2007-2008 Premieres

2007

2007-2008 Season Brochure

Office of Arts + Cultural Programming

PEAK Performances at Montclair State University

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Premieres

Bill T. Jones
Orchestra of St. Luke's
National Geographic Live
Romeo Castellucci
Liz Lerman
Robert Aldridge
Fred Hersch
Dan Zanes
and
many, many more...

Peak performances @ montclair

$15

every performance, every seat
Look, Listen, Engage.

The Alexander Kasser Theater opened in 2004 with a bold, intimate design that demanded a powerful new performance program. In its short history, Peak Performances @ Montclair has gained a stellar reputation beyond its New Jersey beginnings for producing and presenting world-class artists such as: Mikhail Baryshnikov, Jan Fabre, Bill T. Jones, Trixa Brown, Susan Marshall, Meredith Monk, Robert LePage and Romeo Castelluci.

In continuing to build a one-of-a-kind program, Peak Performances’ new season champions events with a family focus (Dan Zanes and First Person/Ensemble Galileo), stage visionaries (Romeo Castelluci and Aida Karic) and Montclair Only performances (the Irish dance company CosíCéim: Ferocious Beauty: Genome, by Liz Lerman; and the Russian Patriarchate Choir) as well as new music ranging from Latvian composer Petēriks Vasks (The Orchestra of St. Luke’s) to jazz master Fred Hersch (World Premiere) and Sinclair Lewis’ Elmer Gantry—an opera by Robert Aldridge & Herschel Garfein—placed prominently in the middle!

ALL tickets to events this season at Peak Performances are $15.

Is this wise? You be the judge—but I believe you will be astonished by what you discover when you engage with us! Where else will you see world-class artists in premier performances that are expertly produced at a dramatically affordable price? Only Montclair!

Jedediah Wheeler
Executive Director, Arts & Cultural Programming

AND the magnificent choreographer Bill T. Jones is the beneficiary of a cultural scene first—A Performance Monograph—featuring multiple events and shows (one exclusive and one world premiere) that unleash the depth and breadth of this world-renowned American original (2007 Tony winner for Spring Awakening) into our community.

Highlighted throughout the season, you will discover fine student productions that reveal budding talents.

Our goal is to give audiences a tantalizing and provocative opportunity to experience the creative themes of the day. In this major university laboratory, artists explore ideas not commonly held by the mainstream. When adventurous artists take the opportunity to expand horizons, audiences should step outside their comfort zones and join them for the ride.

To stress that the arts include everyone:

All tickets to events this season at Peak Performances are $15.

Is this wise? You be the judge—but I believe you will be astonished by what you discover when you engage with us! Where else will you see world-class artists in premier performances that are expertly produced at a dramatically affordable price? Only Montclair!

Jedediah Wheeler
Executive Director, Arts & Cultural Programming

THE 2007-2008 SEASON

Cover Photo: The Trojan Women—An Asian Story

by Nick Mangafas

THE 2007-2008 SEASON

Cover Photo: The Trojan Women—An Asian Story

by Nick Mangafas
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### Acts Of Engagement
- DR. SUSAN A. COLE, PRESIDENT
- DR. GEOFFREY W. NEWMAN, DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE ARTS
Bill T. Jones has made a lasting impact on the way artists express, create and perform dance around the world. Mr. Jones takes up residence at Peak Performances (from September to December) with a variety of exciting “acts of engagement” including a world premiere, a rarely performed piece and the reprise of the timely and critically acclaimed Blind Date, a work originally conceived and performed at Peak Performances.

“Some choreographers are born dancemakers whose genius manifests in the steps themselves. And some choreographers are geniuses who just happen to choose dance for their primary mode of expression. Bill T. Jones is of the latter variety, and the dance world is fortunate to have him.” - Rachel Howard, San Francisco Chronicle

The Bill T. Jones ‘Performance Monograph’ is made possible, in part, by funds from the James E. Robison Foundation.

Spoken Steps: A Performance Address Bill T. Jones
From sharecropper’s son to 2007 Tony Award® winner, Bill T. Jones has a story to tell that is so profound that he might just sing and dance it! Recently admitted to the Dance Hall of Fame, and a MacArthur Genius grantee, Jones speaks candidly and forcefully about creating work that does not conform to public expectations in a culture obsessed with prepackaged commodities. The Performance Address kicks off the 2007/08 Season. Don’t miss this free event and then join us outside for a dance party after the address!

Wed, Sept 19 @ 6pm Alexander Kasser Theater
Admission: FREE

The Work of Bjorn G. Amelan
Introduced by Bill T. Jones
The Montclair Art Museum and Peak Performances host this evening that celebrates the work of Bjorn Amelan, a frequent collaborator with Bill T. Jones. In this discussion, Jones will introduce Mr. Amelan, who will share his work as a visual artist and sculptor via a multi-media presentation. Later, both Amelan and Jones will take questions from the audience.

Wed, Oct 10 @ 7pm Montclair Art Museum 3 S. Mountain Ave. Montclair, NJ 07042
Admission: FREE

Music and Movement Daniel Bernard Roumain
Music Director for Bill T. Jones, composer Daniel Bernard Roumain leads a discussion that centers on the relationship between composer and choreographer. He will focus on how to write music for dance as well as how choreographers choose music for their work. Following the lecture, Mr. Roumain will take questions from the audience.

