

New Music Series Presents "Redemption Songs & Sonatas" with Daniel Bernard Roumain, violin and Yayoi Ikawa, piano

St. Paul, Minn. - In celebration of the 70th anniversary of the birth of the Jamaican singer/songwriter and composer, Robert Nesta "Bob" Marley (1945–1981), **Daniel Bernard Roumain** and **Yayoi Ikawa's** will perform their "Redemption Songs & Sonatas," rooted in a worldview of civil rights for all. Conceived by Roumain on violin and Ikawa on piano, this intimate program features some of Roumain's signature and most poignant works infused with the spirit of liberation and freedom. From Bob Marley's "Redemption Song" to the Haitian and Israeli national anthems, "Redemption Songs & Sonatas" is a composer's view of our desire to define ourselves, our world, and sometimes, one another. This program is part of Macalester's **New Music Series**, generously funded by the Rivendell Foundation and the Macalester Provost's Office.



"Redemption Songs & Sonatas" is at 7:30 p.m., on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, in Mairs Concert Hall, in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center & Gallery, 1600 Grand Ave, St. Paul, Minn. For more information, call 651-696-6808 or email rhest@macalester.edu.

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Daniel Bernard Roumain's acclaimed work as a composer and a performer has spanned more than two decades and has been commissioned by venerable artists and institutions worldwide.

He made his Carnegie Hall debut in 2000 and would go on to compose works for the Albany Symphony, the American Composers Orchestra, the Boston Pops Orchestra, the Dogs of Desire Ensemble), Carnegie Hall, the Library of Congress, and the Stuttgart Symphony. Additionally, his music has been performed by the Brooklyn Philharmonic, Cincinnati Symphony, Des Moines Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Memphis Symphony, New Haven Symphony Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony, New World Symphony, Noord Nederlands Orkest, and the Vancouver Symphony, among many others.

Roumain was the first artist to be awarded Arizona State University's prestigious Gammage Residency. His outreach and residencies include Berklee School of Music (Boston), More Music @Moore (Seattle), The Academy – a program of Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School and the Weill Music Institute, PACE University and the Tribeca Performing Arts Center (New York City), the University of North Carolina (Raleigh) and Vanderbilt University (Nashville). He's also been affiliated with The Harlem School of the Arts, the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, the Orchestra of St. Luke's, Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music, the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, and is currently the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center Artist-in-Residence (University of Houston), and a Center for Art and Performance Resident Artist at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).

Roumain is currently working on *We Shall Not Be Moved*, a new chamber opera commissioned by Opera

Philadelphia, *Meditations for Raising Boys*, a new oratorio commissioned by Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, and *BOUNCE: A Basketball Opera in 4 Quarters*, commissioned by Ardea Arts.

He earned his doctorate in music composition from the University of Michigan.

Born in Tokyo, Japan, but raised musically in New York, **Yayoi Ikawa** is a pianist/composer/arranger currently living in Brooklyn. She started playing piano at the age of three.

She quickly became a classical pianist, but decided to postpone further musical studies at the age of twelve. Eventually she found her interest in jazz and joined her college big band as a bandleader and pianist.

After a few visits to the United States, Ikawa decided to become a jazz musician. As soon as she completed her studies of economics at the International Christian University in Tokyo in 1999, she moved to New York City.

Ikawa attended The New School where she received the Henry and Gill Block scholarship. Being exposed to the diverse music scene in New York, Ikawa started to work in jazz, gospel, Latin, R&B and hip hop in the early stages of her career.

She completed her studies at New School and became a faculty member at the International Jazz and Dance Academy in Slovenia along with her mentor Reggie Workman in 2003 and 2004. After recording a jazz piano trio on Nippon Crown called "Angel Eyes" in 2004, she self-produced "Color of Dreams" displaying her original compositions.

She has toured nationally as well as internationally with her groups, and appeared at international jazz festivals in Japan, Italy and Costa Rica.

Ikawa's orchestra work for film was premiered at Lincoln Center in 2007. In 2008, she started "The Bridge Project" to create musical dialogue between New York and Tokyo musicians in an experimental environment.

Ikawa has worked with such artists as, Michael Carvin, Howard Johnson, Lenny Pickett, Frank Lacy, Butch Morris, Emeline Michel, and Blitz the Ambassador. The most influential artist for her, however, was the legendary bassist Reggie Workman (<http://sculpturedsounds.com/festival/artists/rw.html>). Under his instruction, she followed the creation of John Coltrane's music and learned how to express pure emotion.

She co-leads the improvisational duo Go-Zee-Lah with vocalist Kyoko Kitamura. Ikawa was a music coordinator at St. Paul Baptist Church in Montclair, N.J. until 2013.

Past **New Music Series** guests have included soprano Patrice Michaels, women's singing group Lorelei Ensemble, string quartet ETHEL, guitarist/composer Bill Frisell, cellist Matt Haimovitz, So Percussion, jazz pianist/composer/arranger Uri Caine, singer Lucy Shelton, Enso String Quartet, pianist/composer Frederic Rzewski, Pulitzer-Prize winning composer Yehudi Wyner, chamber group eighth blackbird, and jazz composer/bandleader Maria Schneider and Theo Bleckmann, jazz singer and new music composer. Guest artists work with Macalester students in classes and master classes and give free concerts open to the public.

The "Redemption Songs & Sonatas" concert is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis. There are no tickets or reservations. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. For more information call 651-696-6808 or email rhest@macalester.edu (<mailto:rhest@macalester.edu>).

Macalester College, founded in 1874, is a national liberal arts college with a full-time enrollment of 2,045 students. Macalester is nationally recognized for its long-standing commitment to academic excellence, internationalism, multiculturalism, and civic engagement. Learn more at [macalester.edu](http://www.macalester.edu) (<http://www.macalester.edu/>)

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