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UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES MARCH 2012 EVENTS

ANN ARBOR, MI (February 1, 2012) — The **University Musical Society's** (UMS) March 2012 performance schedule includes eight incredible performing arts experiences:

- **Friday, March 9:** Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- **Saturday, March 10:** Max Raabe & Palast Orchester
- **Thursday - Saturday, March 15 - 17:** *The Andersen Project*
- **Sunday, March 18:** NT Live: *The Comedy of Errors*
- **Thursday, March 22: American Mavericks: Concert 1**
San Francisco Symphony
Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor
Featuring:
Jeremy Denk, piano
Paul Jacobs, organ
Mason Bates, electronica
U-M Chamber Choir
with Jerry Blackstone, conductor
- **Friday, March 23: American Mavericks: Concert 2**
San Francisco Symphony
Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor
Featuring:
Joan La Barbara, vocalist
Meredith Monk, vocalist
Jessye Norman, soprano
St. Lawrence String Quartet
- **Saturday, March 24: American Mavericks: Concert 3**
San Francisco Symphony
Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor
Featuring:
Emanuel Ax, piano
- **Sunday, March 25: San Francisco Symphony Concert 4**
American Mavericks Chamber Concert
Michael Tilson Thomas and Jeff Milarsky, conductor (Subotnik)
Meredith Monk & Ensemble, vocalists
Joan La Barbara, vocalist
Kiera Duffy, soprano
Jeremy Denk, piano
Members of the San Francisco Symphony

For tickets and additional information, please contact the University Musical Society Ticket Office at **734-764-2538**, or visit www.ums.org. Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Michigan League Ticket

Office (911 North University Avenue). The UMS Ticket Office is open Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., closed Sunday. Venue ticket offices open 90 minutes before the start time of each event.

Please note that all Monday-Thursday performances are starting at 7:30 pm this season. Also note the start times for Einstein on the Beach, which begins earlier than usual due to its length.

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Riccardo Muti, conductor

Pinchas Zuckerman, violin

Friday, March 9, 8:00 p.m.

Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at \$10

Program

Brahms Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 77 (1878)

Brahms Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 73 (1877)

Sponsored by **Key Bank**. Co-sponsored by **Robert and Marina Whitman, Clayton and Ann Wilhite, James and Nancy Stanley, and Jay Zelenock in memory of Mary Kate Zelenock**. Hosted by **Mike Allemang and Janis Bobrin**.

Media Partners: **WGTE Public Broadcasting, WRCJ 90.9 FM**, and the **Detroit Jewish News**.

Founded in 1891, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra enjoys an enviable position in the music world with performances greeted by enthusiastic audiences both at home and abroad. The Orchestra has made over 200 appearances under the auspices of UMS since its debut in 1892; the orchestra last performed in Hill Auditorium in 2010. Riccardo Muti conducted the Vienna Philharmonic's Hill Auditorium performance in 2006, although this will be his first time performing with the CSO under UMS auspices.

Violinist Pinchas Zukerman, recognized as a phenomenon for nearly four decades, returns to UMS for a performance of the Brahms Violin Concerto. "Youth sticks with some people... Zukerman seems the forever-young virtuoso: expressively resourceful, infectiously musical, technically impeccable, effortless. As usual, it was a joy to be in his musical company." (*Los Angeles Times*)

MAX RAABE AND PALAST ORCHESTER

Saturday, March 10 at 8:00 p.m.

Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at \$10.

Sponsored by: **University of Michigan Health System**

Media Partner: **Michigan Radio 91.7 FM**

Max Raabe and his sophisticated Palast Orchester bring the elegant high style and musical glory of the 1920s and 1930s to modern audiences through a mix of treasured classics, reclaimed gems, and hilariously quirky covers of modern pop songs performed in an uber-suave cabaret style. Classically trained at the Berlin University of the Arts, Raabe knew from his early days as a student that he wanted to revive the rich musical glamor of the '20s and '30s, developing a vast and fantastically nuanced repertoire by scouring archives, flea markets, and

curiosity shops. In true cabaret fashion, Raabe's performances are riddled with unmatched wit, fantastic word play, unbeatable timing, and a loving dash of irony; his singular ability to capture the cunning rasp of the cabaret singer, the confident bel canto hero, the oily melodiousness of the revue beau, the carefree timbre of early jazz, and the falsetto of ragtime all serve to create a performance unlike anything else offered today. Raabe and his orchestra perform tunes from its new album, *One Cannot Kiss Alone*, which will be released on Tuesday, February 21. The program will be performed in both English and German.

THE ANDERSEN PROJECT

EX MACHINA

Thursday, March 15 at 7: 30 pm

Friday, March 16 at 8:00 pm

Saturday, March 17 at 8:00 pm

Power Center (121 Fletcher Street)

Tickets start at \$24

This is a **Pure Michigan Renegade** event.

