

GENEVA CONCERTS

presents

IMANI WINDS



A CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 11, 2011 • 3:00 p.m.
Smith Opera House

GENEVA CONCERTS, INC.

2011-2012 SEASON

Saturday, 24 September 2011, 7:30 p.m.

New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players

The Mikado

Sunday, 11 December 2011, 3:00 p.m.

Imani Winds

A Christmas Concert



This tour engagement of Imani Winds is funded through the Mid Atlantic Tours program of Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Friday, 2 March 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Christoph Campestrini, conductor

Juliana Athayde, violin

Music of Barber and Brahms

Friday, 30 March 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Brian Sanders' JUNK

Patio Plastico Plus

Saturday, 28 April 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Cantus

On the Shoulders of Giants

Performed at the Smith Opera House,
82 Seneca Street, Geneva, New York



These concerts are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and a continuing subscription from Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

GENEVA CONCERTS, INC.

Sunday, December 11, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

IMANI WINDS

Jingle Bells James Pierpont, arr. Valerie Coleman
I Saw Three Ships arr. Jeff Scott
O Holy Night Adolphe Adam, arr. John Clark

Le Tombeau de Couperin Maurice Ravel, arr. Mason Jones
 i. Prelude
 ii. Fugue
 iii. Menuet
 iv. Rigadoun

Variations on an Afro-Cuban Lullaby (Drume Negrita).....Brian DuFord

Sleigh Ride Leroy Anderson, arr. Jeff Scott

*** Intermission ***

Scherzo from “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
.....Felix Mendelssohn, arr. F. Gabler

The Holly and the Ivyarr. Valerie Coleman
Christmas Time is Here..... Vince Guaraldi, arr. Jeff Scott
Carol of the Bells..... arr. Jeff Scott
The Christmas Song Mel Tormé, arr. John Clark

Three Traditional Spiritualsarr. Valerie Coleman
 i. Little David Play on Your Harp
 ii. Steal Away
 iii. Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
..... Hugh Martin, arr. Valerie Coleman

Go Tell It on the Mountainarr. Valerie Coleman

IMANI WINDS

More than North America's premier wind quintet, Imani Winds has established itself as one of the most successful chamber music ensembles in the United States. Since 1997, the Grammy-nominated quintet has taken a unique path, carving out a distinct presence in the classical music world with its dynamic playing, culturally poignant programming, genre-blurring collaborations, and inspirational outreach programs. With two member composers and a deep commitment to commissioning new work, the group is enriching the traditional wind quintet repertoire while meaningfully bridging European, American, African, and Latin American traditions.

Imani Winds' extensive touring schedule has brought them to most of this country's major concert venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Disney Hall, and Kimmel Center. The group is frequently engaged by the premier chamber music series in Boston, San Francisco, Portland, Philadelphia, and New York, and has also played virtually every major university performing arts series including those in Amherst, Ann Arbor, Austin, Seattle, Stanford, Urbana, and countless others. Festivals include Chamber Music Northwest, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, La Jolla Music Society, Virginia Arts Festival, Bravo! Colorado, and Ravinia Festival. The current season features several international tours for Imani Winds, with debut appearances in France, China, and Brazil.

The group is in the midst of its Legacy Commissioning Project in which the ensemble is commissioning, premiering, and touring new works for woodwind quintet written by established and emerging composers of diverse musical backgrounds. The select composers originate from different points of the globe, bringing a wide range of sounds and experiences. The Legacy Project kicked off in 2008 with world premieres by Alvin Singleton and Roberto Sierra. Since then, projects have included Jason Moran's *Cane* and Stefon Harris' *Anatomy of a Box* (A Sonic Painting in Wood, Metal, and Wind), as well as new works by Danilo Perez and Simon Shaheen. The group's fifth album on E1 Music, entitled *Terra Incognita* after Wayne Shorter's piece written for the group, is a celebration of the Legacy project with new works written for Imani Winds by Mr. Shorter, Jason Moran, and Paquito D'Rivera.

The wide range of programs offered by Imani Winds demonstrates its mission to expand the repertoire and diversify new music sources. From Mendelssohn, Jean Françaix, György Ligeti, and Luciano Berio, to

Astor Piazzolla, Elliott Carter, and John Harbison, and to the unexpected ranks of Paquito D’Rivera and Wayne Shorter, Imani Winds actively seeks to engage new music and new voices into the modern classical idiom. Imani members Valerie Coleman and Jeff Scott both regularly contribute compositions and arrangements to the ensemble’s expanding repertoire, bringing new sounds and textures to the traditional instrumentation.

