ABOUT TODAY’S GUEST ARTIST

Idit Shner is an instructor of jazz and classical saxophone. She holds a B.M. degree from Oklahoma City University and a M.M.E. from the University of Central Oklahoma. An active performer of both jazz and classical music, Shner has played in the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and Lincoln Center in New York. Shner’s solo recital in Israel (January 2005) was broadcast live on Voice of Music, a national public radio station. She also performed with the University of North Texas Wind Symphony, under the direction of Eugene Corporon. She has recorded with this ensemble on the Klavier label. Shner plays her own jazz compositions with her quartet in Eugene and in Portland. In 2004–05, she competitively obtained the lead alto chair with the Two O’clock Lab Band, under the direction of James Riggins at the University of North Texas. Performing her own compositions in a jazz combo setting, Shner was selected to participate in Betty Carter’s Jazz Ahead at the Kennedy Center (April 2005), a workshop which identifies outstanding emerging artists, and culminates with three concerts at the Kennedy Center.

Percussionist Charles Dowd is a Philip H. Knight professor of music at the University of Oregon School of Music and principal timpanist of the Eugene Symphony, Oregon Bach Festival Orchestra, Oregon Festival of American Music Orchestra, and Oregon Coast Music Festival. For thirty years he was a principal with the Cabrillo Music Festival in California. He is principal timpanist on the Grammy winning recording Credo by Penderecki with Helmuth Rilling and the Oregon Bach Festival. Dowd’s avant-garde percussion music has been broadcast worldwide on WGBH (Boston) “The Art of the States” as well as national broadcasts on NPR. His training includes doctoral residency at The Juilliard School, Lincoln Center, New York with famed New York Philharmonic timpanist Saul Goodman, and a master’s degree from Stanford as a student of Anthony J. Cirone of the San Francisco Symphony. Dowd has performed in Carnegie Hall, Wilhelmia Theatre in Stuttgart, and recorded regularly at RCA Studios in New York City.

W. Sean Wagoner, assistant conductor, is instructor of percussion studies at the University of Oregon School of Music and Dance and holds the D.M.A. degree in percussion performance from the University of Oregon. Wagoner is principal timpanist of the Oregon Mozart Players, principal percussionist of the Eugene Opera Orchestra, and is a member of the Eugene Symphony percussion section. He performs as a freelance percussionist with the Oregon Symphony, the Oregon Bach Festival, and the Cascade Festival of Music. His recording credits include: Percussionist, the Grammy Award-winning Hannsler recording of Krzysztof Penderecki’s Credo, with the Oregon Bach Festival; Multi-percussionist, George Crumb’s An Idyll for the Misbegotten and Iannis Xenakis’ Persephassa for broadcast worldwide on WGBH Boston’s Art of the States and Radioemisoras Xiii festival de Musica Contemporanea in Santiago, Chile; Drummer, the Platinum selling album Zoot Suit Riot: The Swingin’ Hits of the Cherry Poppin’ Daddies.

* * *
PROGRAM

Idit Shner, saxophones
Erica Drake, Aaron Jester, Joh Koenig, Paul Owen,
Alexander Singer, Christopher Whyte, multiple percussion

BRIEF PAUSE FOR SET CHANGE

First Construction (in Metal) (1939) John Cage (1912–1992)
The Anvil Chorus for Percussion (1990) David Lang (b. 1957)
Aaron Jester, solo multiple percussion


BRIEF PAUSE FOR SET CHANGE

Living Room Music (1940) John Cage
To Begin
Story
Melody
End

Third Construction (1941) John Cage
Erica Drake, Christopher Whyte,
Aaron Jester, Jon Koenig, multiple percussion

* * *

THE OREGON PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
Charles Dowd, Music Director & Conductor

For thirty-three seasons, The Oregon Percussion Ensemble has performed and championed the classical percussion chamber music of John Cage, Meyer Kupferman, Lou Harrison, Edgard Varèse, Frank Zappa, Steve Reich, Iannis Xenakis, William Kraft, Edison Denisov and many other modern masters. The Oregon Percussion Ensemble records on the Soundspeals/Albany, record label and has been nominated for the Laurel Leaf Award by the American Composers Alliance in New York City “for distinguished achievement in fostering and encouraging American Music”. Broadcast performance include WGBH Boston, “The Art of the States” heard in 40 countries worldwide, on NPR (National Public Radio), and on network television. The Oregon Percussion Ensemble has been featured twice at Percussive Arts Society International Conventions (PASIC) and the group has performed on tour in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Jose, Seattle, Boise, Palo Alto, Spokane, Portland and throughout Washington, California, Idaho and Oregon. Members of The Oregon Percussion Ensemble have trained at The Juilliard School, Eastman, New England Conservatory, Manhattan School of Music, Peabody, Paris Conservatory, USC School of Music, Indiana University-Bloomington, University of Illinois, San Francisco Conservatory, San Francisco, and San Jose State Universities, to name a few. Former percussionists from The Oregon Percussion Ensemble perform in the Eugene Symphony Orchestra, in recording studios and concert halls throughout the U.S.A. and in Europe, Mexico and Canada.

* * *

THE OREGON PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE 2006-07 Season
Charles Dowd, Music Director & Conductor
W. Sean Wagoner, Assistant Conductor
Erica Drake, Administrative Assistant & Librarian
Alexander Singer, Equipment Manager

Erica Drake*  Grayson Fiske  Paul Herrick
Aaron Jester*  Jon Koenig  Cory Miner
Christine Mirabella  Paul Owen  Alex Patterson
Bryan Schuster  Merlin Showalter  Alexander Singer  Christopher Whyte
* co-principal percussion

* * *

If you are in the company of a small child or someone who may inadvertently cause distractions, kindly sit near a rear exit and be prepared to leave in a timely fashion. Please respect our artists and your fellow concert goers. House management reserves the right to request exiting the Hall when appropriate.