

The Legacy Show Overview

Program Description

The Legacy Show is a multimedia concert of music by African-American composers performed by violinist Tami Lee Hughes and pianist Byron Burford-Phearse. The program features classical music infused with a variety of styles, including spirituals, blues, gospel, hip-hop, and jazz. Portraying cultural themes of the Antebellum Period, the Harlem Renaissance, the Civil Rights Era, and Modern Times, the program includes poetry and visual media. Poems, by such writers as Langston Hughes and Maya Angelou, introduce each piece. Visual media, which is projected onto a large screen during the music performances, provides images of people and places thematically related to the music. A special component of the program is *Songbirds*, a tribute to African-American women written by Grammy-nominated music producer and Rock and Roll "Hall of Famer" Kerwin Young. The program also includes *Duke Ellington Suite*, an homage to one of jazz's great legends, arranged exclusively for The Legacy Show by Ozie Cargile.

The Legacy Show is more than a concert. It is a musical, cultural, and historical journey guided by the work of prolific American creative artists. Each artist has a story influenced by his or her experiences. The Legacy Show reaches into the heart of these stories to celebrate the exuberance of life, and the spirit of triumph over tragedy. The Legacy Show is for everyone, and it is food for the soul.

Our Mission

Our mission is to celebrate and preserve the legacy of African-American composers who have contributed to American music, and to highlight the cultural themes represented in their work. We aim not just to entertain, but to educate audience members of all ages. Some works in the program, including the spiritual *Some Time I Feel Like A Motherless Child*, are familiar to audiences. Other works, including *Filter*, which fuses classical, blues, and hip-hop, may be less familiar. The Legacy Show, however, demonstrates the diversity of African-American musicians and their cultural impact. The integration of poetry and visual media encourages

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audiences make deeper connections between the music and its history. Through The Legacy Show, we hope to inspire listeners to explore diverse voices in Creative Arts, and, to provide them with an unforgettable concert experience.

Education Options

The Legacy Show is a great option for education outreach as it provides a Music, History, English, and Visual Art lesson in one program. The Legacy Show offers abbreviated performances for pre-college students, with the opportunity for students to participate in poetry readings that introduce music segments of the show. Additionally, violinist Tami Lee Hughes is available for pre-college and college master classes and clinics.

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THE LEGACY SHOW LIVE

Program, First Half

S.L.I.C.E. (2009)

Chad "Sir Wick" Hughes
(b. 1977)

Poetry: *The Gift To Sing* by James Weldon Johnson

Bingham's Cotillion (1820)

Francis Johnson
(1792 - 1844)

Poetry: *Harriet Tubman AKA Moses* by Samuel Allen

Selections From Five Violin Solos (1947)

Some Time I Feel Like A Motherless Child
Steal Away, Steal Away To Jesus
Every Time I Feel the Spirit

George Morrison
(1891 - 1974)

Poetry: *Juke Box Love Song* by Langston Hughes

Duke Ellington Suite for Violin and Piano (1931/1933, arr. 2016)

Merry Go Round
Stormy Weather
It Don't Mean A Thing

Duke Ellington - Ozie Cargile
(1899 - 1974) (b. 1981)

Length of first half: 40'10"

Intermission (15 minutes)

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THE LEGACY SHOW LIVE

Program, Second Half

Poetry: *Ballad of Birmingham* by Dudley Randall

Deliver My Soul (1991)

David Baker
(1931 - 2016)

Poetry: *Victorious Landing* by Brione Jackson

Filter (2000)

Daniel Roumain
(b. 1971)

Poetry: *Phenomenal Woman* by Maya Angelou

Songbirds

Bessie
Ella
Leontyne
Missy
Mahalia

Kerwin Young
(b. 1970)

Length of second half: 37'30"

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About The Artists

Tami Lee Hughes, violinist

Critics rave violinist Tami Lee Hughes “rises to considerable technical challenges,” playing with a sound “reminiscent of Perlman.” Since making her debut with the National Symphony Orchestra, she has extensively toured the United States, Europe, and Central America, championing the music of African-American composers. Her solo album, *Legacy: Violin Music of African-American Composers*, was heralded as one of the top ten albums of 2011 by All Music Guide, garnering acclaim from audiences and critics alike. Her work has been broadcasted on radio stations around the world and continues to serve as a significant artistic and cultural record of American music.

Additional credits in classical music include appearances in Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center as a member of the acclaimed Sphinx Virtuosi Chamber Ensemble; appearances as section violinist in the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra Augusta, and Charleston Symphony Orchestra among others; a live broadcast concert on Chicago’s WFMT radio station for the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series; and featured artist in the Ritz Chamber Players Concert Series. An artist of versatility, Hughes also has numerous credits in popular music, film, and television. She performs as violinist for *The Only Good Indian*, a 2009 Sundance Film Festival motion picture, and has recorded as studio violinist for Grammy Award-winning artists Aretha Franklin, Fred Hammond, and Donnie McClurkin. She has also performed live in concert with Smokey Robinson and on television with Grammy Award-winning artist Kirk Franklin.

A native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Hughes shines as a premier artist, presenting soul-stirring performances that transcend culture. She is influenced by artists in various genres, including Itzhak Perlman, Lena Horne, Ella Fitzgerald, and Mahalia Jackson. She earned a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Minnesota and Master and Doctorate degrees from the University of Michigan. Her teachers include Sally O’Reilly, Paul Kantor, and Camilla Wicks.

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THE LEGACY SHOW LIVE

Byron Burford-Phearse, pianist

Pianist Byron Burford-Phearse has performed across world since completing his studies as a full scholarship student at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor). Burford-Phearse has been featured in recordings, chamber music recitals, and radio programs, including live radio broadcasts from the Centre d'Arts Orford featured on CBC in Canada. As chamber musician, Burford-Phearse has performed extensively across the United States with the CORE Ensemble.

Burford-Phearse has made solo and chamber music appearances at the Hot Springs Music Festival, the International Keyboard Festival in New York City, and the École Normale de Musique in Paris as part of the European American Musical Alliance. As an accompanist, Burford-Phearse has collaborated with critically acclaimed vocalists such as Suzanna Guzman, Alvi Powell, Robert Sims, and Angela M. Brown.

Burford-Phearse holds degrees and diplomas from the University of Michigan, the Royal Academy of Music (London), and the Mannes College of Music in New York City. He currently resides in New York City.

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Artist Reviews

“The program . . . unquestionably provides a sampling of styles that have evolved in the black musical community, each of which should capture . . . listeners’ fancy. Recommended . . . “

- Fanfare Magazine

“Hughes plays with such a singing, lush quality reminiscent of Perlman . . . “

- All Music Guide

“Hughes . . . [draws] a sumptuous tone from her instrument . . . and [plays with] heartfelt declamation.”

- Fanfare Magazine

“Hughes . . . [rises] to considerable technical challenges . . . taking [her] classical instrument into often excitable territory with level-headed aplomb.”

- The Classical Review

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Technical Rider

Technical requests include the following:

Piano (preferably grand)

Two music stands (non-portable)

Projector, screen, and video cable for MacBook Pro laptop or iPad Mini 4 (pianist will control visual media from the stage)

Small table or stand for holding MacBook Pro laptop (will be next to pianist)

One cordless microphone

Two dressing rooms

Two bottles of water per dressing room

Technical staff member(s)

Stage hand(s)

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