Wed, Sept 26 @ 3pm 1030 University Hall
Admission: FREE
“A portrait of his multicultural company, which includes dancers from Turkey, China and Mexico, who explore their national identities in monologues and dance solos, “Blind Date” offers a vision of social harmony in which different peoples share the same space.” —Robert Johnson, The Star-Ledger

Blind Date
Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company

Choreographed by: Bill T. Jones
Original Music By: Daniel Bernard Roumain
Sets by: Bjorn G. Amelan
Lighting Designer: Robert Wierzel
Costume Designer: Liz Prince

Thurs, Oct 25 @ 6pm
Alexander Kasser Theater
Running Time: 90 minutes

Post-performance discussion with John Rockwell and Bill T. Jones.
Celebrated as a masterful and magnetic soloist, Bill T. Jones is featured in an eclectic evening-length production comprised of three different works. It typifies Jones' characteristic blend of wit and poignancy and is built on modularity that allows Jones to recombine various dances such as With the Good Lord (a response to "The Nazz," a recorded nightclub performance by the legendary Lord Buckley), Chaconne (The past plays a large role in Jones' present. Chaconne is framed around spoken text and the music of Bach's haunting D-Minor Partita for Solo Violin).
World Premiere

In this compelling world premiere work based on the puppet play written by Jane Bowles, we meet Rhoda, a depressed and tired introvert, while her pragmatic sister Harriet is orderly and self-contented. The two sisters have very different views of the world, which at points clash violently. Jones takes this work and uses the sisters’ differences as metaphors for a world that threatens to place him in a little room limiting his artwork, personality and the means of expression to surmount the barricades placed in front of him.

A Quarreling Pair
Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company

Fri, Nov 30 @ 7:30pm / Sat, Dec 1 @ 8pm* / Sun, Dec 2 @ 3pm
Alexander Kasser Theater

*Post-performance discussion on December 1st with Bill T. Jones.
This work is commissioned by Peak Performances @ Montclair - Arts and Cultural Programming at Montclair State University.
Running Time: 90 minutes

Conceived and Choreographed by: Bill T. Jones
Based on the puppet play by: Jane Bowles
Musical Director: Daniel Bernard Roumain
Set Designer: Bjorn G. Amelan
Lighting Designer: Robert Wierzel
Costume Designer: Liz Prince

Peaks performances @montclair
Using high-octane choreography and the insightful writings of psychoanalyst R.D. Laing, Knots takes us through a series of passionate physical and verbal confrontations as it tries to unravel the twists and turns of life with someone else. The dynamic crooks and convolutions in our relationships are played out in dialogue scenarios, which the company uses as its starting point to create a piece that skillfully fuses text and movement.

Knots

Text by R.D. Laing
CoisCéim Dance Company (Ireland)

Directed by: Liam Steel
Sets and Costumes Designed by: Ferdia Murphy
Lighting Designer: Ian Scott
Sound Designer: Alexis Nealon

Thurs, Mar 6 @ 7:30pm / Fri, Mar 7 @ 7:30pm
Sat, Mar 8 @ 8pm* / Sun, Mar 9 @ 3pm

Alexander Kasser Theater

*Post-performance discussion on March 8th with David Bolger, Artistic Director. Running Time: 1:27

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Ferocious Beauty: Genome investigates the startling realities of how knowledge of the genome will change the way we think about aging, perfection and evolution. Under the direction of Liz Lerman, this subject is approached through a plurality of viewpoints that mirror a dialogue among multiple voices that are artistic, scientific and scholarly. The company developed this piece in collaboration with thirty-four genetic scientists from leading universities and government agencies across the country. Through mapping the human genome, we have connected to the past and the future and can see biological mechanisms that make us part of nature and the ecology.

“Ferocious Beauty brings the audience close to some fascinating issues in engaging and frequently enchanting ways. Liz Lerman puts her proven strategies to work here.” – Sarah Kaufman, The Washington Post

Choreographed by:
Liz Lerman
Media Designer:
John Boesche
Lighting Designer:
Michael Mazzola
Sound Designer:
Darron L. West
Video and Effects Editor:
Logan Kiben

**Ferocious Beauty: Genome**

Liz Lerman Dance Exchange

**Thurs, Apr 10 @ 7:30pm / Fri, Apr 11 @ 11am** (special performance for high school students)

**Sat, Apr 12 @ 8pm / Sun, Apr 13 @ 3pm**

Alexander Kasser Theater

*Post-performance discussion on April 12th featuring noted molecular biologist Bonnie Bassler of Princeton University, Richard Harris, Science Correspondent of NPR and Liz Lerman.*

Running Time: 2 hours

973.655.5112 • www.peakperfs.org
The Shanghai Quartet has earned its reputation as one of the world’s outstanding string quartets by performing exceptional repertoire in the world’s leading music halls. Currently in residence at MSU, this premier ensemble was formed in Shanghai nearly 25 years ago and is known for passionate musicality, astounding technique and multicultural innovations. Works for the September performance include Mozart’s Quartet in F Major K.590, Quartet No. 1 “Metamorphoses Nocturnes” by Ligeti, and Dvořák’s Quartet in A Flat Op. 105. The April performance features an afternoon of works by Brahms with Clarinet Quintet Op. 115 and Piano Quintet op. 34 with guest artists David Singer, clarinet, and David Witten, piano.

