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Concert: Journey West

Max Buckholtz

Journey West

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Journey West

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Saturday, September 9th, 2017
8:15 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

<i>Tariq Al Shubli</i> (Iraqi)	Sghira Kuneit
<i>Temshi Watsed Lindsay</i> (Iraqi)	
<i>Bint al Balad</i> (Egyptian)	Muhammed 'Abd al-Wahab
<i>Raqsat Sitti</i> (Dance of the Grandmother) (Syrian)	
Sephardic Migration of Melody <i>Uskadar</i> (Turkish/Sephardic) <i>Los Paxaricos</i> (Sephardic) <i>Terk in America</i> (Klezmer)	
<i>Syrtos</i> (Greek)	
<i>Hora Cu Corzi Incalecate</i> (Moldavian) <i>Sirba Cu Corzi Incalecate</i> (Moldavian)	
<i>Sirba</i>	Jake Shulman-Ment

Intermission

<i>Turceasca</i> (Romanian)	
<i>Doina</i> (Klezmer) <i>Skirvskaya</i> (Klezmer) <i>Der Heyser Bulgar</i> (Klezmer)	Abe Schwartz
<i>Passion</i> (French/Italian)	Tony Murena
<i>Tchavalo Swing</i> (Parisian Gypsy Jazz)	Dorado Schmitt
<i>Belgian Volklederen</i> <i>Vier Wevers</i> <i>De Wollewevers</i>	
<i>Last Night's Set</i> (Irish)	
<i>Ridin' on that Train</i> (Bluegrass)	Max Buckholtz
<i>Angeline the Baker</i> (Bluegrass)	Mississippi Sawyer

Biographies

Max Buckholtz - Violin and Director

Max has worked for the Department of Performing and Media Arts at Cornell since the mid-'90s as a dance accompanist, performer, and composer. He has taught music theory and conducted the orchestral and jazz ensembles at Wells College. He has also served at Cornell and Ithaca College, lecturing and performing Jewish, Moldavian, Romanian and Turkish music and publishes scores through www.newdaymusiccores.com. Max began his study of the violin at the age of three under the direction of Mary Cay Neal who studied directly with Dr. Shinichi Suzuki. In Eastern and Western Europe as well as in the former Soviet Union he was exposed to a variety of different musics while touring with the Buffalo Suzuki Strings from the age of 10-16. During this time, the Buffalo Suzuki Strings community provided him with a family environment in which to seek refuge during a decade-long period when his mother was ill. The student body was comprised of students of diverse cultural and ancestral backgrounds including Jews, Arabs, Persians, Indians, Africans, Asians, Hispanics, and numerous first and second generation Eastern and Western Europeans. These families involved represented the highest ideals of humanity including respect, honesty, diligence, generosity, and industriousness. Max's goal is that through Journey West he can realize his highest hope of bringing people together to celebrate their diversity and to live in harmony and respect for one another.

Mark Karlsen - Saxophone, Flute, Clarinet, Train Whistle

Mark Karlsen is a saxophonist and multi-instrumentalist hailing from Ithaca, NY. He has been playing saxophone for nearly thirty years, and has earned both BM (North Carolina School of the Arts) and MM (Ithaca College) degrees in Classical Saxophone Performance. Mark's musical exploits include playing many styles of music with several bands including The Hog-Tie Sessions (Celtic, bluegrass and folk music of many traditions), The Temple Rockers (Jewish Reggae band with albums on Tzadik records), The Mutron Warriors (funk), and Thousands of One (original Ithaca music).

Chad Lieberman - Bass, Accordion, Guitar, Piano

Chad Lieberman studied music composition and electronic music at Ithaca College. He plays piano, accordion, keyboards, bass, and guitar for many of the region's best-known bands. Chad grew up in Miami, Florida, where, as a teenager, he was inspired by Cuban salsa and merengue, as well as the innovative music coming out of the University of Miami's jazz program. These early influences fostered an appreciation for the music of different cultures as well as an awareness of the difficulties that can arise between them.

Dara Anissi - Oud, Guitar

Dara Anissi was born in Tehran, Iran in 1973 and moved to the United States in 1975 as his family escaped the oppressive regime of the Ayatollah Khomeini. He began playing the guitar at age five and continued to play for the next thirty five years, adding a wide variety of instruments and styles to his repertoire. Dara attended the Ithaca College School of Music from 1991-1995 where he received a bachelor's degree in composition. His current passion is playing the oud.

Martin Shamoounpour - Daf, Darbouka (Tehran, Iran)

Martin Shamoounpour is from a Christian minority community in Iran. He is a highly skilled and exuberant master of the Daf. A graduate in graphic design and an autodidact woodwind player and percussionist, Martin's musical career mainly focuses in audio art, animation, theater, and experimental performances. He has a strong interest in generating sound with unusual instruments, such as industrial tools or kitchen appliances, which are essential to his music and performances.

Imad Al Taha - Violin (Basra, Iraq)

Imad Al Taha is a well-known Iraqi violinist who has performed throughout Iraq, Iran, and the Arabian Gulf. He has written, recorded and performed music upon request from state leaders, including the president of Dubai, Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed al Maktom, and has worked for many national broadcasting companies. While living in Iraq, Imad was forced to perform for Saddam Hussein, under threat of execution. When Saddam's government was overthrown, Imad later found himself threatened by religious extremists who found his music offensive. Imad and his wife and three children, are currently political refugees who first fled to the United Arab Emirates, and are now seeking asylum in the United States.

Basam Batbouta - Riq (Damascus, Syria)

Basam Batbouta is a Syrian percussionist who is currently living in the United States. In Syria, Basam worked as a contributor to newspapers and magazines, writing extensively and doing radio interviews on the history of Syrian and Middle Eastern music. In 2012, a series of bombings in Basam's neighborhood targeted Syrian Christian and Druze minorities. One of these bombs exploded at his workplace, prompting his departure to the United States where he was granted temporary protected status and a green card in order to obtain work.

Journey West supports and performs with refugee musicians and donates 5% of their income from performance fees and CD sales directly to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR). For more information see journeywestmusic.com.

Sponsorship

This concert is sponsored by the Ithaca College Jewish Studies Program, the Ithaca College Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Engagement, the Ithaca College Department of Anthropology, Istanbul Turkish Kitchen, Ithaca Welcomes Refugees, and Group 73 of Amnesty International, Ithaca, NY. Special thanks to Karl Paulnack, Dean, Ithaca College School of Music.