

PRESENTED BY



NUS Arts Festival 2016

11 - 26 March



Emmanuel Séjourné and the Art of Solo Percussion

by Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music Percussion Ensemble
Directed by Jonathan Fox

Thu 10 Mar 8pm | Conservatory Concert Hall

MUSIC



NUS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

Established in 1993, NUS Centre For the Arts (CFA) is a vibrant space for the appreciation of the arts and nurturing of the creative and inquiring spirit. It supports student engagement with the arts and the integration of the arts into the life of the University.

NUS CFA encompasses the NUS Museum, NUS Baba House and a Talent and Development arm that oversees 22 student arts excellence groups. Through its myriad of programmes, practices, exhibitions, workshops and outreach, such as NUS Arts Festival and the ExxonMobil Campus Concerts, the Centre enhances and augments the university experience and contributes to the building of knowledge and transformation of students.

CFA also manages facilities such as the University Cultural Centre, with its 1600-seat Hall and 450-seat Theatre, and rehearsal spaces in Runme Shaw CFA Studios and University Town.

For more information, visit www.cfa.nus.edu.sg.

YSTCM PERCUSSION DEPARTMENT

The Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music Percussion Department, widely recognized as one of the finest in Asia, is also definitively one of the most diverse percussion programs in the world, currently comprised of eight students, hailing from seven countries and territories (China, Japan, South Korea, Macau, Singapore, Taiwan, and Thailand).

Such diversity is also reflected in the repertoire of the percussion ensemble, the centerpiece and public face of the department. Programming is innovative, eclectic, demanding, and entertaining, and includes a balance of iconic pieces and unconventional works, including both Asian and world premières. An impressive battery of instruments, both acoustic and electronic, is always on display.

Alumni have achieved significant success in the international arena, including competitive prizes as well as orchestral positions. Additionally, YSTCM percussion graduates are consistently admitted to top-tier graduate percussion programs and music festivals around the world. Each year, major overseas artists, educators and ensembles visit the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music as percussion artists-in-residence, including Ted Atkatz, Colin Currie, Thomas Gauger, Jonathan Haas, Gifford Howarth, Stuart Marrs, Katarzyna Mycka, Ron Samuel, Emmanuel Séjourné, Gordon Stout, and Tambuco Percussion Group.

PROGRAMME

MAURICE RAVEL
arr. Ralph Hardimon

Le tombeau de Couperin: Prélude (1917/1989)

NEY ROSAURO

Concerto for Timpani and Percussion Ensemble (2003)

1. Bachroque
2. Aria
3. Horse Ride

Mizuki Morimoto, solo timpani

EMMANUEL SÉJOURNÉ

Losa (1999)

Emmanuel Séjourné, solo vibraphone
Lim Hyunmi, solo marimba

EMMANUEL SÉJOURNÉ

Suite for Marimba and Percussion Quartet (2007)

1. Ritmica
2. Romantica
3. Passionata

Emmanuel Séjourné, solo marimba

INTERMISSION

CHRISTOPHER ROUSE

Bonham (1988)

Chen Yang, solo drum set

CHAD FLOYD

Triptych Boom (2014)

Chinnabut Kaewkomin, solo snare drum

EMMANUEL SÉJOURNÉ

Concerto for Vibraphone and 5 Percussions (2002)

1. A piacere
2. Energique et agressif

Sandra Chang, solo vibraphone

EMMANUEL SÉJOURNÉ

Un tel amour (2014)

Emmanuel Séjourné, solo vibraphone

EMMANUEL SÉJOURNÉ

Calienta (2009)

Emmanuel Séjourné, solo vibraphone
Lim Hyunmi, solo marimba





JONATHAN FOX

Jonathan Fox currently serves as Principal Percussionist and Associate Principal Timpanist of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, where he has played since 2000. He has also appeared with ensembles such as the New York Philharmonic (USA), Mostly Mozart Orchestra (USA), Seattle Symphony, (USA)

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (Australia), Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa (Japan), and *Miss Saigon* on Broadway. His recordings of both traditional and contemporary solo and orchestral literature can be heard on the Albany, BIS, Delos, RCA Victor, and Varèse Sarabande labels.

In response to Fox's world première recording of Zhou Long's percussion concerto *Da Qu* (BIS CD-1322), *International Record Review* (UK) stated that "Jonathan Fox displays breathtaking virtuosity as he scoots around the vast array of percussion instruments." Composer Zhou Long lauded Jonathan's "artistry in giving the concerto its finest interpretation." Fellow composer Chen Yi cited Fox's rendition of the concerto as "energetic, precise, fresh, and powerful." Art Lange of *Fanfare Magazine* summarized the performance as "exotic and vibrant" as well as "audience-wowing".