Sun, Sept 16 @ 3pm
Sun, Apr 6 @ 3pm
Alexander Kasser Theater

Shanghai Quartet

Honggang Li, viola
Nicholas Tzavaras, cello
Yi-wen Jiang, violin
Weigang Li, violin

“An ensemble with such virtuosity and style.”
—Daniel Ginsberg, The Washington Post

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Orchestra of St. Luke’s

In the Grace of the World

Grammy® Award winning Orchestra of St. Luke’s presents this unique full-length program inspired by the writings of renowned poet Wendell Berry. The title comes from the closing lines of Berry’s beautiful poem, The Peace Of Wild Things. In The Grace Of The World uses real-time videography and features a series of interwoven musical and visual tableaux to explore man’s interaction with nature and spiritual integration with the world around us. The program features the music of Latvian composer Peteris Vasks as well as musical works by J.S. Bach, Arvo Pärt, Toru Takemitsu, Charles Ives and Alan Hovhaness. Xian Zhang, Associate Conductor of the New York Philharmonic, leads this performance.

Conducted by:
Xian Zhang

Directed by:
Annie Loui

Created by:
Elizabeth Ostrow & Annie Loui

Lighting Designer:
Lonnie Alcaraz

Electronic Media:
Scott Snibbe

Sat, Oct 6 @ 8pm
Alexander Kasser Theater

Meet Peteris Vasks in a pre-performance gathering hosted by Annie Bergen of WQXR at 6:45pm in Room 1030 in University Hall.

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First Person:
Stories from the Edge of the World

A collaboration between the National Geographic Society, Neal Conan and Ensemble Galilei, First Person: Stories from the Edge of the World celebrates the thirst for knowledge and our appetite for adventure. This program features narration by Neal Conan, host of NPR’s Talk Of The Nation, with Liane Hanson and breathtaking images from the National Geographic film archives projected on stage. Ensemble Galilei provides evocative music that blends Scottish fiddling, medieval dances, works by Bach and original compositions. This stunning performance brings to life the unique experiences of climbing Mount Everest with Mallory, probing the depths with Cousteau or sailing aboard the Beagle with Darwin and much more. A great afternoon for the whole family!

Sun, Oct 14 @ 3pm
Alexander Kasser Theater

Please join us for an informal gathering with the performers in the lobby after the performance.

973.655.5112 • www.peakperfs.org
Russian Patriarchate Choir
Anatoly Grindenko, Director

“With music and performances this captivating, larger programming conceits need not apply.” - James R. Oestreich, New York Times

Founded in 1983 by Anatoly Grindenko, the Patriarchate Choir of Moscow performs in Russia and throughout the world and has been part of the prestigious Lincoln Center Festival. The singers are scholars of the repertoire for the male voice who led the way to the rediscovery of the music of the Russian Orthodox Church in the late years of the Soviet Regime. The choir spent years decoding ancient manuscripts and gave the first performances of works that were lost to obscurity for centuries. The music is beautiful and the choir’s singing and expressiveness are absolutely captivating.

Sun, Oct 28 @ 3pm
Alexander Kasser Theater
Please join us for an informal gathering with the performers in the lobby after the performance.

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Only Montclair!

Lura

Born in Portugal to parents from the Cape Verde Islands off the coast of West Africa, Lura is part of a new generation of musicians rediscovering the hidden traditions of their ancestral homeland. Mixing morna style made famous by Cesaria Evora with the lesser-known rhythms of funana and batuque, Lura, backed by her five-piece band, uses her sensuous voice and evocative dancing to transport audiences to that volcanic archipelago, where the pungent blend of trade route cultures has created a unique musical tradition that has tremendous popular appeal.

Sat, Apr 5 @ 8pm
Alexander Kasser Theater

"She danced with sensual grace and sang in a richly poised alto that held memories of Africa."

-The New York Times

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Pianist and composer Fred Hersch has earned his place among the foremost jazz artists in the world today. He is widely recognized for his ability to create a unique body of work while reinventing standard jazz repertoire with his keen insight, fresh ideas and superb technique. Among many honors, he has been nominated for three Grammy® Awards and has received a Guggenheim Fellowship in Composition. Finding his comfort zone in a trio setting, he has recorded seven trio albums that have left the critics raving. Hersch offers a full-evening suite focusing on tonal color, diverse rhythms and the exciting interplay that happens when stimulating new compositions are played by three world-class musicians.

Fred Hersch
with the Fred Hersch Trio
Full-Evening Suite for Jazz Trio

“Fred Hersch specializes in high lyricism and high danger”. -The New Yorker

Sat, May 3 @ 8pm
Alexander Kasser Theater
Meet the composer in a pre-performance gathering hosted by Gary Walker of WBGO at 6:45pm in University Hall.

$15

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Sinclair Lewis’ novel, Elmer Gantry, a satiric indictment of fundamentalist religion, caused a huge uproar when it was published in 1927 and continues to hold its sting in today’s world, with fundamentalism of every stripe on the rise. Robert Aldridge and Herschel Garfein take this controversial American work and mold it into a new opera that walks the line between satire and tragedy. Elmer Gantry utilizes Peak Performances @ Montclair’s university setting and features prominent professional singers, supported by a student chorus and select musicians from the John J. Cali School of Music.

Peak Performances @ Montclair in association with the Nashville Opera presents:

Elmer Gantry
An American Opera

Peak performances @montclair

The production of Elmer Gantry is made possible in part by funds from the Righteous Founders of the Priscilla & S. Dodge Foundation. Peak Performances @ Montclair is commissioning and underwriting the cost of all sets, costumes and lighting as well as their design for this production. Robert Aldridge is the Director of the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State.

