UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES
APRIL 2013 EVENTS

ANN ARBOR, MI (February 20, 2013) — The University Musical Society (UMS) presents 14 performances of eight different events and six interactive public education activities in April 2013.

The month opens with a performance of Darius Milhaud’s Oresteia of Aeschylus, a massive collaboration between UMS and the University of Michigan’s School of Music, Theatre & Dance to celebrate Hill Auditorium’s centenary. Oresteia of Aeschylus brings together over 450 performers from the University Symphony Orchestra and Percussion Ensemble, various University Choirs, and the UMS Choral Union under the baton of Kenneth Kiesler (Thursday, April 4). Two days later, Esperanza Spalding performs music from the 2013 Grammy-award winning Radio Music Society at the Michigan Theater (Saturday, April 6). Starting on Wednesday, April 10, London-based theatre company 1927 makes its UMS debut, presenting its innovative production of The Animals and Children Took to the Streets for the remainder of the week (Wednesday, April 10 at 7:30 pm; Thursday, April 11 at 7:30 pm; Friday, April 12 at 8 pm; Saturday, April 13 at 2 pm and 8 pm; Sunday, April 14 at 2 pm). That same weekend, the Takács Quartet returns to Rackham Auditorium for their 16th UMS performance (Friday, April 12). Ten-time Grammy Award winner Bobby McFerrin presents his new project, Spirit You All, paying homage to Negro Spirituals and his father, the late opera singer Robert McFerrin, Sr. (Thursday, April 18). That same weekend, trumpeter Alison Balsom will be joining forces with The Scottish Ensemble to present a captivating program of Baroque music (Saturday, April 20). Closing out our season is our sole dance performance of the month at the Power Center with the UMS debut of Ragamala Dance: Sacred Earth (Wednesday, April 24) and two performances by SITI Company of an adaptation of the ancient Greek tragedy by Euripides, Trojan Woman (After Euripides) (Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28).
Tickets to All Events On Sale Now

How to Order:

- [www.ums.org](http://www.ums.org)
- 734-764-2538
- In person: Michigan League (911 North University Avenue)
- At the performance venue: beginning 90 minutes before performance start time
- Hours: Monday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm, Saturday 10 am to 1 pm, closed Sunday

Performances & Events

**DARIUS MILHAUD’S ORESTEIA OF AESCHYLUS**  
**AGAMEMNON, LES CHOËPHORES, LES EUMÉNIDES**  
Thursday, April 4, 2013, 7:30 pm  
Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at: $10

Sponsors: Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs  
Media Partners: WGTE 91.3 FM

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of Hill Auditorium, UMS and the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance collaborate to perform a massive work by composer Darius Milhaud: all three parts of his *Oresteia of Aeschylus: Agamemnon, Les Choéphores, and Les Euménides.*

Utilizing over 450 performers from the University Symphony Orchestra and Percussion Ensemble; University Choir, Chamber Choir and Orpheus Singers; and the UMS Choral Union, Kenneth Kiesler conducts this large-scale work, performed in French with English surtitles. Based on a trilogy by Aeschylus, it is rarely performed in its entirety. The concert will be recorded live for international release by Naxos; the last time UMS and U-M collaborated on a recording was in 2004 with William Bolcom’s *Songs of Innocence and of Experience,* which went on to win four Grammy Awards in 2006.
This concert is especially resonant in Hill Auditorium’s centennial season, as it celebrates 100 years of collaboration between UMS and the University of Michigan’s School of Music, Theatre & Dance. When Hill Auditorium was built, UMS was the organization that oversaw the School of Music, a situation that held true until the early 1940s, when UMS transferred oversight of the School of Music to the University of Michigan. This concert celebrates that deep connection and the students who have been making music in Hill Auditorium for 100 years.

Conductor Kenneth Kiesler is the founder and director of the Conductors Retreat at Medomak and conductor laureate of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra where, as music director from 1980-2000, he founded the Illinois Symphony Chorus and Illinois Chamber Orchestra, led debuts at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, and won several awards.