Through commissions and performance, the quintet regularly collaborates with artists ranging from Yo-Yo Ma to Wayne Shorter. Shorter’s “Terra Incognita,” his first-ever composition for another ensemble, was premiered by Imani Winds. The group went on to perform extensively with Shorter at major European festivals such as the North Sea Jazz Festival, and in North America at venues such as Carnegie and Disney halls. The group’s Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center residency culminated in a recital in New York’s Alice Tully Hall with renowned clarinetist/saxophonist/composer Paquito D’Rivera. The ensemble has also worked with luminaries such as bandoneonist Daniel Binelli, the Brubeck brothers, clarinetist David Shifrin, and pianists Gilbert Kalish and Shai Wosner. Their ambitious project, *Josephine Baker: A Life of Le Jazz Hot!*, brought chanteuse René Marie with them to New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and St. Louis, receiving wide acclaim and glowing reviews.

Imani Winds enjoys frequent national exposure in all forms of media, including two features on NPR’s *All Things Considered*, appearances on APM’s *Saint Paul Sunday*, NPR’s *Performance Today* and *News and Notes with Ed Gordon*, and BBC *The World*, as well as frequent coverage in major music magazines and newspapers including *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*.

Their excellence and influences have been recognized with numerous awards including the 2007 ASCAP Award, 2002 CMA/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming, as well as the CMA/WQXR Award for their debut and self-released CD, *Umoja*. At the 2001 Concert Artists Guild International Competition, Imani Winds was selected as the first-ever Educational Residency Ensemble in recognition of their tremendous musical abilities and innovative programming.

Imani Winds’ commitment to education runs deep. The group participates in residencies throughout the U.S., giving masterclasses to thousands of students a year. In the summer of 2010, the ensemble launched its annual Chamber Music Institute. The program, set on the

Juilliard campus, brought together over 40 young instrumentalists for an intense week of music exploration.

Imani Winds has five releases on E1 Music, including its 2006 Grammy Award nominated recording entitled *The Classical Underground*.

VALERIE COLEMAN, flute

A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Valerie Coleman began her music studies at the age of 11 and by the age of 14 had written three symphonies and won several local and state competitions. Coleman is not only the founder of Imani Winds, but is a resident composer of the ensemble, giving Imani Winds their signature piece, “Umoja” (which is listed as one of the “Top 101 Great American Works” by Chamber Music America). In addition to her significant contributions to wind quintet literature, Coleman has a works list for various winds, brass, strings, and full orchestra published by International Opus and in the near future, by Theodore Presser.

Prior to her solo debut at Carnegie Hall, Coleman was the understudy for flutist Eugenia Zukerman at Lincoln Center, featured soloist in the Mannes 2000 Bach Festival, two-time laureate of the Young Artist Competition at Boston University, recipient of the Aspen Music Festival Wombwell Kentucky Award, and was the inaugural recipient of the Michelle E. Sahm Memorial Award at the Tanglewood Festival. Recently, she appeared as guest artist at the Chenango Music Festival, was teaching artist for Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, received Meet the Composer’s Edward and Sally Van Lier Memorial Award, and was showcased on the New York classical radio station WQXR. Most recently, she is a recipient of the Multi-Arts Production Fund—a grant given to “support innovative new works in all disciplines and traditions of performing arts.”

Coleman has a double bachelor’s degree in theory/composition and flute performance from Boston University and a master’s degree in flute performance from the Mannes College of Music. She studied flute with Julius Baker, Alan Weiss, and Mark Sparks; composition with Martin Amlin and Randall Woolf; and has served on the faculty of the Juilliard School’s Music Advancement Program and Interschool Orchestras of New York. Currently, she is on the advisory panel of the National Flute Association.

TOYIN SPELLMAN-DIAZ, oboe

Toyin Spellman-Diaz has developed a reputation as a world-class oboist. As an orchestral musician, she has performed in the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Chicago Civic Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony, Brooklyn Philharmonic, and Orchestra of St. Luke's, and has worked with such conductors as Kurt Masur, Daniel Barenboim, Pierre Boulez, Christoph Eschenbach, and Mstislav Rostropovitch. As an educator, she has written two music-telling performance pieces for Imani Winds—a performance practice that incorporates music into the telling of a story by using the instruments as props and as integral parts of the story-telling process. Spellman-Diaz was acclaimed as a “standout oboist with smooth, controlled tone and excellent technique” in *The Washington Post* when she performed the Goosens Oboe Concerto at the Kennedy Center. She has also performed concerti with the Chicago Civic Orchestra, Manhattan Virtuosi, and the Antara Ensemble. She attended the Oberlin Conservatory where she achieved her bachelor of music degree, and received her master's and professional studies degrees from the Manhattan School of Music. Spellman-Diaz has studied with Joe Robinson, James Caldwell, Joe Turner, and Alex Klein. She is currently on faculty of the Manhattan School of Music, Precollege Division.