Only Montclair!


“An unabashedly populist piece. The music is kinetic, vividly scored and steeped in American vernacular idiom.” -Anthony Tommasini, New York Times

Peak Performances @ Montclair

Wed, Jan 23 & Fri, Jan 25 @ 7:30pm / Sat, Jan 26 @ 8pm (All student cast)
Sun, Jan 27 @ 3pm *

Alexander Kasser Theater

* Meet the composer and librettist in a pre-performance gathering at 2pm in University Hall.

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Every performance, every seat $15

Only Montclair!
American Premiere!

The Trojan Women - An Asian Story

Conceived and Directed by: Aida Karic
Music Composed by: Seung-Ah Oh
Choreography by: Samjin Kim
Lighting and Set Design: Kurt Hentschlager
Dramaturges: Heejoon Lee, Wolfgang Stahl

Running Time: 70 minutes

Thurs, Oct 18 & Fri, Oct 19 @ 7:30pm / Sat, Oct 20 @ 8pm* / Sun, Oct 21 @ 3pm

Alexander Kasser Theater

The Trojan Women - An Asian Story is a co-production of Schauspielhaus Vienna, Wiener Festwochen, The Wuturi Players, Seoul Arts Center and Peak Performances @ Montclair State University.

*Post-performance discussion on Saturday, October 20th with Aida Karic and Randy Gener, Senior Editor of American Theatre Magazine, and hosted by David Cote, Time Out New York.

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The long tradition of sexual violence against women in periods of war is brought to the forefront in this play conceived and directed by Aida Karic. Based on The Trojan Women by Euripides and true stories of the exploitation of ‘comfort women’ in Korea during World War II, Karic crafts a piece that examines the constellation of the defeated vs. the conquerors, of the humiliated vs. the violators, all with facts of recent history. This production incorporates historical and biographical texts within the narrative form of the Pansori, Korea’s native opera, in which one singer and three percussionists combine onstage to tell epic stories. Performed in Korean with English subtitles.

Only Montclair!

The long tradition of sexual violence against women in periods of war is brought to the forefront in this play conceived and directed by Aida Karic. Based on The Trojan Women by Euripides and true stories of the exploitation of ‘comfort women’ in Korea during World War II, Karic crafts a piece that examines the constellation of the defeated vs. the conquerors, of the humiliated vs. the violators, all with facts of recent history. This production incorporates historical and biographical texts within the narrative form of the Pansori, Korea’s native opera, in which one singer and three percussionists combine onstage to tell epic stories. Performed in Korean with English subtitles.
Romeo is back and Peak Performances has him! In 2006, Castellucci's Tragedia Endogonidia at Peak Performances was one of the most talked about productions on either side of the Hudson. In this new piece, Romeo Castellucci examines the language of gesture. The genesis for this play came to him while stopped at an intersection where he saw a group of girls waiting for their buses. In Castellucci's masterful hands, nuance is everything: a nod, a finger pointed, a raised eyebrow, or a moment of recognition. Hey girl examines the relationship of what is going on in the mind of our everyday girl. What is her destiny? Who summons her to appear?

“Hypnotically beautiful and had a visual resonance that you find all too rarely on stage.”
- Clare Shine, Financial Times

Produced by: Societas Raffaele Sanzio
Directed by: Romeo Castellucci
Written by: Claudia Castellucci
Original Music by: Scott Gibbons
Lighting Designer: Giacomo Gorini
Dramaturgist: Chiara Guidi

Thurs, Feb 7 & Fri, Feb 8 @ 7:30pm / Sat, Feb 9 @ 8pm / Sun, Feb 10 @ 3pm
Alexander Kasser Theater

Pre-performance discussion before each show, hosted by David Cote, Time Out New York and Castellucci scholar Daniel Sack.
Running time: 70 minutes

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PAY UP

Do you know the value of money? Pig Iron Theatre Company brings you a real-world lesson in economics. Part circus, part shopping experience, and part sociology experiment; this site-specific interactive performance installation challenges audiences to make difficult decisions while putting them in awkward moral positions through the power of money. Unsettling equations arise as money changes hands among friends, siblings, lovers and strangers. Based on the experiments of Yale economist Keith Chen, PAY UP gives you your money’s worth in a hilarious yet thought-provoking physical theater experience. Only 125 admissions per performance.

Thurs, Mar 27 @ 5 & 7:30pm / Fri, Mar 28 @ 7:30pm
Sat, Mar 29 @ 2 & 8pm / Sun, Mar 30 @ 2pm

Alexander Kasser Theater
Take part in a unique feedback session after each performance.
Running Time: 55 minutes

973.655.5112 • www.peakperfs.org

Directed by: Dan Rothenberg
Written by: Robert Quillen Camp and Pig Iron Theatre Company
Production Designer: Anna Kiraly

“PAY UP entertains with high theatricality while provoking with serious ideas.”
—Toby Zinman, Variety
Award-winning singer/songwriter Rebecca Frezza is a rising star in the world of music for children. With her rockin’ eight-piece band Big Truck, Rebecca will have you on your feet singing along to songs that you can hear on Noggin, PBS Kids, XM Kids and Sirius satellite radio. All kids tall and small and young and old will have a great time moving to the music with this high-energy performance.
Rocker Dan Zanes has built an extremely successful career of writing and performing songs that families can sing together. Featured on Disney Playhouse, Zanes is one of the most popular artists in family entertainment today. Dan brings a bunch of his best friends from around the world to celebrate the holidays by embracing the traditions of many cultures in this special appearance that is sure to be a real hoot. Get ready to dance to the music!

