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UMS ANNOUNCES 2014-2015 SEASON

136TH SEASON CONTINUES LONGSTANDING TRADITION OF ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE AND GROUNDBREAKING PERFORMANCES

ANN ARBOR, MI (April 4, 2014) – **The University Musical Society (UMS)** announces its 2014-2015 season, which runs from Sunday, September 14, 2014 through Sunday, April 26, 2015. The season features 69 performances by 42 different artists/ensembles. In addition to presenting world-class performances, UMS is also committed to creating unique and engaging ways for audiences to connect with the artists on stage through a robust offering of education and community engagement activities.

During the 2014-2015 season, the UMS Education and Community Engagement department will be paying special attention to orchestral residencies, namely with the San Francisco Symphony with Michael Tilson Thomas (November 13-14, Hill Auditorium) and the Mariinsky Orchestra with Valery Gergiev (January 24-25, Hill Auditorium). Utilizing a combination of UMS performances, pre- and post-show discussions, and masterclasses through the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance, the UMS Education and Community Engagement department will offer the community a host of exciting ways to connect with the orchestras featured on the 2014-2015 season. Specific educational events will be announced later this summer.

While UMS has tried to adhere to a consistent start time for certain days of the week, this season has a number of exceptions due to various scheduling considerations. Please review start times carefully before printing or posting.

“The 2014-2015 UMS Season offers audiences the chance to experience the very best performing artists in the world, right in their own backyard,” said Kenneth C. Fischer, who enters his 28th season as UMS

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president. “While there are more ways than ever to discover arts and culture, UMS performances allow us to witness the heights of human achievement in real time. They offer us ways to connect, understand, and celebrate our histories, our stories, and our culture. Best of all, UMS performances will surprise you — they will awaken your curiosity, connect you to the community, and serve as a potent reminder of the vast capabilities of the human spirit. This season boasts two large-scale orchestral residencies with the San Francisco Symphony and the Mariinsky Orchestra and debut performances by artists such as ukulele phenomenon Jake Shimabukuro, jazz vocalist Gregory Porter, beloved Moth storyteller Edgar Oliver, 2013 MacArthur Fellow and choreographer Kyle Abraham, and the acclaimed electro-acoustic ensemble Dawn of Midi. The eclectic nature of UMS is something I’m very proud of; there truly is something for everyone but more importantly, UMS audiences routinely have the opportunity to venture off the beaten path and try something new. The UMS 2014-2015 season is going to be incredible. You won’t want to miss a thing.”

136TH ANNUAL CHORAL UNION SERIES: 11 CONCERTS IN HILL AUDITORIUM

Within the signature Choral Union Series, UMS presents 11 concerts in the historic Hill Auditorium:

- Opening the 2014-2015 UMS season, world renowned violinist **Itzhak Perlman** performs in recital on **Sunday, September 14** at **6 pm [NOTE START TIME]**.
- The **San Francisco Symphony** and music director **Michael Tilson Thomas** perform Mahler’s Symphony No. 7 on **Thursday, November 13** at **7:30 pm** and a program of Liszt, Prokofiev, and Ravel on **Friday, November 14** at **8 pm**. Violinist **Gil Shaham** joins the orchestra for Friday’s concert.
- On **Sunday, November 23** at **4 pm**, pianist **Yuja Wang** and violinist **Leonidas Kavakos** perform a program of Brahms, Schumann, Stravinsky, and Respighi.
- The **Teatro Regio Torino Orchestra and Chorus** perform a concert version of Rossini’s opera **William Tell** under the direction of **Gianandrea Noseda** on **Tuesday, December 9** at **7:30 pm**. The concert will feature more than 200 orchestra and chorus members from Italy’s famous opera house in Turin.
- Music director **Valery Gergiev** conducts the **Mariinsky Orchestra** with pianist **Behzod Abduraimov** on **Saturday, January 24** at **8 pm** in a program of Prokofiev and Shostakovich and on **Sunday, January 25** at **3 pm [NOTE START TIME]** with a program of Shchedrin, Tchaikovsky,

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and Prokofiev, featuring pianist **Denis Matsuev**. At the Sunday concert, Maestro Gergiev will receive the UMS Distinguished Artist Award.