**ESPERANZA SPALDING**

**RADIO MUSIC SOCIETY**

Saturday, April 6, 8:00 pm  
**Michigan Theater** (603 East Liberty Street, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at: $20  
**Media Partners:** Ann Arbor’s 107one FM, WEMU 89.1 FM, and WDET 101.9 FM

Esperanza Spalding has gone through several phases, which have been well documented during her brief recording career. Her journey as a solo artist began with the 2006 release of *Junjo* on the Spanish label Ayva Music. She presented the many different sides of her writing on *Esperanza*, her 2008 international debut recording, which quickly topped Billboard’s Contemporary Jazz Chart and became the year’s best selling album worldwide by a new jazz artist. Numerous awards and appearances followed, including an invitation by President Barack Obama to appear at both the White House and the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony, and an appearance on the “Late Show with David Letterman” that found Letterman and bandleader Paul Shaffer proclaiming the young musician the “coolest” guest in the three-decade history of the program.
In 2011, Esperanza Spalding was the first jazz musician to win the Grammy for “Best New Artist.” Her 2012 album *Radio Music Society* won the 2013 Grammy Award for “Best Vocal Jazz Album.” Esperanza is taking the jazz and R&B worlds by storm while never straying from her musical integrity and strong artistic vision.

**Artist Info:** [www.esperanzaspalding.com](http://www.esperanzaspalding.com)

**Previous UMS appearances:** This performance is Spalding’s second under UMS auspices. She made her UMS debut with Joe Lovano’s “Us Five” Quintet in 2007.

### 1927: THE ANIMALS AND CHILDREN TOOK TO THE STREETS

**Wednesday, April 10, 7:30 pm**  
**Thursday, April 11, 7:30 pm**  
**Friday, April 12, 8:00 pm**  
**Saturday, April 13, 2:00 p.m. & 8:00 pm**  
**Sunday, April 14, 2:00 pm**

**Performance Network Theatre** (120 East Huron Street, Ann Arbor)

General Admission: $45-$50 (varies by performance)

Hosted by: [Richard and Susan Gutow](http://www.esperanzaspalding.com)  
Media Partners: [Between the Lines](http://www.betweenthelines.com) and [Michigan Radio 91.7 FM](http://www.mcradio.org)

1927 is a London-based performance company that specializes in combining performance and live music with animation and film to create magical filmic theater. 1927 has mastered this delicate marriage of taking disparate elements and making them work harmoniously.

*The Animals and Children Took to the Streets* is seamlessly synchronized to live music, performance, and storytelling. With stunning films and animation, this is the wickedly twisted tale from the multiple award-winning company behind the international hit *Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea*. Like a giant graphic novel burst into life, 1927 invites you on a theatrical journey of startling originality.
The piece takes place in the Bayou, a feared and loathed part of the city wherein lies the infamous Bayou Mansions: a sprawling, stinking tenement block where curtain-twitchers and peeping-toms live side by side. Part Charles Dickens, part Tim Burton, the work begins with the idealistic Agnes Eaves and her daughter arriving late one night, either signaling hope in this hopeless place, or that the real horror has only just begun.

**Artist Info:** [http://www.19-27.co.uk/](http://www.19-27.co.uk/)

**Previous UMS appearances:** These performances mark 1927’s UMS debut.

**Related Event**

**Opening Night Q & A**
Wednesday, April 10, after the performance
Performance Network
Join us for a post-performance Q&A and get a glimpse into the lives and minds of the artists that bring creativity to the stage. Must have a ticket to the Wednesday evening performance to attend.

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**TAK ÁCS QUARTET**

**Friday, April 12, 8:00 pm**
**Rackham Auditorium** (915 East Washington Street, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at: $24

**Program**
Haydn: Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 76, No. 4 (“Sunrise”) (1796-97)
Britten: Quartet No. 3 in G Major, Op. 94 (1975)
Beethoven: Quartet in c-sharp minor, Op. 131 (1826)

Sponsored by: **Howard Hanna Realtors**
Media Partner: **WGTE 91.3 FM**

The Takács Quartet was founded in 1975 at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest when the four original members were students. The Quartet’s many award-winning recordings include the complete Beethoven Cycle on the Decca label. In 2005 their recording of the Late Beethoven Quartets won Disc of the Year and the Chamber Award from *BBC Music* Magazine, a Gramophone Award, and a Japanese Record Academy Award.
Most recently the quartet was the recipient of the 2011 Award for Chamber Music and Song presented by the Royal Philharmonic Society in London.

The Quartet is based in Boulder at the University of Colorado and performs 90 concerts a year worldwide. Recognized as one of the world’s great ensembles, the Takács Quartet plays with a unique blend of drama, warmth, and humor, combining four distinct musical personalities to bring fresh insights to the string quartet repertoire.

