



INTERLOCHEN

Presents

Interlochen, Michigan

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VIJAY IYER

Saturday, October 13, 2018
7:30pm Milliken Auditorium

PROGRAM

Selections to be announced from the stage

Composer-pianist **VIJAY IYER** (pronounced “VID-jay EYE-yer”) has carved out a unique path as an influential, prolific and shape-shifting presence in modern music. He was described by *Pitchfork* as “one of the most interesting and vital young pianists in jazz today,” by the *Los Angeles Weekly* as “a boundless and deeply important young star,” and by Minnesota Public Radio as “an American treasure.” A musical innovator, an active collaborator, and a member of multiple artistic communities, Iyer continues to reimagine the role of the musician in the 21st century.

Iyer has been voted *DownBeat Magazine's* Artist of the Year four times—in 2018, 2016, 2015 and 2012—and Artist of the Year in *Jazz Times' Critics' and Readers' Polls* for 2018. Iyer was named a 2017 United States Artists Fellow, a 2013 MacArthur Fellow, and a 2012 Doris Duke Performing Artist. In 2014 he received a lifetime appointment as the Franklin D. and Florence Rosenblatt Professor of the Arts in the Department of Music at Harvard University.

Iyer has released 22 albums covering remarkably diverse terrain, most recently for the ECM label. The latest of those is *Far from Over* (2017), the first from the Vijay Iyer Sextet. The record was ranked #1 in National Public Radio's annual Jazz Critics' Poll, surveying 157 critics. Iyer's Sextet was voted 2018 Jazz Group of the Year by the Jazz Journalists Association. Iyer's previous ECM releases include *A Cosmic Rhythm with Each Stroke* (2016), a collaboration with Iyer's “hero, friend and teacher,” Wadada Leo Smith; *Break Stuff* (2015), with a coveted five-star rating in *DownBeat Magazine*, featuring the Vijay Iyer Trio; *Mutations* (2014), featuring Iyer's music for piano, string quartet and electronics; and *Radhe Radhe: Rites of Holi* (2014), performed by International Contemporary Ensemble and released on DVD and BluRay.

Iyer's trio (Iyer, piano; Marcus Gilmore, drums; Stephan Crump, bass) made its name with three tremendously acclaimed and influential albums: *Break Stuff* (2015), *Accelerando* (2012) and *Historicity* (2009). *Accelerando* was voted #1 Jazz Album of the Year for 2012 by *DownBeat*, *Jazz Times* and *Rhapsody*, and also was chosen as jazz album of the year by NPR, the *Los Angeles Times*, *PopMatters* and Amazon.com. The Vijay Iyer Trio was named 2015 Jazz Group of the year in the *DownBeat* International Critics Poll, with Iyer having earlier received an unprecedented “quintuple crown” in the 2012 *DownBeat* Poll (winning Jazz Artist of the Year, Pianist of the Year, Jazz Album of the Year, Jazz Group of the Year, and Rising Star Composer categories). *Historicity* was a 2010 Grammy Nominee for Best Instrumental Jazz Album, and was named #1 Jazz Album of 2009 in *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Detroit Metro Times*, National Public Radio, *PopMatters.com*, the *Village Voice Jazz Critics Poll*, and the *DownBeat* International Critics Poll, and the trio won the 2010 ECHO Award for best international ensemble.

Iyer's 2013 collaboration with poet Mike Ladd, *Holding It Down: The Veterans' Dreams Project*, based on the dreams of veterans of color from America's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, was hailed as #1 Jazz Album of the Year by the *Los Angeles Times* and described in *JazzTimes* as “impassioned, haunting, [and] affecting.” Along with their previous projects *In What Language?* (2004) and *Still Life with Commentator* (2007),

Holding It Down rounded out a trilogy of politically searing albums about post-9/11 American life.

Iyer's musical accomplishments extend well beyond his recordings. His recent composer commissions include *Torque* (2018) written for So Percussion; *Asunder* (2017) written for Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and St. Paul Chamber Orchestra; *Trouble* (2017) for Violin and Orchestra, written for Jennifer Koh and premiered at Ojai and Tanglewood Music Festivals; *City of Sand* (2017) for A Far Cry plus members of Silk Road Ensemble; *Run*, a solo cello overture to Bach's Suite in C Major, written for Matt Haimovitz; *Bridgetower Fantasy* (2015) for violin and piano, a companion piece to Beethoven's "Kreutzer" Sonata, written for Ms. Koh and Shai Wosner; *Playlist for an Extreme Occasion* (2012) written for Silk Road Ensemble; *Dig The Say*, written for Brooklyn; *Mozart Effects* (2011) and *Time, Place, Action* (2014) for Brentano String Quartet; *Bruits* (2014) for Imani Winds and pianist Cory Smythe; *Rimpa Transcriptions* (2012) written for Bang on a Can All-Stars; *UnEasy* (2011) commissioned by NYC's Summerstage in collaboration with choreographer Karole Armitage; *Three Fragments* (2011) for Darcy James Argue's Secret Society. His orchestral work *Interventions* was commissioned and premiered by the American Composers Orchestra in 2007 under the baton of Dennis Russell Davies. His concert works are published by Schott Music. An active electronic musician and producer, Iyer displays his digital audio artistry on his own recordings *Still Life with Commentator*, *Holding it Down*, *Mutations*, and *Radhe Radhe*, and in his remixes for British Asian electronica pioneer Talvin Singh, Islamic punk band The Kominas, and composer-performer Meredith Monk.

