The Nile Project

Mohamed Abouzekry – oud
Alsarah – voice
Michael Bazibu – dance, Ugandan stringed and percussion instruments
Hany Bedeir – daff, riq
Nader Elshaer – accordion, ney, kawala
Dina El Wedidi – voice
Meklit Hadero – voice
Jorga Mesfin – saxophone
Kasiva Mutua – percussion, voice
Sophie Nzayisenga – inanga
Dawit Seyoum – krar, bass krar
Steven Sogo – bass, umiduri, voice
Selamnesh Zemene – voice

Mina Girgis – President & CEO
Miles Jay – Musical Director

The Nile Project will be announcing their selections from the stage.

Saturday, April 11, 2015
8:00 p.m.
Chapin Hall
Williamstown, Massachusetts

No photography or recording without permission. Please turn off or mute cell phones, audible pagers, etc.

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

Upcoming Events:

Tue Apr 14 4:15pm 1960 Lecture with Prof. David Lang
Wed Apr 15 12:15pm MIDWEEKMUSIC in the Chapel
Fri Apr 17 8:00pm Wallace Roney Quintet – Visiting Artist Series
Sat Apr 18 8:00pm Williams Percussion Ensemble
Fri Apr 24 4:00pm Williams Chamber Choir in the Rotunda
Fri Apr 24 7:15pm Berkshire Symphony pre-concert talk
Fri Apr 24 8:00pm Berkshire Symphony Soloists Gala
Sat Apr 25 4:00pm Claire Leyden ’16, soprano
Sat Apr 25 7:00pm Williams Gospel Choir
Sun Apr 26 4:00pm Williams Chamber Choir in the Rotunda
Mon Apr 27 5:00pm Flute Studio Recital with Students of Jacqueline DeVoe
Wed Apr 29 12:15pm MIDWEEKMUSIC
Thu Apr 30 4:15pm 1960 Lecture with Prof. Joseph Auner
Thu Apr 30 6:30pm Violin Studio Recital with Students of Joana Genova
Fri May 1 8:00pm Williams Jazz Ensemble
Sat May 2 8:00pm Larchmere String Quartet - Visiting Artist Series
Sun May 3 8:00pm Senior Recital with Jonathan Dely ’15, trumpet

Bernhard Room 30
Thompson Memorial Chapel
Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Chapin Hall
WCMA Rotunda
Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Chapin Hall
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The forward-thinking musicians of The Nile Project channel the unsung beauty of East African traditions. In the collective’s collaborative compositions, resonant harps and lyres from up and down the river have learned new musical modes, while buzzing timbres and ingenious polyrhythms support vocals in more than ten languages.

Designed to captivate local audiences but feel equally accessible to international listeners, The Nile Project uses music to inspire curiosity about and active engagement with the cultural, social, and environmental challenges of the world’s longest river. The Collective’s collaborative model is a blueprint for a new way to organize the Nile.

The project began in 2011 by two San Francisco-based East Africans in response to the deepening water conflict in the Nile Basin. In a few years, the vision of Egyptian ethnomusicologist Mina Girgis and Ethiopian-American singer Meklit Hadero rapidly expanded to bring together musicians of all 11 Nile countries through Nile Gatherings and African and international tours. Building on the success of its musical program, the Nile Project is launching education, leadership, and innovation initiatives to empower university students around the world with the tools they need to make the Nile more sustainable.

MINA GIRGIS (President & CEO) - An ethnomusicologist with background in hospitality experience design, Mina explores new ways to cultivate environments conducive to learning, making, and experiencing music. He specializes in curating and producing innovative musical collaborations across diverse styles. Mina is a Synergos Pioneers of Egypt fellow, a Wired 2014 Innovation fellow, and a National Arts Strategies Creative Community fellow.

MILES JAY (Musical Director) - Contrabassist, composer, and arranger Miles Jay has collaborated with a wide range of ensembles from all over the world. After earning his BA in music from UCSB, he lived and worked for 6 years in Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, and Greece, immersing himself in the region’s modal music. Miles has worked extensively with Youssou N’Dour, Ziad Rahbani, Fathy Salama, Ross Daly, Naseer Shamma, Niyaz, Mashrou3 Leila, and the Cairo Symphony Orchestra.

This performance is part of the Williams College Department of Music

Ernest Brown World Music Series