Artist Info: www.takacsquartet.com

Previous UMS appearances: This concert marks the Takács Quartet’s 16th appearance under UMS auspices. The Quartet made its UMS debut in February 1984 and last appeared at UMS in April 2011.

**BOBBY MCFERRIN: SPIRIT YOU ALL**

**Thursday, April 18, 7:30 pm**

**Hill Auditorium** (825 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at: $10

Media Partners: Ann Arbor’s 107one FM, WEMU 89.1 FM, and WDET 101.9 FM

Ten-time Grammy Award winner Bobby McFerrin will always be the guy who sang “Don’t Worry, Be Happy,” but his “greatest gift to audiences may be transforming a concert hall into a playground, a village center, a joyous space” (*The Los Angeles Times*).

“There is something almost superhuman about the range and technique of Bobby McFerrin,” says *Newsweek*. “He sounds, by turns, like a blackbird, a Martian, an operatic soprano, a small child, and a bebop trumpet.” But despite the undeniable uniqueness of his gift, Bobby McFerrin’s music is always accessible and inviting. When he invites his fans to sing along, as he almost always does, few can resist. Inclusiveness, play, and the universality of voices raised together in song are at the heart of his art.
With his new project, *spirit you all*, Bobby pays homage to his father (the opera singer Robert McFerrin, Sr.) and the generations of Americans who sang of our shared joy and pain through the songs commonly known as the Negro Spirituals.

**Artist Info:** [www.bobbymcferrin.com](http://www.bobbymcferrin.com)

**Previous UMS appearances:** This performance marks Bobby McFerrin’s second UMS appearance. He last performed with Chick Corea and Jack DeJohnette during the 2007-2008 UMS season.

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**ALBERT KAHN ARCHITECTURE IMMERSION**

**Saturday, April 20, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm**

**Tour starts at Hill Auditorium** (825 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor)

Pre-registration required.

Tickets: $50 for immersion only / $70 for immersion + Alison Balsom concert

Funded in part by: **Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities**

Hill Auditorium celebrates its centenary on May 14th, 2013 and UMS is celebrating all season long with a series of events that encourage active and engaged reflection on the past, present, and future of the performance venue. This day-long immersion allows participants an in-depth exploration of the aesthetics and techniques of Hill Auditorium architect Albert Kahn.

For this immersion, a guided bus tour takes participants to Hill Auditorium and other Kahn buildings across southeast Michigan. Experts in architecture and acoustics will be on hand to facilitate hands-on learning about Kahn, the buildings he designed, and their cultural and artistic significance to UMS and our community. At the end of the tour, interested participants are invited to experience the acoustical properties of Hill Auditorium first-hand with an 8 pm concert at Hill Auditorium with trumpet player Alison Balsom and the Scottish Ensemble.

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**ALLISON BALSOM, TRUMPET**

**THE SCOTTISH ENSEMBLE**
Saturday, April 20, 8:00 pm  
Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at: $10

Program
- Geminiani: Concerto Grosso No. 12 in d minor, “La Follia”
- Handel: Concerto Grosso in B-Flat Major, Op. 6, No. 7
- Vivaldi: Violin Concerto in D Major, RV 230
- Handel Overture from Atalanta
- Purcell: Dance of the Furies from *The Prophetess*, Z. 627
- Purcell: Selections from *King Arthur*
- Purcell: Chacony in g minor
- Purcell: Fantasia on One Note
- Handel: Suite in D Major for Trumpet and Strings

Sponsored by: United Bank and Trust
Supported by: Renegade Ventures Fund, Jerry and Gloria Abrams, and Dennis and Ellie Serras
Hosted by: James and Nancy Stanley and Jay Zelenock and Family
Media Partners: WRCJ 90.9 FM and WGTE 91.3 FM

Recently crowned “Female Artist of the Year” for the second time at the Classic BRITs, Alison Balsom has cemented an international reputation as one of classical music’s great ambassadors and is ranked among the most distinctive and groundbreaking musicians on the international circuit today. The second half of this concert will be performed entirely on the natural trumpet, an instrument without valves that would have been performed on at the time the works on the program were written.

Founded in 1969 and based in Glasgow, the Scottish Ensemble is the UK’s only professional string orchestra, built around a core of 12 outstanding string players who perform together under artistic director Jonathan Morton.