- Conductor **Yannick Nézet-Séguin** leads the **Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra** with pianist **Hélène Grimaud** in a program of Britten, Ravel, and Tchaikovsky on **Thursday, February 19** at **7:30 pm**.
- The **Academy of St. Martin in the Fields** performs a program of Stravinsky and J.S. Bach with pianist **Jeremy Denk** on **Wednesday, March 25** at **7:30 pm**.
- The **Seoul Philharmonic** and pianist **Sunwook Kim** perform a program of Beethoven and Brahms under the direction of **Myung-Whun Chung** on **Thursday, April 23** at **7:30 pm**.
- Pianist **Richard Goode** closes the Choral Union Series and the 2014-2015 season with a program of Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Debussy, and Schumann on **Sunday, April 26** at **4 pm**.

52ND ANNUAL CHAMBER ARTS SERIES

The 52nd Annual Chamber Arts Series presents seven of today's leading chamber ensembles performing both traditional and contemporary repertoire. The concerts take place in Rackham Auditorium.

- The **Emerson String Quartet** performs works by Beethoven, Shostakovich, and Liebermann (the world premiere of a UMS co-commission) on **Saturday, September 27** at **8 pm**.
- The **Belcea Quartet** performs works by Mozart, Berg, and Brahms on **Saturday, October 18** at **8 pm**.
- The French ensemble **Quatuor Ébène** performs a program of jazz repertoire, Mozart, and Mendelssohn on **Sunday, November 9** at **4 pm**.
- On **Saturday, January 17** at **8pm**, **eighth blackbird** performs works by Bryce Dessner, Sean Griffin, Richard Reed Perry, Lee Hyla, Gabriella Smith, Tom Johnson, and György Ligeti.
- In a program entitled **Bach and Beyond, Part III**, violinist **Jennifer Koh** performs work by Bach, Berio, and Harbison on **Friday, February 6** at **8 pm**. The Harbison is a UMS co-commission.
- An ensemble comprised of members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and their guests, the **Chicago Symphony Winds** will perform works by Mozart, including his Gran Partita, on **Sunday, March 22** at **4 pm**.
- The **Artemis Quartet** will perform works by Dvořák, Vasks, and Tchaikovsky on **Sunday, April 19** at **4 pm**.

INTERNATIONAL THEATER SERIES

This year's International Theater Series features five productions, three of which will unfold in the Power Center for the Performing Arts, one in the Arthur Miller Theatre, and one at the Experimental Theater at Skyline High School. Productions include:

- ***Kiss & Cry*** by **Charleroi Danses, Belgium**, is a poetic blend of film, dance, text, and theater, executed with an immaculately crafted DIY aesthetic. Presented in the **Power Center** from **Friday-Sunday, October 10-12**, a pair of hands dance and intertwine to a voice-over script on a filmed and projected miniature set, beautifully conveying one woman's story of love and loss.
- **Théâtre de la Ville** returns to Ann Arbor with ***Six Characters in Search of an Author***, an absurdist play by the iconic Nobel prize-winning playwright **Luigi Pirandello**. Directed by **Emmanuel Demarcy-Mota** in the **Power Center** **Friday, October 24** and **Saturday, October 25 at 8 pm**. *In French with English supertitles. Contains adult situations.*
- ***superposition*** by Japan's leading electronic composer and visual artist **Ryoji Ikeda** is a stage work that uses elaborately orchestrated sound and projected visuals to explore the ways in which humans understand, visualize, and communicate data, performed in the **Power Center** on **Friday-Saturday, October 31-November 1 at 8 pm**.
- A favorite NYC Moth storyteller, **Edgar Oliver** performs ***Helen & Edgar*** in the **Arthur Miller Theatre, Wednesday-Saturday, January 7-10**. In a one-man show that "gives a new meaning to Southern Gothic" (Neil Gaiman), ***Helen & Edgar*** tells the tale of two inseparable siblings and their bittersweet childhood spent surviving their spectacularly eccentric mother in Savannah, Georgia.
- From **February 14-21**, UMS presents **Compagnie Non Nova** in the **Experimental Theater at Skyline High School**, performing 13 performances of ***Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun***. In this 25-minute performance piece, a simple wind turbine is used to create a vortex in which plastic bag characters emerge, evolve, and dance.

24TH ANNUAL DANCE SERIES

The UMS Dance Series includes five events in Ann Arbor's Power Center for Performing Arts.

- Cross-listed on the UMS Theater Series, ***Kiss & Cry*** by **Charleroi Danses, Belgium**, is a poetic blend of film, dance, text, and theater, executed with an immaculately crafted DIY aesthetic.

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Presented in the **Power Center Friday-Sunday, October 10-12**, a pair of hands dance and intertwine to a voice-over script on a filmed and projected miniature set, beautifully conveying one woman's story of love and loss.