Presented with major support from the **Creative Ventures Leadership Fund**, a multi-year challenge grant created by **Maxine and Stuart Frankel** to support artistic, innovative, and cutting-edge programming.

Funded in part by an award from the **National Endowment for the Arts. Art Works.**

Media Partners: **WDET 101.9 FM, Michigan Radio 91.7 FM, Ann Arbor's 107one**, and **Between the Lines.**

Related Event

UMS Night School: Explore Pure Michigan Renegade. UMS Night School is comprised of 90-minute "classes" hosted by Mark Clague, associate professor at the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance. Each introductory session includes a presentation by a genre expert, an interactive exercise to draw you into the themes behind the performance, and a takeaway reading to enjoy on your own. On **Monday, March 12 at 7 pm**, UMS Night School will introduce *The Andersen Project*; on **Monday, March 19 at 7 pm**, the production will be discussed. Location: **Ann Arbor District Library (343 S. Fifth Avenue - Multipurpose Room)**. **No registration is necessary. Free and open to the public.**

Recognized worldwide for his creative and original approach to theater, Lepage has shaken the dogma of classical stage direction to its foundations over the last 34 years, especially through his use of new technologies. The Andersen Project tells the story of a Québécois songwriter whose encounters in Paris allow him to find out what defines, motivates, and inspires him. Actor Yves Jacques seamlessly and brilliantly moves between multiple characters in this one-man play, portraying the Québécois songwriter, a senior manager of the Opéra Garnier, a young janitor and graffiti artist of African descent, as well as a dog who could well be guiding the tale along its way. The Andersen Project explores questions about sexual identity, personal demons, unfulfilled fantasies, and a thirst for recognition and fame that are drawn from Andersen's life and writings, only to serve as filigree to the modern tale.

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

SHAKESPEARE'S THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

Sunday, March 18, 7 p.m.

Michigan Theater (603 East Liberty Street, Ann Arbor)

Tickets: \$22 adults

\$18 Michigan Theater Members/UMS subscribers & donors

\$12 students

A partnership between **UMS** and the **Michigan Theater**.

Directed by Dominic Cooke, this screening is a delayed cinema broadcast of a live performance at the National Theatre. *The Comedy of Errors* is Shakespeare's most farcical comedy, and also his smartest. Two sets of estranged twins, each separated at birth, find themselves in the same city 25 years later with hilarious consequences. A series of mistaken identities, assumed personas, and wild mishaps bring a family crisis into heartwarming focus. For this production, UK comedian and actor **Lenny Henry** makes his National Theatre debut as Antipholus of Syracuse.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY: AMERICAN MAVERICKS

American Mavericks: Concert 1

San Francisco Symphony

Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor

Featuring:

Paul Jacobs, organ

Jeremy Denk, piano

Mason Bates, electronika

U-M Chamber Choir with Jerry Blackstone, conductor

Thursday, March 22, 7:30 pm

Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at \$10

Program

Aaron Copland	Orchestral Variations (1930, orchestrated in 1957) [~13 minutes]
Henry Cowell	Piano Concerto (1928) [~14 minutes]
	Intermission
Mason Bates	Mass Transmission (2010) [~15 minutes]
Lou Harrison	Concerto for Organ with Percussion Orchestra (1973) [~30 minutes]

Post-Concert Artist Q&A

Immediately following each *American Mavericks* concert, audience members are invited to stay for an informal Q&A session with performers from that evening's performance. Special guests will be announced from the stage after each concert. *Must have performance ticket to attend.*

American Mavericks: Concert 2

San Francisco Symphony

Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor

Featuring:

Joan La Barbara, vocalist

Meredith Monk, vocalist

Jessye Norman, soprano

St. Lawrence String Quartet

Friday, March 23, 8 pm

Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at \$10

Program

John Cage	John Cage Songbooks (1970) [~30 minutes]
	Intermission
Henry Cowell	Synchrony (1929-30) [~12 minutes]
John Adams	Absolute Jest (2011) [~22 minutes]
Edgard Varèse	Amériques (1918-21, revised 1927) [~22 minutes]

Pre-Concert Event: Inside Mavericks

Friday, March 23 at 6:30 pm in **Hill Auditorium's Mezzanine Lobby**, composer and music educator **Eliza Brown** presents an interactive preconcert experience for the audience based in techniques from the Walden School. In addition to learning about the music through lecture and demonstration, participants will engage in singing tone clusters and contemplating their own approach to performing John Cage's Song Books. *Must have ticket to the Friday night concert to attend.*

Post-Concert Artist Q&A

Immediately following each *American Mavericks* concert, audience members are invited to stay for an informal Q&A session with performers from that evening's performance. Special guests will be announced from the stage after each concert. *Must have performance ticket to attend.*

American Mavericks: Concert 3

San Francisco Symphony

Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor

Featuring:

Emanuel Ax, piano

Saturday, March 24, 8 pm

Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at \$10

Program

Carl Ruggles	Sun-Treader (1931) [~12 minutes]
Morton Feldman	Piano and Orchestra (1975) [~19 minutes]
	Intermission
Charles Ives	A Concord Symphony (1916-19 for piano; orchestration by Henry Brant premiered 1995) [~50 minutes]

Pre-Concert Event: Meet the Maverick - Charles Ives in Words and Music

Saturday, March 24 at 6:30 pm (location TBD), performer David Prather illuminates the life of Charles Ives - composer, a writer, and a true American eccentric. Prather weaves together musical passages from the Concord Sonata with literary passages from Ives' book *Essays Before a Sonata* to illuminate both the musical material and the expressive intention behind this radical work. This event is free and open to the public.

Post-Concert Artist Q&A

Immediately following each *American Mavericks* concert, audience members are invited to stay for an informal Q&A session with performers from that evening's performance. Special guests will be announced from the stage after each concert. *Must have performance ticket to attend.*

American Mavericks: Concert 4

Michael Tilson Thomas and Jeff Milarsky, conductors

Featuring:

Kiera Duffy, soprano

Joan La Barbara, vocalist

Jeremy Denk, piano

Members of the San Francisco Symphony

Meredith Monk & Vocal Ensemble, vocalists

Sunday, March 25, 4 pm

Rackham Auditorium (915 East Washington Street, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at \$20

Program

Del Tredici	Syzygy (1966) [~24 minutes]
Lukas Foss	Echoi (1963) [~24 minutes]

Meredith Monk	Realm Variations (San Francisco Symphony Commission) [~20 minutes] Intermission
Morton Subotnick	Jacob's Room: Monodrama (2012) (San Francisco Symphony Commission) [~22 minutes]

Post-Concert Artist Q&A

Immediately following each American Mavericks concert, audience members are invited to stay for an informal Q&A session with performers from that evening's performance. Special guests will be announced from the stage after each concert. *Must have performance ticket to attend.*

FAMILIES TAKE NOTE: All *American Mavericks* Festival performances are **UMS Kids Club** concerts. Designed to nurture and create the next generation of performing artists and arts lovers, the UMS Kids Club allows students in grades 3-12 to purchase tickets to any UMS concert at significantly discounted prices, subject to availability. The UMS Kids Club has expanded this year from classical music concerts to encompass the entire UMS season. Two weeks before the performance date (opening night of a multiple-performance run), parents can purchase up to two kids' tickets for \$10 each with the purchase of an adult ticket for \$20.

This event is part of **Pure Michigan Renegade**.

Performance Sponsors: presented with major support from the **Creative Ventures Leadership Fund**, a multi-year challenge grant created by **Maxine and Stuart Frankel** to support artistic, innovative, and cutting-edge programming. Funded in part by the **John S. and James L. Knight Foundation** and by an award from the **National Endowment for the Arts. Art Works.**

Media Partners: **WGTE Public Broadcasting, WDET 101.9 FM, Detroit Jewish News, and Ann Arbor's 107one.**

The American Mavericks Festival commemorates the San Francisco Symphony's centennial season and begins in San Francisco March 8-18, 2012. The March 22-25, 2012 Ann Arbor performances are part of a successive three-stop national tour that also includes Chicago and Carnegie Hall. The festival champions contemporary American composers.

For the Ann Arbor American Mavericks performances, Michael Tilson Thomas conducts the musicians of the San Francisco Symphony and a dynamic roster of guest soloists including Mason Bates, electronica; Jeremy Denk, piano; Joan La Barbara, vocalist; Meredith Monk, vocalist; and Jessye Norman, soprano. This powerhouse line-up of musicians will perform American Mavericks Festival repertoire in three large-scale orchestral performances in Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue) on Thursday, March 22 at 7:30 pm; Friday, March 23 at 8 pm; and Saturday, March 24 at 8 pm. The American Mavericks Ann Arbor performances end with an intimate chamber concert in Rackham Auditorium (915 East Washington Street) on Sunday, March 25 at 4 pm. Program rep for all four concerts is included starting on page 4 of this release. In addition, the San Francisco Symphony has compiled a highly detailed, comprehensive clearinghouse for materials about the Maverick music and composers at AmericanMavericks.org.

AND FOR FAMILIES...

The **UMS Kids Club** now encompasses the entire UMS season. Two weeks before each performance date (opening night of a multiple-performance run), parents can purchase up to two kids' tickets for \$10 each with the purchase of an adult ticket for \$20. Kids must be in grades 3-12 to be eligible for this program. Seating is subject to availability and box office discretion. UMS will reserve a limited number of seats for each performance (opening night for multiple-performance runs), even in the event of a sellout. Tickets will be available at the League Ticket Office or by phone; children must be present when picking up tickets.

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