Bring a donation of a can of food to help feed those in need this holiday season!

Fri, Dec 14 @ 7pm / Sat, Dec 15 @ 1 & 4pm / Sun, Dec 16 @ 3pm
Alexander Kasser Theater

An All New Show!
Only Montclair!

Dan Zanes and Friends
A Holiday Hootenanny!

“His albums are hip enough for Debbie Harry and Lou Reed to make cameos but accessible enough for the under-ten set to sing along...this is good ‘ol fashioned pop music for all ages.” - Esquire

973.655.5112 • www.peakperfs.org

every performance, every seat $15
John J. Cali School of Music
Dr. Robert Aldridge, Director

Newband
Dean Drummond, Director
Sept 29 @ 8pm • Alexander Kasser Theater
Filled with fascinating sonorities and textures, the concert program will include And On the Seventh Day Petals Fell in Petaluma by Harry Partch featuring instruments created by Partch and three works by Varèse.

Kaleidoscope
Oct 12 @ 7:30 / Oct 13 @ 8pm
Alexander Kasser Theater
Join more than 200 students, faculty and special guests in this 90-minute, non-stop music extravaganza with performances that range from symphonic to chamber, jazz to opera, and solo vocalists to a 130-voice chorale.

Sara Davis Buechner, piano
Oct 31 @ 7:30pm
Alexander Kasser Theater
Guest Artist Sara Davis Buechner has been celebrated for her virtuosic mastery, artistic sensitivity and extraordinary versatility. With an active repertoire of nearly 100 piano concertos ranging from Bach to Wuorinen, she has appeared as soloist with America’s most prominent orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Saint Louis and San Francisco Symphony Orchestras as well as with noted international orchestras. Ms. Buechner brings a unique program that features Bach’s Partita No. 6, Histoires by Jacques Ibert and Yoshinao Nakada’s landmark Sonata of 1949.

MSU Symphony Orchestra
Paul Hostetter, conductor
Nov 2 @ 7:30pm / March 1 @ 8pm / April 23 @ 7:30pm
Alexander Kasser Theater
The MSU Symphony Orchestra begins its season on November 2nd with a program that features works by Honegger, Weber and Brahms. The orchestra returns to the Alexander Kasser Theater on March 1st with a fun program that will include works by Peter Shickele, Kodaly and Elgar. Finally, on April 23rd to close it’s season, the orchestra will present a tribute to Leonard Bernstein with various works from this American composer.
MSU Wind Symphony and MSU Singers

Tom McCauley, Director of MSU Wind Symphony
Heather J. Buchanan, Director of MSU Singers

Nov 3 @ 8pm • Alexander Kasser Theater

Don’t miss this delightful evening that includes an eclectic mix of works arranged for large wind ensembles and wind ensemble and choir.

MSU Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony

Tom McCauley, Director

Nov 4 @ 3pm / Dec 7 @ 7:30pm / March 2 @ 3pm / April 25 @ 7:30pm • Alexander Kasser Theater

A vibrant season for band and wind ensembles begins on November 4th with the MSU Symphonic Band and its opener that includes work by Maslanka, Whitacre and Arnold. On December 7th, both ensembles present a concert that features work by Hosay, Lo Presti and the world premiere of Symphony No. 2 (“Genesis”) by David Gillingham. The Wind Symphony features a program on March 2nd that includes selections by Dukas, Mozart and Bernstein. To close the season on April 25th, both ensembles join together in a program celebrating the music of American master composers Bernstein, Gershwin and Copland.

MSU Chorale and Singers

Heather J. Buchanan, Director

Dec 8 @ 8pm / April 26 @ 8pm / May 2 @ 7:30pm • Alexander Kasser Theater

The year’s choral season brings these diverse performances to the Alexander Kasser Theater. On December 8th, both the MSU Chorale and Singers present Sing, Choirs of Angels! This performance features the Poulenc Gloria and selected music for the holiday season. On April 26th, the MSU Chorale pays tribute to the vocal music of Leonard Bernstein with a concert that features the Chichester Psalms and selections from Candide and West Side Story. To end the season, the MSU Singers present a Farewell Concert prior to their tour to Russia that includes William Bolcom’s The Mask and several works by American composers.

THE BEATRICE CRAWFORD MEMORIAL CONCERT

MSU Symphony Orchestra

Paul Hostetter, Conductor Chuck Cooper, Vocalist

Dec 9 @ 3pm • Alexander Kasser Theater

Tony Award® winning vocalist Chuck Cooper joins the MSU Symphony Orchestra in a world premiere of The Star Across the Ocean by American composer Scott Davenport Richards. Also on this program is Symphony No. 5 in C-sharp minor by Gustav Mahler.

Admission: FREE

This free public performance, the Crawford Concert, is supported by a generous grant from the Kavanagh Crawford Foundation. It is an annual event presented at Montclair State University in memory of Beatrice Crawford, a Montclair musician who was the director of two choque groups “The Madrigals” and “The Choraliers.”
Opera Workshop
Jeffrey Gall, Director
Dec 12 @ 7:30pm / May 4 @ 3pm • Alexander Kasser Theater
The first program will focus on the music of Robert Aldridge with several excerpts from his new opera Elmer Gantry. Program for the May 4th performance to be announced at a later date.

