



SOUTHWEST
CHAMBER
MUSIC

PRESS RELEASE

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Xenakis Meets Anne Le Baron

Saturday, January 29, 2011 at 8 p.m.

World Premiere of *Hsing* by Anne LeBaron

Los Angeles – GRAMMY® Award-winning Southwest Chamber Music, the voice of New Classical Music and one of the most active chamber music ensembles in the nation, continues its 2010-2011 season with a program that combines the music of Iannis Xenakis and Vũ Nhật Tân, featuring Southwest’s double bass virtuoso Tom Peters. The concert also presents the world premiere of Anne LeBaron’s *Hsing*, performed by harpist Alison Bjorkedal.

***Theraps* by Iannis Xenakis**

Born in 1922 to Greek parents in Romania, Xenakis became one of the most celebrated post-war avant-garde composers. The compositions of Xenakis blend his backgrounds in math, architecture, and music to produce a sound that is both angular and visually stimulating. *Theraps* for solo double bass, featuring double bassist Tom Peters, requires both virtuosity and bravery. Xenakis tests the extended technique of double bass through this piece and leaves no corner of possibility undiscovered. *Theraps* juxtaposes sections that can be both darkly geometric and harmonically bright. Xenakis employs microtones to create interference between notes with a throbbing effect. Peters explains, “Xenakis uses the physics of sound to create music.”

***2T for Tom* by Vũ Nhật Tân**

Mark Swed of the Los Angeles Times wrote that “*Vũ Nhật Tân* is turning out to be a composer of a many intriguing sides and who is ready for major international recognition.” Southwest Chamber Music reprises *2t for Tom* by Vũ Nhật Tân. Written for double bass virtuoso Tom Peters, the work is a result of numerous working sessions between Tân and Peters. Peters performs both bowed electric bass and double bass with sound processing on stage to produce various levels of distortion.

Born in 1970 in Vietnam, Tân studied composition and musicology at the National Conservatory of Music in Hanoi, where he is now on faculty. Tân has also studied with Chinary Ung at UC San Diego and Ton That Tiêt in Paris.

World Premiere of *Hsing* by Anne LeBaron

In the spirit of blending musical styles and cultures, LeBaron incorporates elements of chance, the Chinese zodiac, spoken word, and the story of a haunted harp with a variety of complementing musical motives ranging from ethereal to sensual to witty in *Hsing*. “As a harpist herself, Anne LeBaron composes music that is not only idiomatic, but also explores the full range of aural colors available through extended techniques,” explains harpist Alison Bjorkedal, who will premiere the piece this month. The Los Angeles Times describes LeBaron’s music as “*not easily forgotten and impossible to ignore.*”

Performers for the concert are Alison Bjorkedal, harp, and Tom Peters, double bass.

Pre-concert Talk

A *Pre-concert Talk* will be held before the performance at **7:30 p.m.** at the **Armory Center for the Arts** with Southwest Chamber Music’s Artistic Director Jeff von der Schmidt.

Tickets & Parking

Single tickets are \$38, with senior discount tickets available at \$28. Student tickets are available on the day of the performance with full-time student ID for \$10. Parking is available in the adjacent structure. Save 10% on 7 general admission tickets or more.

For tickets or more information, please call 1-800-726-7147 or visit www.swmusic.org.

SOUTHWEST CHAMBER MUSIC **2010-2011 SEASON Program Listing** (All programs and artists are subject to change)

SINGLE TICKETS: \$38 (GENERAL), \$28 (SENIOR), and \$10 (STUDENT w/ID)
1-800-726-7147

- **Saturday, January 29, 2011 at 8 p.m.**
Armory Center for the Arts, 145 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena, CA 91103

Iannis Xenakis
Vũ Nhật Tân
Anne Le Baron

Theraps
2t for Tom
Hsing (World Premiere)

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