A Prelude Dinner precedes the performance; for reservations, call 734-764-8489.

Artist Info: [www.alisonbalsom.com](http://www.alisonbalsom.com)

Previous UMS appearances: This performance marks Ms. Balsom and the Scottish Ensemble’s UMS debuts.
RAGAMALA DANCE: SACRED EARTH

Wednesday, April 24, 7:30 pm
Power Center (121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at: $16

Sponsors: Arts Midwest Touring Fund
Media Partners: Between The Lines and Metro Times

Ragamala Dance’s artistic directors Ranee Ramaswamy and Aparna Ramaswamy bring their culture’s unique sensibility of mysticism, myth and sanctity to the contemporary stage. The mother-daughter duo was named the 2011 “Artist of the Year” by the Minneapolis Star-Tribune, where they currently make their home.

Ranee Ramaswamy has been a master teacher and performer of the Indian dance form Bharatanatyam since 1978. Since 1984, she has been a disciple of Alarmél Valli, one of India’s greatest living masters. Aparna Ramaswamy is also a protégé of Alarmél Valli. Described as “a marvel of buoyant agility and sculptural clarity” (Dance Magazine), “thrillingly three-dimensional,” and “an enchantingly beautiful dancer,” (The New York Times), Aparna has been featured at prestigious venues throughout the United States and abroad, both as a soloist and as principal dancer with Ragamala.

Sacred Earth’s choreography, ranging from contemplative to ecstatic, brings both internal (akam) and external (puram) landscapes to life through two ephemeral visual traditions — kolam floor designs and Warli wall paintings — creating a sacred space and becoming a link between the intimate home and the vastness of the outside world. Kolams are rice flour designs made each morning by women in southern India as conscious offerings to Mother Earth. The Warli people of western India revere the land and live in perfect coexistence with nature. Using their everyday lives as inspiration, they create dynamic wall paintings that find the spiritual in the everyday.

Artist Info: www.ragamala.net
Previous UMS appearances: This performance marks the UMS debut of Ragamala Dance.

Free Related Events:

Family Activity: Kolam Drawing Workshop with Ragamala Dance
Sunday, April 21, 3:00‒4:00 pm
U-M Museum of Art, Multipurpose Room (525 South State Street)

Join Minneapolis-based Ragamala Dance in a hands-on art making workshop in conjunction with their performance of Sacred Earth (April 24). Ragamala incorporates kolam drawings into their performance, and will teach the technique during this workshop. Kolam is a form of floor drawing practiced throughout south India that uses rice powder, chalk, or colored powders. A Kolam is a geometrical line drawing composed of curved loops drawn around a grid pattern of dots.

You Can Dance: Ragamala Dance
Monday, April 22, 7:30 pm
Ann Arbor YMCA (400 West Washington Street)

Join dancers from Ragamala Dance for an exploration of the company's movement style. No dance training or experience necessary, and all levels, ages 13 and up, are welcome. Free, but first come, first served until studio reaches capacity. Sign-up begins at the front desk of the Ann Arbor Y at 6:45 pm.

Post-Performance Q & A
Wednesday, April 24, after the performance
Power Center

Join us for a post-performance Q&A and get a glimpse into the lives and minds of the artists that bring creativity to the stage. Must have a ticket to attend.

SITI COMPANY: TROJAN WOMEN (AFTER EURIPIDES)
ANNE BOGART, DIRECTOR
ADAPTED BY JOCELYN CLARKE

Saturday, April 27, 8:00 pm
Sunday, April 28, 2:00 pm
Power Center (121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor)

Tickets start at $18

Presented with support from: Herbert S. and Carol L. Amster Fund
SITI Company is an ensemble-based theater company whose three ongoing components are the creation of new work, the training of young theater artists, and a commitment to international collaboration.

SITI was founded in 1992 by Anne Bogart and Tadashi Suzuki to redefine and revitalize contemporary theater in the United States through an emphasis on international cultural exchange and collaboration. Originally envisioned as a summer institute in Saratoga Springs, New York, SITI has expanded to encompass a year-round program based in New York City with a summer season in Saratoga. SITI believes that contemporary American theater must incorporate artists from around the world and learn from the resulting cross-cultural exchange of dance, music, art, and performance experiences.

