

THE AUTUMN LINEUP

AN OVERVIEW OF CLASSICAL, CONTEMPORARY AND JAZZ MUSIC AROUND TOWN

BY BRETT CAMPBELL

Every September, sure as the leaves start to drop, we present a cheerfully biased overview of the autumn lineups of music organizations (i.e. not clubs or venues) that schedule programs far enough in advance that you might want to buy tickets early. Check *EW*'s weekly calendar and music columns for updates on other performances as they're scheduled.

EUGENE CONCERT CHOIR & EUGENE OPERA

Both offer December shows, with the opera keeping it light and popular with Johan Strauss's popular *Fledermaus*, and ECC inviting guests (including the Don Latarski Band; the Oregon Young Women's Choir; the Oregon Festival Choir's *Lyrical* and *Fiero*; and the Oregon Mozart Players) in excerpts from Benjamin Britten's *St. Nicolas Cantata* along with the usual holiday fare.

EUGENE SYMPHONY

After bringing cutting edge works and composers (Adams, Corigliano, Higdon, Kernis) to Eugene in the first two years of his tenure, music director Giancarlo Guerrero relies heavily on romantic composers like Brahms, Bruckner (for the first time in decades) and Chopin. Disappointing to modern orchestral music fans, he includes only a single contemporary work and that not 'til February.

On the other hand, the schedule does include some important 20th century works whose composers have not often been featured in Eugene, including Frank Martin and Alban Berg. And of course the charismatic Guerrero has one of America's finest mid-market orchestras playing better than ever.

OREGON FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN MUSIC

The Shedd again brings some of the most interesting music to town this fall, with Ladysmith Black Mambazo (not American, but who cares?) and the amazing guitar-playing Assad Brothers. Fans of Americana and folk music will welcome Texas legends Lyle Lovett, Western swing fiddler Johnny Gimble, and Rosie Flores, as well as bluegrass legends Tony Rice and Peter Rowan. The jazz schedule so far isn't as hot as last year's, although modern jazzers Sex Mob and boss bassist Trevor

Dunn (with harpist Shelley Burgon) are great, and pop/jazz fans can look forward to singers Nnenna Freelon and John Pizzarelli.

OREGON MOZART PLAYERS

Music director Glen Cortese made an impressive debut with the OMP last year, and this fall's schedule, while skimping on contemporary music, offers some of the repertory's greatest music (including Beethoven's magnificent *Seventh Symphony*), one of Mozart's great piano concertos, and an attractive all 20th century music recital and concert featuring songs by Samuel Barber, Richard Strauss, Benjamin Britten and Stephen Sondheim, and topped off by the always enjoyable candlelight holiday concert featuring some of the Baroque period's finest concertos.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Beall Concert Hall is the place to be for fascinating music this fall. The highlight is the wonderful pre-classical music that we just don't get enough of around here. The UO is bringing the medieval music performer/scholar Benjamin Bagby in October, and his superb group Sequentia (familiar to Hildegard von Bingen fans) will perform twice. Then we get a return appearance by the great French singer Anne Azema and multi instrumentalist Shira Kammen, and finally Fortune's Wheel playing music of Petrarch's time. Be sure to get all those on your calendar. A pair of string quartet concerts — one featuring the St. Lawrence Quartet playing a recent piece by one of today's leading composers, Osvaldo Golijov, and another pairing the Turtle Islanders and

Ying Quartet. That's all in addition to the regular high quality music we're accustomed to hearing at Beall throughout the fall.

HULT CENTER

I'm going to miss Hult programmer Darrel Kau, who really made the lineup a lot more hip in recent years — but not too much, as he's just moved over to the UO Cultural Forum and his replacement, Carol Phillips, seems ready to continue the emphasis on interesting music. What's especially impressive about this fall's music offerings is the amount of strong world music, starting with Amazonas: The Women Master Drummers of Guinea in October, then Romani (gypsy) music chatelaine Esma Redzepova, Flamenco Vivo with Carlota Santana, and a slew of great Latina singers from the wonderful Putumayo record label. All that and the return of the superb Turtle Island String Quartet — this time playing Miles Davis!

DNA

A welcome new player on the arts scene, this downtown art institute is actively seeking musical as well as multimedia and film performances; Autumn already has concerts scheduled by Eugene Composers Collective and California percussion/electronic composer Nathan Hubbard.

Of course, there are plenty of other places to hear great music around town this fall; already the WOW Hall and Cozmic Pizza schedules look quite strong, and *EW* will keep you posted on music in the clubs and elsewhere as the nights grow longer and nightlife richer.



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