- The provocative French-Canadian **Compagnie Marie Chouinard** performs *Gymnopédies* and *Henri Michaux: Mouvements* in the **Power Center** on **Friday, January 23** at **8 pm**. In *Gymnopédies*, the company alternates between playing the piano and dancing in a playful work that explores the duet form; in *Henri Michaux: Mouvements*, Marie Chouinard pays homage to the Belgian poet and artist Henri Michaux by using her dancers' bodies to create stunning abstract shapes mirroring Michaux' illustrations. *Contains nudity and adult situations*.
- On **Saturday-Sunday, February 21-22** (Saturday at 8 pm and Sunday at 2 pm), the **Trisha Brown Dance Company** performs three choreographic works in the **Power Center**: *Set and Reset* (1983), *If you couldn't see me* (1994), and *Newark* (1987). Performed to a driving score by Laurie Anderson, *Set and Reset* showcases Trisha Brown's artistic hallmark: fluidity juxtaposed with surprising geometric shapes. *If you couldn't see me* is Trisha Brown's solo collaboration with visual artist Robert Rauschenberg, whose costume design and sound score contribute to the piece's seductive beauty. And *Newark* features Trisha Brown's collaboration with visual artist Donald Judd.
- 2013 MacArthur Fellow **Kyle Abraham** performs two different programs on the same theme on **Friday-Saturday, March 13-14** with his dance company **Abraham.In.Motion**. Kyle Abraham describes his style as a "hybrid of gritty and a bit of elegance," and his work is informed by everyday gestures and urban street dance, tackling issues of identity, history, and geography. These two different programs are inspired by the 150-year anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and 20 years since the ending of Apartheid in South Africa.
- The Lyon Opera Ballet performs *Cinderella* in three performances **Friday-Sunday, April 24-26** in the **Power Center**. Featuring costumes that transform the dancers into dolls, complete with porcelain face masks, this ballet utilizes both child-like whimsy alongside the gothic grotesque to create a true fairy tale for modern times.

21ST ANNUAL JAZZ SERIES

With six different events, the UMS Jazz Series celebrates the diversity of jazz, highlighting contemporary trailblazers while honoring jazz's legacy. Concerts include:

- Jazz vocalist **Gregory Porter**, who performs work from his 2013 album *Liquid Spirit* in the **Michigan Theater on Wednesday, October 15 at 7:30 pm.**
- A leading force in 1970s crossover jazz, pianist and U-M alumnus **Bob James** is putting together a special group for his Ann Arbor homecoming on **Saturday, November 15 at 8 pm in Hill Auditorium.**
- Polish trumpeter **Tomasz Stańko** performs with his trademark originality in the **Lydia Mendelssohn Theater on Thursday, February 5 at 7:30 pm.**
- One of Ann Arbor's favorite groups, the **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis** performs in **Hill Auditorium on Sunday, February 15 at 4 pm.**
- Guitarist **Bill Frisell** will perform two performance dates during his UMS artistic residency, called **A Bill Frisell Americana Celebration.** The second of these performances features **When You Wish Upon a Star**, his new band featuring Petra Haden, Eyvind Kang, Thomas Morgan, and Rudy Roysten and will be included in the jazz series on **Friday, March 13 at 8 pm.** On **Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 pm** he will perform a solo concert in Lydia Mendelssohn Theater as part of the UMS Renegade Series
- On **Thursday, April 16 at 7:30 pm**, UMS presents **An Evening with Herbie Hancock and Chick Corea** in **Hill Auditorium.**

GLOBAL MUSIC SERIES

This season, UMS celebrates music from Brazil, Russia, Hawaii, and Zimbabwe with four stunning performances in Hill Auditorium and Michigan Theater, including:

- an **Accordion Summit**, featuring the **Accordion Virtuosi of Russia** and other special guests to be announced on **Saturday, November 1 at 8 pm in Hill Auditorium.**
- Hawaiian ukulele wizard **Jake Shimabukuro**, who makes his UMS debut on **Wednesday, November 19 at 7:30 pm in Hill Auditorium.**

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- Brazilian rock powerhouse **Gilberto Gil** performs in **Hill Auditorium** on **Saturday, April 4 at 8 pm** in **Hill Auditorium** in a concert that celebrates the music of João Gilberto, considered the father of *bossa nova*.
- Zimbabwe's Afropop legend **Oliver Mtukudzi and the Black Spirits** perform in the **Michigan Theater** on **Friday, April 17 at 8 pm**.

