12-21-2013

Darkness Is Your Candle

Office of Arts + Cultural Programming

PEAK Performances at Montclair State University

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**World Premiere! East of the River**

**Darkness Is Your Candle**

Daphna Mor and Nina Stern, recorders, nay, chaîneau
Ara Diokjian, oud
Jesse Katinsky, violin
Peter Stan, accordion
Omer Avital, bass
Shane Shanahan, percussion
Glen Velez, percussion

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**Program**

*Krunk*

Komitas Vardapet (1865–1935)
Sayat Nova (1712–1795)
Traditional Andalusian
Abdel Rahman Jabakji (d. 2003)
Traditional Bulgarian

*Ghettea*

Italian, late 14th century
Arranged by Nina Stern
Glen Velez, Shane Shanahan

**Major Donors**

**Benefactors**

Artists Alley
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The Hilier Group
Audrey V. Leef
The Prudential Insurance Company of America
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Josh and Judy Weston

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The National Endowment for the Arts
The New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State
Discover Jersey Arts
Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation
National Dance Project (NDP) of the New England Foundation for the Arts
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
East of the River

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Office of Arts & Cultural Programming
Montclair State University
Peck Hall, Alexander Kasser Theater

**World Premiere! East of the River**

**Darkness Is Your Candle**

December 21, 2013
8:00 p.m.
Alexander Kasser Theater
Montclair State University

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To view our complete season and for more information, visit peakperfs.org.
Ghazette” is one of 15 manuscripts from a collection in London’s British Library (MS Add. 25807)—an extraordinary collection of Italian virtuoso solo dances from the late 14th century. Originally written for one melody instrument, the version performed tonight depicts an original arrangement of the work for two recorders and percussion.

The sanai is a lively instrumental piece of Turkish/Eastern origin, usually in simple 2/4/ meter. The form of the sanai is similar to the rounds consisting of two or four couples (against a recurring refrain (tasnif). These two pieces are written in the related modes (maqamat) of basharsh and nawaward.

Cveta mama ubave” is a dervish—ita dance, usually in 7/8 time, from Macedonia. This particular dervish is often sung. The lyrics to the song are:“Cveta the beautiful girl, she vails her skirt, and asks her self. Why, Dimicho, don’t you come to me? Don’t you tell me, Dimicho, that you would love me, truly, only me—send me a gift, you jailor, scram, back to me! Pull your cap down over your eye, wink at me, raise your cap so I can see you. I’m burning up for you!

“Ara Dinkjian (soprano) was born in New Jersey and graduated from Hartt College of Music, earning the country’s first and only special degree in the oud. This groundbreaking and highly influential group Art Nahawand recorded four CDs for ECM—Baaba Maal—Universal and Sony BMG. He has given concerts in 25 countries throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. His compositions have been recorded by renowned musicians and singers in 14 different languages. Dinkjian’s composition “Homemaking” (dirba, Dilma) was part of a successful evening at Benaroya Hall in Seattle, Washington in 2006.

Shane Shanahan (percussion)’s career has been touring the globe performing with the group Amorce from 2005 to 2010 as an original member of the Grammy-nominated Silk Road Ensemble. His arrangements and compositions are featured on several of the group’s recordings for Sony Classical. He can also be heard and seen on Maxi-Grant Award-winning holiday CD/ DVDs, Songs of Peace. He has performed and/or recorded with Bobby McFerrin, Aretha Franklin, Philip Glass, Al versions, Deep Purple, Jort de Savoy, Sonny Fortune, Fantastic, Chaka Khan, and Gil Perez, among others. Shanahan’s dynamic performances have brought percussionists to the forefront in the greater Seattle music world, including Carnegie Hall, where after the first New York Times proclaimed, “By the time he finished in a virtuosic jester dance, limbs flying as he whirled back and forth between drumsticks, body and bones, the audience roared with delight. Through a strong belief in the power of education, Shanahan is taught and/or presented workshops at schools and universities around the world including Princeton, Harvard, and NYU.

Peter Stan (accordion) is of Roman Balli heritage. Born and raised in Australia, he moved to the US at age ten. He was taught to play the accordion at an early age by his father, also an accordionist. He has won prizes in several prestigious accordion competitions, including those sponsored by the American Accordionists Association and the Long Island Music Teachers Association. Stan is fluent in a broad range of musical styles, including Balkan, Klezmer, and contemporary. He has also performed in movies and on soundtracks and has played for the Mark Morris Dance Group. Stan has played at Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, and Irving Plaza as well as with the New York Philharmonic, Sweden, Turkey, Denmark, Serbia, and throughout much of the US.