WORLD PREMIERE
Piano Music inspired by Art:
Soundscape from Italy and Russia
David Witten, piano
Jan 31 @ 7:30pm • Alexander Kasser Theater
David Witten’s career includes numerous concert tours in Russia, Ukraine, Europe, Mexico, and South America. A recipient of a 1990 Fulbright Scholar Award, Witten spent five months teaching and performing throughout Brazil. His strong interest in twentieth-century music led to recordings of the piano music of Nicholas Van Vhiyck and Manuel M. Ponce, as well as flute and piano music of Latin America with flutist Sue-Ellen Heimhsen-Tcherepino. In this recital, Witten includes the world premiere of a piano sonata by composer Mauricio Dottori as well as works by Alessandro Solbiati and Nikolai Tcherepin.

MSU Jazz Ensemble
Jeffrey Kunkel, Director
March 15 @ 8pm / April 27 @ 3pm • Alexander Kasser Theater
Repertoire for these performances to be announced at a future date.
Dance College of the Arts

DANCE
Lori Katterhenry, Artistic Director

Works-A-Foot
Dec 5, 6, 7 @ 7:30pm / Dec 7 @ 1pm / Dec 8 @ 8pm / Dec 9 @ 2pm Memorial Auditorium

The first in a year-long tribute to American choreographers, this performance will include a piece from Bill T. Jones’ D Man in the Waters set on MSU students by Roz LeBlanc, former dancer with the Bill T. Jones/Ammi Zane Company. Don’t miss this exciting event filled with innovative and new choreography.

Dance Collage
March 5, 6, 7 @ 7:30pm / March 7 @ 1pm / March 8 @ 8pm / March 9 @ 2pm Memorial Auditorium

Dance Collage features new works by MSU students and faculty. Included in this year’s concert will be a modern dance choreographed by Donna Scro-Gentile for seniors and a jazz piece by Jay T. Jenkins for the junior students. Joao Carvalho will choreograph a modern work for the sophomore students, and the freshmen dance majors will perform a new modern dance by Jessie DiMauro.

Danceworks
April 17, 18 @ 7:30pm / April 18 @ 1pm / April 19 @ 8pm / April 20 @ 2pm Memorial Auditorium

The showcase for the season of American dance, Danceworks, will feature Martha Graham’s Steps in the Street recreated by Denise Vale for MSU Dance, a reprise of Bill T. Jones’ D Man in the Waters, and the best of the new works created for Works-A-Foot and Dance Collage. Don’t miss this tribute to classic and contemporary American choreography!
Les Liaisons Dangereuses
Written by Christopher Hampton | Directed by Susan Kerner
Oct 18, 19, 24, 25 @ 7:30pm / Oct 26 @ 1pm
Oct 20, 27 @ 8pm / Oct 21, 28 @ 2pm
Fox Theatre
A witty and stylish portrayal of seduction, betrayal and revenge among the aristocracy prior to the French revolution. Based on Choderlos de Laclos’ 1782 tale, anything goes when a wealthy widow forms a conspiracy with a notorious rake to corrupt a young girl. In this high-stakes game they play to win at any cost.

The Full Monty
Book by Terrance McNally | Score by David Yazbek | Directed by Clay James
Nov 15, 16 @ 7:30pm / Nov 16 @ 1pm, Nov 17 @ 1 & 8pm / Nov 18 @ 2pm Alexander Kasser Theater
This salute to the human spirit is the poignant story of six unemployed, out-of-shape mill workers from Buffalo, New York, who concoct a scheme to make some extra cash as male strippers. As they work through their fears and anxieties, they discover that the strength they find in each other gives them courage to face their demons.

Katrina
Created and written by Suzanne Trauth and Lisa Brenner
Dec 5, 6, 7 @ 7:30pm / Dec 7 @ 1pm
Dec 8 @ 8pm / Dec 9 @ 2pm Fox Theatre
An original play inspired by stories of individuals facing one of America’s most challenging crises. Both tragically heartbreaking and poignantly uplifting, Katrina chronicles the journeys of New Orleans residents whose lives are forever changed: some choose to wait out the storm; some can’t get out; some create a new life in a new city; and some leave a comfortable life elsewhere to help rebuild a broken city.

Machinal
Written by Sophie Treadwell | Directed by a Guest Director TBA
Feb 20, 21, 22 @ 7:30pm / Feb 22 @ 1pm
Feb 23 @ 8pm / Feb 24 @ 2pm
Alexander Kasser Theater
Based on the infamous 1927 trial and execution of Ruth Snyder and Judd Grey for the murder of Snyder’s husband, Machinal explores the external forces and inner conflicts of a woman caught in a mechanized world and a loveless marriage. An expressionistic vision of a woman trapped in a nightmarish society, this drama is as timely today as it was when it premiered in New York in 1928.

subUrbia
Written by Eric Bogosian | Directed by Jorge Cacheiro
April 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 @ 7:30pm / April 11 @ 1pm
April 5, 12 @ 8pm / April 6, 13 @ 2pm
Fox Theatre
Bogosian’s dark drama looks at one night in the lives of a group of 20-something slackers hanging out in front of a convenience store in a contemporary suburb. A portrait of disaffection and desperation, subUrbia explores the jealousy, misogyny and violence that pervades the lives of young people without a purpose.