RENEGADE SERIES

This season, UMS presents eight performances that celebrate artists whose creative enterprise is full of risk-taking, experimentation, and boundary pushing. The Renegade Series is about artists who, in their own time and context, draw outside the lines, changing our expectations and our world.

- ***Kiss & Cry*** by **Charleroi Danses, Belgium**, is a poetic blend of film, dance, text, and theater, executed with an immaculately crafted DIY aesthetic that will completely upend expectations about what a dance or theater piece should look like. Presented in the **Power Center** from **Friday-Sunday, October 10-12**.
- ***superposition*** by Japan's leading electronic composer and visual artist **Ryoji Ikeda** uses elaborately orchestrated sound and projected visuals to explore the ways in which humans understand, visualize, and communicate data, performed in the **Power Center** on **Friday-Saturday, October 31-November 1 at 8 pm**.
- Under the direction of **Jeannette Sorrell**, **Apollo's Fire & Apollo's Singers** perform **Monteverdi's** dramatic masterpiece ***Vespers of 1610*** on **Thursday, November 6 at 7:30 pm** in **St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church**.
- On **Saturday, January 17 at 8pm**, **eighth blackbird** performs works by Bryce Dessner, Sean Griffin, Richard Reed Perry, Lee Hyla, Gabriella Smith, Tom Johnson, and György Ligeti.
- Brooklyn-based electro-acoustic ensemble **Dawn of Midi** performs their most mesmerizing work to date, ***Dysnomia***, at **Trinosophes** in Detroit on **Saturday, January 31 at 9 pm [NOTE START TIME]**.
- From **February 14-21**, UMS presents **Compagnie Non Nova** in the **Experimental Theater at Skyline High School**, with 13 performances of ***Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun***. In this 25-minute performance piece, a simple wind turbine is used to create a vortex in which plastic bag

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characters emerge, evolve, and dance, turning the stuff of landfills into an improbably perfect interpretation of Debussy's pastoral score.

- On **Saturday-Sunday, February 21-22**, the **Trisha Brown Dance Company** performs three works in the **Power Center**: *Set and Reset* (1983); *If you couldn't see me* (1994); and *Newark* (1987). All three works feature her collaborations with noted visual and performance artists.
- Guitar innovator **Bill Frisell** performs an evening of solo guitar as part of his two-night Bill Frisell Americana Celebration. The solo guitar performance, on UMS's Renegade series, will be held in the **Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre** on **Thursday, March 12** at **7:30 pm**. One night later, he brings his new band, *When You Wish Upon a Star*, to the same venue for a UMS Jazz Series concert.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Five events will also be presented as part of the UMS 2014-2015 season, but don't neatly fit into the series designations above:

- Mandolin sensation **Chris Thile** teams up with bass player **Edgar Meyer** in a concert in the **Michigan Theater** on **Thursday, October 16** at **8 pm [NOTE START TIME]**.
- The holiday season in Ann Arbor is never officially underway until **Handel's *Messiah*** is performed at **Hill Auditorium**; this 136th annual appearance by the **UMS Choral Union** and the **Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra** takes place on **Saturday-Sunday, December 6-7** (Saturday at 8, Sunday at 2).
- Under the direction of **Jerry Blackstone**, the **UMS Choral Union** and **Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra** perform **Mendelssohn's *Elijah*** on **Saturday, February 14** at **8 pm** in **Hill Auditorium**.
- On **Friday, February 20** at **8 pm**, **The Campbell Brothers** perform **John Coltrane's *A Love Supreme*** in the **Michigan Theater**.
- **Max Raabe and the Palast Orchester** invite you to join them in the Golden Age of 1920s Berlin as they perform meticulous recreations of standards by Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, and Fred Astaire on **Thursday, April 9** at **7:30 pm** in **Hill Auditorium**.

TICKETING AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

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Subscription packages go on sale to the general public on Wednesday, April 23 and will be available through Friday, September 12. Current subscribers will receive renewal packets in April and may renew their series upon receipt of the packet.

For subscribers interested in creating a “custom-fit” series, we offer **Series: You** (formerly known as the Monogram Series). For patrons with a diverse range of interests looking to attend upwards of 5 performances in the 2014-2015 season, Series: You offers a 10% discount and access to the best seats in the house, along with all other subscriber benefits. Series: You is available through Friday, September 12.

Tickets to individual events will go on sale to the general public online, in person, and by phone on Monday, August 4. To be added to the mailing list, please contact the UMS Ticket Office at **734-764-2538** or visit **www.ums.org**. UMS also has an e-mail list that provides up-to-date information about all UMS events; sign-up information is available on the website.

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