Opus Zero Band and I/O Ensemble

Thomas Bergeron, conductor of Opus Zero
Matthew Gold, director of I/O Ensemble

Bernhard Lang
(b. 1957)

for voice, saxophones, keyboards, and percussion

1. the watchtower (text: bob dylan)
2. ophelia (text: peter hammill)
3. count 2 4 (text: dieter sperl)
4. burning sister (text: amon düüll 2)
5. the door (text: robert creeley)

I/O Ensemble
Aliana de la Guardia, voice; Eric Hewitt, saxophones;
Matthew Gold, percussion; Brian Simalchik ’10, keyboards;
Orlando Cela, conductor

** intermission **

Ted Hearne
(b. 1982)

Katrina Ballads (2007)

1. prologue: “keeping it’s head above water”
   Virginia Warnken, mezzo-soprano
2. when we awoke, it was to that familiar phrase:
   new orleans dodged a bullet
   Peter Gottlieb ’11, horn
3. hardy jackson: 8.30.05
   Chaz Lee ’11, baritone
   Interlude I
   Katie Yosua ’11, soprano
4. dennis hastert: 8.31.05
   Andy Truex, tenor
5. bridge to gretna
   Akemi Ueda ’11, bass clarinet,
   Stephen Simlich ’13, guitar
6. anderson cooper and mary landrieu: 9.1.05
   Chaz Lee ’11, baritone;
   Caroline Sinico ’14, soprano
7. ‘Brownie, you’re doing a heck of a job.’
   Chaz Lee ’11, baritone
   Interlude 2
   Jacob Walls ’11, trumpet
8. barbara bush: 9.5.05
   Caroline Sinico ’14, mezzo-soprano
9. kanye west: 9.2.05
   Marguerite Ferrera-Anthony ’14, tenor
10. ashley nelson
    Caroline Sinico ’14, soprano

Friday, May 13, 2011 – 8:00 p.m.
Chapin Hall
Williamstown, Massachusetts

Upcoming Events:
See music.williams.edu for full details and to sign up for the weekly e-newsletters.

5/14 1pm Senior Recital: Joshua Rim, violin Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
5/14 8pm Senior Thesis Recital: Chaz Lee, bass-baritone Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
5/15 12:30-10pm Marathon of Music Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
5/16 1-10pm Marathon of Music Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
5/17 12:15pm MIDWEEKMUSIC Chapin Hall
5/17 4pm Senior Recital: Akemi Ueda, piano Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
5/17 7pm Senior Recital: Noah Fields, viola and Leo Brown, violin Chapin Hall
6/4 11am Senior Class Day Recital Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall

Please turn off or mute cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.
the OPUS ZERO BAND

vocal soloists: Caroline Sinico ’14, Chaz Lee ’11, Marguerite Ferrera-Anthony ’14, Virginia Wamken, Katie Yousa ’11, Andrew True, Aliana de la Guardia