The Marvin Songs
In Trousers, March of the Falsettos, Falsettoland
Music and lyrics by William Finn | Book by William Finn and James Lapine
Directed by Aaron Jodoin | Musical Staging by Clay James
April 30 @ 7:30pm / May 1, 2 @ 7:30pm / May 2 @ 1pm
May 3 @ 8 pm / May 4 @ 2pm
Fox Theatre
A seamless production of the acclaimed Falsettos trilogy, this Tony Award winner is the jaunty tale of Marvin and his attempts to decide if he is hetero, homo or bi. He leaves his wife and young son to live with another man while his ex-wife marries his psychiatrist. The Marvin Songs is a brave and hilarious musical chronicking the ups and downs of modern urban life with the ever-increasing specter of AIDS.
EASY WAYS TO ORDER
• Call: 973.655.5112
• Fax: 973.655.4008
• Mail: Box Office, Alexander Kasser Theater, Montclair State University, 1 Normal Avenue, Montclair, NJ 07043
• Web: www.peakperfs.org

GROUP SALES
Come with family or friends or bring a group from your business, civic or religious organization. Call 973.655.3004 for more information.

PAF
Undergraduate students at MSU receive one ticket at no additional charge to every event through the Performing Arts Fee with their student IDs. Tickets may be picked up at the box office.

AUDIENCE SERVICES
• ADA accessible seating is available for all performances and events.
• Wireless hearing enhancement systems are available free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis at the time of the performance.
• Large type programs are available free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis at the time of the performance.

Ticket Information

BOX OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Friday 12 p.m.–6 p.m.
On Performance Dates 12 p.m.–curtain

CONTACT US
Box Office: 973.655.5112
Box Office Fax: 973.655.4008
Box Office Email: PeakPerfs@mail.montclair.edu
Website: www.peakperfs.org

BOX OFFICE POLICIES
1. All tickets purchased over the phone or online must be charged to MasterCard, Discover, Visa or American Express. Tickets will not be held without payment.
2. Checks may be made payable to Montclair State University. There will be a $25 service fee on any returned checks.
3. All sales are final. There are no refunds or exchanges.
4. As a courtesy to audience members as well as to the performers, please use your best judgment regarding your child’s ability to sit quietly and enjoy a performance.
5. A current address and phone number are required when purchasing tickets.
6. There is a $2.50 handling fee per ticket added to each order taken via phone, by fax or by email. Our website sales are processed through a third party that will independently collect a processing fee of $2.50 per ticket. There is a $4.00 handling fee for all orders mailed in to the box office.
7. All processing and handling fees are nonrefundable. In case of a show cancellation only the face value of the ticket will be refunded.
8. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the management at a suitable break in the performance.
9. Patrons who wish to be seated together must order at the same time.
10. All programs, dates, times and prices are subject to change without notice.

Peak performances @montclair

07/08

STAGE

ORCHESTRA

Kasser

BALCONY

Ferocious Beauty – (April 19, 21, 22, 23)
Montclair State University is located on Valley Road and Normal Avenue in Montclair, NJ. The main entrance of the campus is on Normal Avenue.

BY CAR
From points north in NJ to Valley Road – Take the Garden State Parkway to Route 46 West (Exit 154), Merge onto Route 46 West and take Valley Road Exit. You will make a right and then an immediate left into a turnaround that will send you south. Follow the signs towards Montclair onto Valley Road South.*

From points south in NJ to Valley Road – Take the Garden State Parkway to Route 3 West (Exit 153B), Merge right and take exit marked Montclair-Platterson onto Valley Road. Follow signs towards Montclair onto Valley Road South.*

From Manhattan (Lincoln Tunnel) to Valley Road – Take Lincoln Tunnel to Route 3 West. Merge right and take exit marked Montclair-Platterson onto Valley Road. Follow signs towards Montclair onto Valley Road South.*

From Manhattan (GW Bridge) to Valley Road – Take the GW Bridge to Interstate 80. Then take the Garden State Parkway South. Continue on the Garden State Parkway to Route 46 West (Exit 154), Merge onto Route 46 West and take to Valley Road Exit. You will make a right and then an immediate left into a turnaround that will send you south. Follow the signs towards Montclair onto Valley Road South.*

*SPECIAL EVENT PARKING
Parking for all performances is available at the Red Hawk Parking Deck located adjacent to the Alexander Kasser Theater. The rates for parking are subject to change.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
WEEKDAYS ONLY
NJ Transit Railroad is the recommended method of public transportation for patrons traveling from NYC for weekday performances. Midtown Direct trains operate between NY Penn Station and Montclair Heights. Travel time is approximately 40 minutes. Patrons should exit the train at the Montclair Heights Station. Ushers will greet the last train that arrives prior to curtain and will escort patrons to the theater. Log on to www.njtransit.com or call NJ Transit at 1-800-772-2222 for more information.

MANHATTAN BUS
Chartered van or bus service is available for the fee of $5 per person from the Maritime Hotel (9th Ave. & 16th St., Manhattan) to Montclair State University for selected weekend performances. Please call the Peak Performances Box Office at 973.655.5112 to purchase tickets and reserve a seat.

Peak performances
@montclair

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How To Get Here
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We want you!

You’re Invited To Experience Peak Performances.

This season, Peak Performances @ Montclair brings you world-class performances that you can see nowhere else in the Tri-State area. Critics have been raving about our programming, and now here is your incredible opportunity to be included. Come experience and enjoy what everyone is talking about with our most fantastic offer to date.

All tickets at Peak Performances @ Montclair are $15

That’s right, $15 to see Bill T. Jones, Orchestra of St. Luke’s, Dan Zanes, Fred Hersch, Shanghai Quartet, Romeo Castellucci, and much, much more.