Iyer was voted the 2010 Musician of the Year by the Jazz Journalists Association, and named one of 2011's "50 Most Influential Global Indians" by GQ India. Other honors include the Greenfield Prize, the Alpert Award in the Arts, the New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship, the India Abroad Publisher's Special Award for Excellence, and numerous critics' prizes.

A polymath whose career has spanned the sciences, the humanities and the arts, Iyer received an interdisciplinary Ph.D. in the cognitive science of music from the University of California, Berkeley. Prior to his permanent appointment at Harvard in 2014, Iyer taught at Manhattan School of Music, New York University and The New School. He is the Director of The Banff Centre's International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music, an annual 3-week program in Alberta, Canada. He has been featured as Artist-in-Residence at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, Wigmore Hall in London, the Molde Jazz Festival in Norway, SF Jazz, and Jazz Middelheim in Antwerp, Belgium, and served as Music Director for the 2017 Ojai Music Festival in southern California. He will be the Composer-in-Residence at Wigmore Hall for 2019-20. He is a Steinway artist and uses Ableton Live software.

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UPCOMING HIGHLIGHT OF THE 2018-19 IAA PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

Sphinx Virtuosi

October 22, 7:30pm ~ Dendrinos Chapel and Recital Hall

The Detroit-based Sphinx Virtuosi is one of the nation's most dynamic professional chamber orchestras. Comprised of 18 of the nation's top Black and Latino classical soloists, these alumni of the internationally renowned Sphinx Competition come together each fall as cultural ambassadors to reach new audiences. This show highlights the impressive talent of this assemblage, as well as the importance of their mission, transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts.

Artists from Interlochen at Kirkbride Hall: Sears and Sears

November 1, 7:30pm ~ Kirkbride Hall, Traverse City

The Artists from Interlochen at Kirkbride Hall fall series presents an evening of jazz music featuring Bill Sears, Director of Jazz Studies and Instructor of Saxophone at Interlochen Arts Academy; along with Laurie Marino Sears on saxophones and flute; Paul Keller on string bass and Ellen Rowe on jazz piano.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Arts Academy Theatre Co.

November 2, 7:30pm; November 3, 2pm and 7:30pm ~ Phoenix Theatre

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time is the thought-provoking Tony Award-winning play by Simon Stephens. Based on the novel of the same name by Mark Haddon, the story concerns a mystery surrounding the death of a neighbor's dog that is investigated by young boy with an autism spectrum condition. The London premiere won 7 Olivier Awards in 2013 (including Best New Play), and the Broadway production won the 2015 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play and the 2015 Tony Award for Best Play.

Artists from Interlochen at Kirkbride Hall: Laura Osgood Brown, soprano

November 8, 7:30pm ~ Kirkbride Hall, Traverse City

The 2018 Artists from Interlochen at Kirkbride Hall fall series concludes with an evening of vocal music featuring Laura Osgood Brown, Director of Opera Workshop and Instructor of Voice at Interlochen Arts Academy and Camp, along with Kristin Ditlow, pianist. The performance includes *Siete canciones populares españolas* by Manuel de Falla, *Ariettes oubliées* by Debussy plus a selection of English and American songs by Charles Ives, John Alden Carpenter, John Duke, Aaron Copland and Benjamin Britten.

Marcin Dylla

November 14, 7:30pm ~ Dendrinos Chapel and Recital Hall

Hailed by the *Washington Post* as "among the most gifted guitarists on the planet," Polish guitarist Marcin Dylla is a rare phenomenon in the recent history of classical guitar. Considered to be among the world's most elite classical guitar players, Dylla has won first place in 19 of the most prestigious international music competitions between 1996-2007, including the Gold Medal at the 2007 Guitar Foundation of America International Competition. This program of classic and contemporary guitar music will provide an opportunity for the inquisitive to see this masterful and expressive musician live and up close.

Violet, Arts Academy Theatre Co.

November 14, 16, 30, 7:30pm; December 1, 2pm and 7:30pm ~ Harvey Theatre

This multi-award winning musical follows a determined woman who embarks on a cross-country bus trip to have her disfiguring scar healed by a preacher. She instead encounters the power of forgiveness, acceptance, and love in unexpected places. *Violet* is a moving musical featuring show-stopping anthems, ranging from American-roots to folk to gospel. With a score from Tony-winning composer Jeanine Tesori (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*; *Shrek*; *Fun Home*) and book and lyrics by the acclaimed Brian Crowley (*A Little Princess*), *Violet* is inspired by the short story, "The Ugliest Pilgrim" by Doris Betts.

For information and tickets, visit tickets.interlochen.org