vocal ensemble: Lauren McDonald ’12, Dan Kophage ’12, Rob Silversmith ’11

flute: Lia McNelley ’12

clarinet, bass clarinet: Akemi Ueda ’11

trumpet: Jacob Walls ’11

tuba, french horn: Peter Gottlieb ’11

piano: Scott Smedinghoff ’09

drum set, vibraphone, crotales: Matthew Gold
guitar: Stephen Smalichick ’13

electric bass: Gregory Chudzick

violin: Joshua Rim ’11

viola: Noah Fields ’11

cello: Alex Lou ’13

the Opus Zero Band was formed in 2006 by Steven Bodner on the Williams College campus. The highly-flexible, chamber-ensemble extension of the Williams Symphonic Winds has made a name for itself as one of the most cutting-edge new music ensembles in New England. The ensemble is committed to presenting innovative and provocative performances featuring the most significant music written today, regardless of instrumentation. In 2008, the Opus Zero Band presented the collegiate premiere (and only the second performance in the U.S. —and the first by non-Dutch musicians) of Louis Andriessen’s masterpiece De Materie, a performance described by Andriessen himself as “amazingly good” and by critic Barton McLean as “heroic” and “astounding.” Other recent highlights include collaborating with composer Steven Bryant on the creation of Ecstatic Variations (2009); presenting the American premieres of Kias Torsetnion’s Self-portrait with percussion; Michel van der Aa’s Preposition Trilogy, and Kyle Gann’s Sunken City; collaborating with Williams student composers and choreographers on the show “Overexposed,” which featured a semi-staged performance of Stravinsky’s L’histoire du soldat; and performing throughout Argentina in January 2009. The Opus Zero Band has also collaborated three times with the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, creating an evening-length, electro-acoustic, multi-media performance ("Passages") in the galleries this past winter, as well as presenting the premieres of feedforward (2007) by choreographer David Neumann and composer Eve Blargian and also Philip Miller’s opera Hottentot Venus (2009). The Opus Zero Band and the larger “umbrella ensemble” Symphonic Winds have commissioned and/or premiered a number of works by composers such as Lukas Foss, Judd Greenstein, David Kechley, Michael Torke, Jay Wadley, Michael Weinstein, and Dana Wilson.

I/O New Music was founded in 2008 by Matthew Gold and Steven Bodner with a mandate to present new and living music in nonconventional ways, making full use of performance spaces beyond the conventional hall. I/O serves as the house band for the Williams College Music Department’s BOX series and curates the annual I/O FEST. Composed primarily of Williams College music faculty and guests, I/O Ensemble performs cutting-edge new music that explores the full spectrum today’s most vital compositional trends. The ensemble is especially interested in music that defies category, crosses musical and conceptual boundaries, and that challenges performers and audiences alike. With its flexible roster I/O is able to perform electro-acoustic music, theatrical works, and compositions that re-imagine the capabilities of conventional instruments. In the wake of the tragic passing of Steven Bodner this past January, Mr. Gold has been joined by Williams composition faculty members David Kechley and Ileana Perez Velazquez in directing I/O New Music into the future. As always, I/O invites audiences to fully experience music that is not merely contemporary, but that, in advancing the musical language and opening our ears, is essential.

Matthew Gold, director of I/O Ensemble

Matthew Gold is a member of Sequitur and a co-director of TimeTable Percussion. An advocate of new music, he has commissioned and premiered numerous new works, performing frequently with the Da Capo Chamber Players, Talea Ensemble, Argento Chamber Ensemble, the Orchestra of the League of Composers/ISCM, and the SEM Ensemble. Recent solo appearances include concerto performances with Sequitur, the Charlottesville Chamber Music Festival, and the Williams Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Mr. Gold is an instructor of percussion at Williams College where he directs the Williams Percussion Ensemble and co-directs I/O New Music and the annual I/O Fest. He performs frequently with ensembles including the Mark Morris Dance Group and the New York City Ballet, and serves as an artist-faculty member for the Institute and Festival for Contemporary Performance at the Mannes College of Music.

Matthew Gold, conductor of Opus Zero Band

Based out of New York City, Thomas Bergeron is respected as an artist who gracefully combines a thorough classical training with a profound reverence for the improvisatory traditions of jazz and world music. His unique blend of musical experiences has shaped a distinguished sound and a genuine creative voice. His debut solo album, featuring contemporary jazz arrangements of Claude Debussy’s piano music, will be released on Daywood Drive Records in June. Thomas has performed as Principal Trumpet with Springfield Symphony, and in concert halls and recording studios across North America, Europe, and Asia with small and large jazz groups, symphony orchestras, chamber groups, contemporary music ensembles, and as a soloist. Thomas currently holds positions with the Radio City Orchestra of New York, and the Berkshire Symphony, and performs frequent jazz engagements in New York City. He can be heard on the Naxos, Bridge, and Koch record labels in addition to his debut solo album on Daywood Drive Records. Mr. Bergeron recently completed two graduate degrees in Trumpet Performance from Yale, where he received the John Swallow Award for excellence in brass playing and won the Woolsey Hall Concerto Competition. As an educator Thomas has held positions at Yale College, Williams College, Amherst College, and Bennington College, and created the “Music and Creative Writing” program in New Haven’s inner-city schools. As a champion of the progressive new music movement, Thomas has commissioned and premiered numerous pieces and co-founded of the Reveille Trumpet Collective.

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