese percussionist Beibei Wang, the Stanford Symphony Orchestra will present Tan Dun’s iconic Concerto for Paper and Orchestra, as well as the world premiere of Korean composer Dohi Moon’s Fragile Waves for laptop computers and orchestra.

6.  
**Elegant Gatherings**  
"Elegant gatherings" is an ancient term used to describe a gathering of scholars and artists who come together to share of their knowledge, and of themselves, deepening friendships as they cultivate their respective scholarly and artistic pursuits.

Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival, in collaboration with the Cantor Arts Center, will present a series of “elegant gatherings” to accompany the Cantor Arts Center’s exhibition “Tracing the Past.” Curated by Professor Jindong Cai, each evening will explore music (with live performance and demonstration), and its relationship to ink painting, calligraphy, poetry, faith, and healing in Chinese tradition.

Gathering I: “禪”  
"Seeking Zen: Brush, Ink, Music"  
A Buddhist monk master, a calligrapher and a qin (ch’in) player will demonstrate the artistic paths that lead them to faith.  
February 18, 2010, 7:30PM in Cantor Center Auditorium

Gathering II “藥”  
"Healing: Mind, Body, and Music"  
The Chinese character medicine (yao) is comprised of two parts; the top means grass or herb and the bottom means music or joy. This evening will demonstrate how music and art are related to joy and healing through such practices as qi gong and acupuncture.  
April 8, 2010, 7:30PM in Cantor Center Auditorium
Gathering III “修”
“Cultivating the Self: Poetry, Painting, and Music”
A scholar, in traditional China, was expected to write poetry, practice calligraphy, paint, and make music with near-equal accomplishment. This session will explore how language and poetry relate with music and art.
May 27, 2010, 7:30PM in Cantor Center Auditorium

7.
Tracing the past, initiating the future
The Pan-Asian Music Festival in collaboration with Cantor Arts Center and the Center for East Asian Studies present an international interdisciplinary Symposium on the historical, cultural, and theoretical reconstructions of 20th Century China
Friday-Saturday-Sunday 19-20-21, 2010 in Dinkelspiel Auditorium

For a complete and updated list of events, please visit:
http://panasianmusicfestival.stanford.edu

TICKETS AND VENUE INFORMATION
All concerts are at Stanford University venues. Tickets can be purchased through the Stanford Ticket Office (650) 725-ARTS (2787). Ticket prices are $5 - $50 with discounts for groups of 10 or more. Several events are free. For details and online tickets, please visit the festival website: http://panasianmusicfestival.stanford.edu

ABOUT THE STANFORD PAN-ASIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL
Nationally recognized as an important forum for Asian music, the Stanford Pan-Asian Music Festival is dedicated to promoting an understanding and appreciation of music in contemporary Asia through a series of concerts, commissions, artist residencies, academic events and lecture-demonstrations. Festival founder and artistic director, Stanford Professor Jindong Cai is director of orchestral studies and conductor of the Stanford Symphony Orchestra. The festival is presented by the Stanford Institute for Creativity and the Arts (SICA); Office of the Dean, School of Humanities and Sciences; and the Stanford Department of Music. The festival is presented in collaboration with Stanford Lively Arts and the Department of Iranian Studies. For more information, visit http://panasianmusicfestival.stanford.edu.

ABOUT THE STANFORD ARTS INITIATIVE
The Stanford Arts Initiative is fundamentally re-imagining the role of the arts in a 21st-century education and the way the Stanford community engages with the arts across all campus programs. The arts are about creativity, though creativity is not limited to the arts. Intuition and imagination are integral to all research. The initiative builds upon Stanford University’s strengths at the intersection of the arts, science, and technology, while creating a shared language that bridges cultures and promotes understanding. The recently established Stanford Institute for Creativity and the Arts (SICA) is leading the implementation and oversight of the Arts
Initiative’s many objectives by fueling collaborations between the arts and other disciplines through diverse programs, performances, and campus residencies.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
The Department of Music at Stanford was established in 1947. It currently has over 100 students in its undergraduate and graduate programs and over 800 students from other areas of the University participate in ensembles, music courses, or private instruction. Performing ensembles within the music program cover a wide spectrum of musical interests, including Taiko and Mariachi, 20th century composers and medieval music, instrumental and vocal groups from symphonic and chamber music to jazz and new music, and a number of student-run a cappella groups. Together, the groups present over 150 concerts a year in the Department's six venues, which range in size from intimate to impressive.

NOTE TO EDITORS:
To schedule artist interviews, obtain high-resolution images or request more information, contact Alexander Sigman: atsigman@stanford.edu, 650.279.4278

PSA/Calendar Listing Narrative:
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