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The California E.A.R. Unit

The California E.A.R. Unit

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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS

THEATRE

MUSIC

DANCE



CHAPMAN
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SPRING 2011



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
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Spring 2011 Event Highlights

THEATRE:

Macbeth

by William Shakespeare Feb. 17-19, 24-26

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

by Steve Martin Mar. 17-19, 24-26

Student Directed One-Acts Apr. 28-30

MUSIC:

University Choir Home Concert Feb. 4

Ensemble in Residence – Penderecki String Quartet Feb. 15

Chapman Chamber Orchestra and University Choir Mar. 4

Chapman University Wind Symphony Mar. 12

Opera Chapman Apr. 1-3

Guest Artists in Recital – EAR Unit May 5

Sholund Scholarship Concert: Beethoven's *Leonore Overture No. 3*,

Sanft wie du Lebtest and *Mass in C* May 7

DANCE:

Dance Works in Progress Mar. 5-6

Concert Intime Mar. 31, Apr. 1-2

Spring Dance Concert May 11-14

For more information about our events,
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or call 714-997-6519 or email CoPA@chapman.edu

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
Conservatory of Music

presents a

The California E.A.R. Unit

Guest Artists in Recital

Thursday, May 5, 2011 • 8:00 P.M.
Salmon Recital Hall

PROGRAM

Nothing Left to Burn

Shaun Naidoo

Jugg(ular)ling

Vicki Ray
Tammy Ray, video

Conver(say)tions

Miguel Azguime

INTERMISSION

As Alice

Tunnels and Doors
In Other's Rooms
Hold the Baby
Pulling the String
Second Helpings
False Threat of the Marching *Hand*
On Waking Up

David Dvorin
Ted Davis, video

Belgo II

Amy Knoles

BELGO II 1998 (original version) 2010 (trio version)

When I first began to work on this piece for pianist Vicki Ray (who so generously commissioned it), I remembered an evening when Vicki and I were shopping in the SOHO district of London on a day off during an EAR Unit tour. We ended up at a favorite restaurant of mine named Belgo; a Belgian eaterie with waiters wearing monk's clothing. The restaurant has very strange words imbedded into the walls that wrap around the room: *Tittwaddle*, *Calabrese*, *Cocklicrane*, *Coldeel*, etc. After some investigation, I discovered that these were the names of the Chefs that went into battle against the Chitterlings in Francois Rabelais' work *Gargantua and Pantagruel*. These words drive the piece. While composing the piece I listened to music of the late fifteenth century to put myself in a "Rabelaisian" state of mind. I drew from that music and used some of the compositional techniques that I learned from composers Louis Andriessen and Arthur Jarvinen.

As far as what happened after our meal at Belgo, I'm very sorry, but you'll have to ask Vicki about that. (A. Knoles)

Founded in 1981, the **California E.A.R. Unit** has earned an international reputation as one of America's finest contemporary chamber ensembles. Dedicated to the creation, performance, and promotion of the music of our time, the E.A.R. Unit has to date premiered over 500 works. Its concert presentations have included electro-acoustic music, musical theater, dance, and chamber music. The ensemble has earned critical acclaim, garnering awards for its contributions to contemporary American music, such as the Los Angeles Weekly's 'Best Classical Ensemble' in 1999 and 2003. In 1999 the E.A.R. Unit was a recipient of the prestigious *Letter of Distinction* from the American Music Center.

The ensemble has toured and performed throughout the world, and has been featured in documentaries for the BBC, Japanese Television, National Public Radio, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Danish National Radio, and WGBH's "Art of the States" Between 1987-2004 the E.A.R. Unit was ensemble-in-residence at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. They are currently in residence at the Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater (REDCAT) in Walt Disney Concert Hall.

The Unit has worked closely with many composers including Elliott Carter, Steve Reich, Morton Feldman, John Luther Adams, Fred Frith, Tod Machover, Julia Wolfe, Louis Andriessen, John Cage, Mauricio Kagel, Michael Gordon, Charles Wuorinen, Morton Subotnick, and Alison Knowles, among many others.

The E.A.R. Unit has recorded for numerous labels, including Nonesuch, New Albion, New World, Tzadik, Cold Blue, O.O. Discs, Bridge, Crystal, and Cambria. Recent CDs include *GO* (Echograph) – which features some of today's greatest living composers, *SETTINGS* – music by Pulitzer prize winning composer Mel Powell, and *Indigenous Music* – chamber music by Stephen "Lucky" Mosko. The group is proud to announce the very recent release of Morton Feldman's *for Christian Wolff* on Bridge Records. Look for the Unit's recording of David Rosenboom's *Champ Vital* on Tzadik coming out later this year.

These performances are funded in part by grants from The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, LA County Arts Commission, BMI Foundation, Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation, the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, the Amphion Foundation and support for the California E.A.R. Unit has been provided by Chora, a project of the Metabolic Studio, a direct charitable activity of the Annenberg Foundation under the direction of Artist and Foundation Director Lauren Bon. Chora aims to support the intangibles that precede creativity.

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We invite you to learn more about how you can assist with the construction of our new Center for the Arts, a 1,050-seat theatre which will be located in the northwest corner of campus. When completed, the Center for the Arts will be one of the largest at any university in Orange County and will feature state-of-the-art technology.

For more information about supporting our future stars in theatre, music and dance and the exciting programs produced by the College of Performing Arts, contact Kevin Cartwright, Director of Development for the College of Performing Arts at 714-289-2085 or cartwrig@chapman.edu. Thank you for your interest and continued support!