SITI Company brings one of the greatest of all anti-war dramas in this new production directed by Anne Bogart and adapted by Jocelyn Clarke. *The Trojan Women* is an ancient tragedy by the Greek playwright Euripides. It was first performed over 2,400 years ago during the Peloponnesian War and is often considered a commentary on the barbaric behavior of the Athenians toward the women and children of the people they subjugated in war. This contemporary adaptation explores how people cope in the face of crippling tragedy.

**Artist Info:** [www.siti.org](http://www.siti.org)

**Previous UMS performances:** This will be the SITI company’s first performance with UMS.

**Free Related Events:**

**Opening Night Q & A**
Saturday, April 27, after the performance
Power Center
Join us for a post-performance Q&A and get a glimpse into the lives and minds of the artists that bring creativity to the stage. Must have a ticket to the Saturday evening performance to attend.

**FAMILIES, TAKE NOTE:** *UMS Kids Club* allows students in grades 3-12 to attend any UMS event with their parents at significantly reduced ticket prices. UMS will set aside a limited quantity of Kids Club tickets for every event in the season. Tickets are $10 per student and $20 per adult.
Kids Club tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis for every event in the season. Seating is subject to box office discretion. UMS guarantees at least 30 tickets for each event (select performances for multiple performance runs). Kids Club tickets must be picked up at will-call with the student present. Unless the Kids Club allotment is sold out, Kids Club tickets will be offered at the door; however, we recommend ordering in advance.

Comprehensive April 2013 Calendar of Events

Thursday, April 4, 7:30 pm  
**UMS Performance: Darius Milhaud’s Oresteia of Aeschylus**  
Hill Auditorium, $

Saturday, April 6, 8 pm  
**UMS Performance: Esperanza Spalding Radio Music Society**  
Michigan Theater, $

Wednesday, April 10, 7:30 pm  
**UMS Performance: 1927: The Animals and Children Took to the Streets**  
Performance Network Theatre, $

Wednesday, April 10, after the perf  
**Opening Night Q&A: 1927**  
Performance Network, Free (must have ticket to attend)

Thursday, April 11, 7:30 pm  
**UMS Performance: 1927: The Animals and Children Took to the Streets**  
Performance Network Theatre, $

Friday, April 12, 8 pm  
**UMS Performance: 1927: The Animals and Children Took to the Streets**  
Performance Network Theatre, $

Friday, April 12, 8 pm  
**UMS Performance: Takács Quartet**  
Rackham Auditorium, $

Saturday, April 13, 2 pm & 8 pm  
**UMS Performance: 1927: The Animals and Children Took to the Streets**  
Performance Network Theatre, $

Sunday, April 14, 2 pm  
**UMS Performance: 1927: The Animals and Children Took to the Streets**  
Performance Network Theatre, $

Thursday, April 18, 7:30 pm  
**UMS Performance: Bobby McFerrin: spirit you all**  
Hill Auditorium, $

Saturday, April 20, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm  
**UMS Education Event: Albert Kahn Architecture Immersion**  
SE MI bus tour starts at Hill Auditorium, $

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| Saturday, April 20, 5:30 pm | **Prelude Dinner: Alison Balsom**  
Rackham Building 4th floor, $ |
| Saturday, April 20, 8 pm | **UMS Performance: Alison Balsom, trumpet & The Scottish Ensemble**  
Hill Auditorium, $ |
| Sunday, April 21, 3 pm | **Family Activity: Kolam Drawing Workshop with Ragamala Dance**  
U-M Museum of Art, Free |
| Monday, April 22, 7:30 pm | **You Can Dance: Ragamala Dance**  
Ann Arbor YMCA, Free |
| Wednesday, April 24, 7:30 pm | **UMS Performance: Ragamala Dance: Sacred Earth**  
Power Center, $ |
| Wednesday, April 24, 7:30 pm | **Post-Performance Q&A: Ragamala Dance**  
Power Center, Free (must have ticket to attend) |
| Saturday, April 27, 8 pm | **UMS Performance: SITI Company: Trojan Women (After Euripides)**  
Power Center, $ |
| Saturday, April 27, 8 pm | **Opening Night Q&A: Trojan Women (After Euripides)**  
Power Center, Free (must have ticket to attend) |
| Sunday, April 28, 2 pm | **UMS Performance: SITI Company: Trojan Women (After Euripides)**  
Power Center, $ |

**Media Inquiries / Further Information:**  
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