MARIAM ADAM, clarinet

Mariam Adam, a native of Monterey, California, is an internationally distinguished soloist and chamber musician. As one of the last students of legendary clarinetist Rosario Mazzeo, she developed a colorful career on the west coast, soloing with the Sacramento Symphony and Monterey County Symphony, amongst others, while still an undergraduate. Adam appeared as soloist with the Eastman Summer Music Festival, toured with Monterey Jazz Festival jazz ensembles (some-times as the drummer) in Japan and North America, and received such awards such as the Hans Wildau Young Musicians Award, Sacramento Concerto Competition Winner, AFS Scholar, and Bank of America Artists Scholar, before moving to the east coast for graduate studies at the Manhattan School of Music. She has since performed with Chamber Music Lincoln Center, Prussia Cove Festival in England, 92nd St. Y, Rockport Music Festival, Chenango Music Festival, Carmel Bach Festival, La Jolla Music

Festival, Skaneateles Festival, and Chamber Music Northwest, as well as collaborated with such artists as Paquito D’Rivera and David Shifrin.

As a founding member of the internationally acclaimed, TransAtlantic Ensemble (clarinet, violin, and piano), she has performed in Europe and the U.S., performing a wide range of music including that of Imani Winds’ Jeff Scott and Valerie Coleman. As a soloist, she has been invited to give recitals in Spain, Switzerland, and London, and she continues to collaborate with several international pianists celebrating music from different regions of the world.

JEFF SCOTT, French horn

A native of Queens, New York, Jeff Scott started the French horn at age 14, receiving an anonymous gift scholarship to attend the Brooklyn College Preparatory Division. An even greater gift came from his first teacher, Carolyn Clark, who taught the young Scott for free during his high school years, giving him the opportunity to study music when resources were not available. He received his bachelor’s degree from the Manhattan School of Music (studying with David Jolley) and master’s degree from SUNY Stony Brook (studying with William Purvis). During those years, Scott studied with Jerome Ashby, David Jolley, Scott Brubaker, and William Purvis. He later continued his horn studies with Scott Brubaker and the late Jerome Ashby.

Scott’s performance credits are many and varied. They include *The Lion King* orchestra (on Broadway, New York) 1997-2005 and the 1994 revival of *Showboat* 1994-1997. He has been a member of the Alvin Ailey and Dance Theater of Harlem orchestras since 1995 and has performed numerous times under the direction of Wynton Marsalis and Arturo O’Farrill with the Lincoln Center Jazz and Afro-Latin Jazz orchestras.

Scott has also experienced good fortune as a studio musician. He can be heard on movie soundtracks scored by Terrence Blanchard, Tan Dun, and on commercial recordings with notable artists such as Chico O’Farrill, Robin Eubanks, Freddy Cole, and Jimmy Heath, among others. Additionally, he has toured with artists such as Barbra Streisand and the late Luther Vandross.

Scott’s arranging and composing credits are many and include scoring the off-Broadway production of *Becoming Something*, *The Canada Lee Story*, the staged production of *Josephine Baker: A Life of Le Jazz Hot!*, and many arrangements and original works for solo winds, wind

and brass quintet, horn quartet, and jazz ensembles. Scott's works are published by International Opus and Trevco Music.

Scott has been on the horn faculty of the music department at Montclair State University (New Jersey) since 2002.

MONICA ELLIS, bassoon

Bassoonist Monica Ellis, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, discovered the joy of making music at the age of four. Encouraged by her father, the late jazz saxophonist Clarence Oden, she began playing the clarinet, saxophone, and later the piano. After being introduced to the bassoon in middle school, she studied with Mark Pancerev of the Pittsburgh Symphony throughout high school. Ellis went on to receive her bachelor of music degree from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, studying with George Sakakeeny. While at Oberlin, she participated as both an instructor and performer in the Panama Project, a month long camp for young Panamanian students. She then received her master of music degree from the Juilliard School and also attended Manhattan School of Music in the Orchestral Performance Program, studying with Frank Morelli at both institutions.

Residing in Harlem, Ellis is an active New York freelancer, having performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Absolute Ensemble, Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, American Symphony Orchestra, and the Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre, just to name a few.

Also a passionate teacher, Ellis has served on the faculties of the Mannes College of Music Preparatory Division, Brooklyn College School of Music, and Juilliard's Music Advancement Program. She is also a well-renowned clinician, and has given masterclasses and solo recital performances across the country.

GENEVA CONCERTS' EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

During the 1991-92 season, Geneva Concerts began an educational outreach program which continues to grow. In recent seasons we have reached more than 1,000 school children annually. This program helps to build our future audience base by exposing our children to a wide variety of concert and dance performances and it assists the Arts-in-Education programs for Geneva and the surrounding school districts by providing high-quality performers for school programs.

On Monday, December 12, Geneva Concerts is presenting Imani Winds in three outreach programs:

- 8:30 to 9:05 am at Geneva Middle School (all students)
- 9:25 to 10:00 am at North Street School, grades 3-4-5
- 10:30 to 11:05 am at West Street School, grades K-1-2

At the Middle School and North Street School, the program will be *Musical Journey from Around the World*, featuring an age-appropriate introduction and demonstration of each instrument, and performances of classical and world music pieces with explanations emphasizing that music for wind quintet comes from all parts of the world. At West Street School they will present *Music is Fun*, featuring short classical and world music pieces that allow children's imagination to soar, and interactive sing-alongs featuring classic children's songs.

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