SEPTEMBER 2007

Sept 15 @ 1pm
Rebecca Frezza and Big Truck

Sept 16 @ 3pm / April 6 @ 3pm
Shanghai Quartet

Sept 19 @ 6pm
Bill T. Jones
Performance Address

Sept 26 @ 3pm
Daniel Bernard Roumain
Music and Movement

OCTOBER

Oct 6 @ 8pm
Orchestra of St. Luke’s

Oct 10 @ 7pm
The Work of Bjorn G. Amelan

Oct 14 @ 3pm
Ensemble Galilei
Stories From the Edge of the World

Oct 18, 19 @ 7:30pm / Oct 20 @ 8pm / Oct 21 @ 3pm
The Trojan Women – An Asian Story

Only Montclair!
FEBRUARY
Feb 7, 8 @ 7:30pm / Feb 9 @ 8pm / Feb 10 @ 3pm
Hey Girl!
Romeo Castellucci

MARCH
March 6 @ 7:30pm / March 7 @ 7:30pm / March 8 @ 8pm
March 9 @ 3pm
Knots
CoisCéim Dance Company
March 27 @ 5 & 7:30pm / March 28 @ 7:30pm
March 29 @ 2 & 8pm / March 30 @ 2pm
PAY UP
Pig Iron Theatre Company

APRIL
April 5 @ 8pm
Lura
April 10 @ 7:30pm / April 11 @ 11am (for high school students)
April 12 @ 8pm / April 13 @ 3pm
Ferocious Beauty: Genome
Liz Lerman Dance Exchange

MAY
May 3 @ 8pm
Fred Hersch

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER
Dec 30 @ 7:30pm / Dec 1 @ 8pm / Dec 2 @ 3pm
Bill T. Jones – A Quarreling Pair
Dec 14 @ 7pm / Dec 15 @ 1 & 4pm
Dec 16 @ 3pm
Dan Zanes
A Holiday Hootenanny!

JANUARY 2008
Jan 23 & 25 @ 7:30pm / Jan 26 @ 8pm (All student cast)
Jan 27 @ 3pm
Elmer Gantry

Peak performances @montclair
JOHN J. CALI SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Sept 29 @ 8pm
Newband

Oct 12 @ 7:30pm / Oct 13 @ 8pm
Kaleidoscope

Oct 31 @ 7:30pm
Sara Davis Buechner, Piano

Nov 2 @ 7:30pm / March 1 @ 8pm / April 23 @ 7:30pm
MSU Symphony Orchestra

Nov 3 @ 8pm
MSU Wind Symphony and University Singers

Nov 4 @ 8pm / Dec 7 @ 7:30pm / March 2 @ 3pm / April 25 @ 7:30pm
MSU Band and Wind Symphony

Dec 8 @ 6pm / April 26 @ 8pm / May 2 @ 7:30pm
MSU Chorale and University Singers

Dec 9 @ 3pm
Crawford Concert

MSU Symphony Orchestra

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Oct 18, 19, 24, 25, 26 @ 7:30pm / Oct 26 @ 1pm
Les Liaisons Dangereuses

Nov 15, 16 @ 7:30pm / Nov 16 @ 1pm
The Full Monty

Dec 5, 6, 7 @ 7:30pm / Dec 7 @ 1pm
Katrina

Dec 5, 6, 7 @ 7:30pm / Dec 7 @ 1pm
Works-A-Foot

Feb 20, 21, 22 @ 7:30pm / Feb 22 @ 1pm
Machinal

March 5, 6, 7 @ 7:30pm / March 7 @ 1pm
March 8 @ 6pm / March 9 @ 2pm
Dance Collage

April 4, 5, 11, 12 @ 7:30pm
April 11 @ 1pm / April 5, 12 @ 8pm / April 6, 13 @ 2pm
subUrbia

April 17, 18 @ 7:30pm / April 18 @ 1pm
April 19 @ 8pm / April 20 @ 2pm
Danceworks

April 30 @ 7:30pm / May 1, 2 @ 7:30pm / May 2 @ 1pm
May 3 @ 6pm / May 4 @ 2pm
The Marvin Songs

Photo Credits
Bill T. Jones: Paul B. Goode, Al Zanyk; Rebecca Frezza: Bob Frezza
Dan Zanes: Lisa Schaffer, Elmer Gantry
Knots: Chris Nash; Lura: Joe Wuerfel; Hey Girl!: Francesco Raffielli
Trojan Women: Nick Mangafas, All MSU performance photos: Mike Peters

Danceworks – (April 17, 18, 19, 20)
Special Thanks

Programs in this season are made possible in part, by funds from:

The National Endowment for the Arts

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Dept. of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts

Discover Jersey Arts

Alison and James T. Cirenza

SPECIAL SERVICES

Special Seating: ADA accessible seating is available for all performances and events.

Listening Assistive Devices: Wireless hearing enhancement systems are available free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis at the time of the performance.

Large Print Programs: Large type programs are available free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis at the time of the performance.

Audio Description: A device worn over the ears provides a live description on what is happening onstage. Available for shows with extended runs.

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2007-2008 ORDER FORM

Event                   Date          Time             Price          Quantity          Total

Blind Date – (Oct. 25)

Subtotal: $15

Handling Charge: $4.00 for mailed orders, $2.50 per ticket for faxed orders

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Name: [Redacted]
ALL tickets to ALL events are $15