In addition to his responsibilities as Percussion Department Chair at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music (Singapore), Fox directs the internationally lauded arts program at St. Joseph's Secondary School (Kuching, Malaysia) and is an active concert and marching recitalist, clinician, and adjudicator across North America and Asia. He has also been a part-time instructor for the Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps (Allentown, PA). Fox endorses Evans (drum heads), Marimba One (marimbas), Vic Firth (implements), and Zildjian (cymbals).

Fox received his Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School (New York, NY) in 1994, where he studied with Roland Kohloff, former Principal Timpanist of the New York Philharmonic. In 1992, Fox graduated from Boston University (Boston, MA), summa cum laude, where he worked privately with former Boston Symphony Orchestra percussionist Thomas Gauger. Previously, Fox studied for six years with celebrated Boston area educator and arranger, Neil Larrivee.



EMMANUEL SÉJOURNÉ (SOLOIST)

Emmanuel Séjourné is a composer, pianist, and percussion artist born in 1961 in Limoges, France. His music is rhythmic, romantic, energetic, and is inspired by both the Western classical tradition as well as popular culture (jazz and rock). His compositions are played in dozens of countries every year, and many orchestras now count his works in their repertoire, including the Nagoya Philharmonic, Osaka Philharmonic, Sinfonia Toronto, Croatian Radio Television Symphony, Luxembourg

Philharmonic, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, Orchestre de la Suisse Italienne, Camerata de Bourgogne, Orchestre d'Auvergne, de Cannes, Nice, Pau, Bochumer Symphoniker, and the Wurttembergisches Kammerorchester.

Acclaimed by members of the percussion community, his works have been commissioned or recorded by Gary Cook, John Pennington, Ju-Percussion group, Robert Van Sice, Nancy Zeltsman, Marta Klimasara, Katarzyna Mycka, and the Amsterdam Percussion Group. His passion for the stage has also led him to write and compose the show *Planète Claviers* for the Percussions claviers de Lyon.

Fascinated with the relationship between various forms of artistic expression, Séjourné also composes music for stage and television and wrote the music for the Ballet du Rhin's performance *Les Envahisseurs* and the musical comedy *School Boulevard*, commissioned by the National Theater Luxembourg.

Together with saxophonist Philippe Geiss, Séjourné founded the ensemble Noco Music. As a soloist, as well as with the ensemble Accroche-Note, he has premiered over one hundred pieces of music including concertos, chamber music, and solos.

Eager to share and communicate his passion, Séjourné is Head Teacher of the percussion department at the Strasbourg Conservatory (France) and is the author of a vibraphone method book published by Editions Leduc as well as several percussion pieces published by Edition Lemoine, Honeyrock, Combre, Zimmerman, and Alfonse Percussions. He was nominated Pedagogic Adviser to the French Ministry of Cultural Affairs and has given several master classes at major conservatories across Europe, Asia, and America.

Séjourné has the support of many sponsors, including the cities of Arras and Aurillac, the General Council of Bouches du Rhône, the European Institute for Choral Singing, and the Paris Opera.

THE YONG SIEW TOH CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE



Chinnabut Kaewkomin
Born: Bangkok, Thailand
Year 2

"I WONDER...if most instruments will be programmed rather than played."



Mizuki Morimoto
Born: Hyogo, Japan
Year 2

"I WONDER...if concerts will be in 4D."



Chang Hio Man
Born: Macau, China
Year 3

"I WONDER...if everyone will be using tablets to play percussion."



Lim Hyunmi
Born: Seoul, Korea
Year 2

"I WONDER...if the marimba will one day be able to be played in the air by digital projection."



Chaiyaphat Prempre
Born: Tak, Thailand
Year 1

"I WONDER...if timpani will one day be tuned automatically with digital technology."



Chen Yang
Born: Tainan, Taiwan
Year 4

"I WONDER...which symphony will be the first symphony performed by humans on Mars?"



Liu Xiaoxu
Born: Daqing, China
Year 2

"I WONDER...if everyone will enjoy virtual live broadcasts of musicians in their living rooms in the future. It would seem like real people performing right in front of us!"



Xu Xinyi
Born: Xiamen, China
Year 1

"I WONDER...if it will be all robots who will perform onstage one day, with the audience controlling them by touchpad during the concert."

ABOUT NUS ARTS FESTIVAL

As the flagship arts platform of NUS, NUS Arts Festival brings together students and alumni in collaboration with international and local professional artists, inspiring fresh insights and compelling artistic works with unique Asian influences.

This 2016, the Festival theme of WONDER encourages us to consider how our capacity for wonder and imagination is affected as our interactions increasingly take place via mobile screens and computers. We ask "Can fresh discoveries of the world through emerging sciences like quantum physics reawaken our delight in the world and re-ignite wonder?"

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