

Rile and Gallant Artists presents

Marian Anderson String Quartet



*"In the presence of the
(Marian) Anderson
String Quartet
you feel as if everything's
going to be alright for classical
music, as if a little Beethoven
and Brahms might just solve
the world's problems".
LA Times*

CONTINUING THE LEGACY:

*Marian Anderson and the Reinvention
of the Spiritual*



The **CONTINUING THE LEGACY** Project

Continuing the legacy of the great contralto Marian Anderson, who brought slave song to the classical concert stage, this project will commission American composers to create works for string quartet based on songs of the African Diaspora. The **CONTINUING THE LEGACY** project will expose audiences to this important and historical body of music and create a point of departure that may well define the future of American music.

The Marian Anderson String Quartet and MCM Arts and Entertainment in collaboration with Joanne Rile Artists Management are pleased to offer this exciting new commissioning project to presenters worldwide.

The **CONTINUING THE LEGACY** project will begin in the 2013-2014 season in honor of the 75th anniversary of Marian Anderson's performance at the Lincoln Memorial and the 25th anniversary of the Marian Anderson String Quartet. The project is ongoing and will include continued commissions, recitals and recordings.

Arturo Toscanini once said of Marian Anderson that "A voice like yours is heard once in 100 years". The **CONTINUING THE LEGACY** project will bring the spiritual new life, a new perspective and a new place on the concert stages of the future.

CD Contents:

String Quartet No. 1
(based on the spiritual, Calvary)
Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson
1. Allegro

String Quartet No. 12,
opus 96 in F major, "American"
Antonin Dvorak
2. Lento
3. Finale: vivace ma non troppo

The **MARIAN ANDERSON STRING QUARTET**

In 1992, Marian Anderson gave the quartet permission to use her name as their own after they won the prestigious International Cleveland Quartet Competition and becoming the first African-American ensemble in history to win a classical competition. In a memorable show of gratitude, the Marian Anderson String Quartet performed a private recital for their namesake in her home in Portland, Oregon.

The winners of the 2008 Chamber Music America Guarneri String Quartet Award and the 2006 Congress of Racial Equality Martin Luther King Award for Excellence in Arts and Culture, the Marian Anderson String Quartet is equally at home in the concert hall and the classroom. With performance venues that range from the 1993 Presidential Inaugural, Alice Tully Hall and the Library of Congress to soup kitchens and juvenile correctional facilities, the Marian Anderson String Quartet continues to uphold its mission to create new and diverse audiences for American Chamber music.

The Quartet is currently Quartet in Residence at Blinn College and recently founded the Marian Anderson String Quartet Community Music School, a non-profit organization in Bryan, TX.



Prudence McDaniel, Diedra Lawrence, Nicole Cherry and Marianne Henry



The COMPOSERS

The Marian Anderson String Quartet has invited established composers of rich and varied styles to re-imagine the negro spiritual in a vocabulary consistent with the musical language of the 21st century. The composers committed to the project in its first season include:

- Mark O'Connor -

Grammy Award winning, American fiddler and composer Mark O'Connor whose Sony recording "Appalachia Waltz," which Mr. O'Connor made Yo-Yo Ma and the bassist Edgar Meyer, made "crossover" history. As a composer, Mr. O'Connor has received commissions from such respected institutions as the International Bach Academy, the McKim Fund of the Library of Congress, and the aforementioned Gloria Dei Cantores. His Fiddle Concerto No. 1 has received more than 150 performances. His orchestral work *The American Seasons: Seasons of American Life*, introduced in April 2000, was greeted as a masterwork.

- Tania León -

Cuban born Tania León is highly regarded as a composer and conductor and recognized for her accomplishments as an educator and advisor to arts organizations. She has been profiled on ABC, CBS, CNN, PBS, Univision, Telemundo, and independent films. León's opera *Scourge of Hyacinths*, based on a play by Wole Soyinka with staging and design by Robert Wilson, received over 20 performances throughout Europe and Mexico.

Commissioned by Hans Werner Henze and the city of Munich for the Fourth Munich Biennale, it took home the coveted BMW Prize. The aria "Oh Yemanjá" ("Mother's Prayer") was recorded by Dawn Upshaw on her Nonesuch CD, "The World So Wide."

Commissions include works for the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, New World Symphony, Koussevitzky Foundation, Fest der Kontinente (Hamburg, Germany), Cincinnati Symphony, NEA, NDR Sinfonie Orchester, American Composers Orchestra, The Library of Congress, Ensemble Modern, The Los Angeles Master Chorale, and The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, among others.

- Billy Childs -

Pianist and composer Billy Childs has received a number of orchestral commissions from, among others: Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Leonard Slatkin. In his career, Childs has garnered ten Grammy nominations and three Grammy awards: two for best instrumental composition (*Into the Light* from *Lyric* and *The Path Among The Trees* from *Autumn: In Moving Pictures*) and one for best arrangement accompanying a vocalist. In 2009, Childs was the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and in 2006 was awarded a Chamber Music America composer's grant.

- Laura Kaminsky -

Laura Kaminsky is a Pulitzer Prize nominated composer with “an ear for the new and interesting” (The New York Times) whose works are “colorful and harmonically sharp-edged” (The New York Times) and whose “musical language is compounded of hymns, blues, and gestures not unlike those of Shostakovich” (inTune). Social and political themes are common in her work, as is an abiding respect for and connection to the natural world. The visual is made manifest in sound, with color and image often serving as the underlying inspiration. She is Artistic Director of Symphony Space in New York City. From 2004-2008, she served as dean of the Conservatory of Music at Purchase College/SUNY, where she is currently professor of music and faculty-at-large for the School of the Arts.

- Adolphus Hailstork -

American composer and educator Adolphus Hailstork grew up in Albany, New York, where he studied violin, piano, organ, and voice. His composition instructors include Mark Fax, Vittorio Giannini, David Diamond, and Nadia Boulanger.

Hailstork is of African American ancestry and his works blend musical ideas from both the African American and European traditions.

Hailstork's awards include a Fulbright fellowship (1987). In 1992 he was named a Cultural Laureate of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Old Dominion University maintains the Adolphus Hailstork Collection, in the special collections area of the F. Ludwig Diehn Composers Room, in the Diehn Fine and Performing Arts Center.



The PROGRAMS

The residencies are designed to enlighten communities about the social, cultural and historical importance of the spiritual. Educating audiences about Marian Anderson and the evolving legacy of this great American music is built into every facet of the project from interactive lectures on the main stage to specific educational programs, presentations and round table discussions. The following program options are available for presenters:

Option 1: Main stage concert OR

Main stage concert with guest artist, Ruby Hinds, soprano and actress presenting "See There in the Distance," an original drama on the life of Marian Anderson.

Option 2: Two day residency

- main stage concert
- 2 educational presentations

Venues for the educational presentations might include:

- Hospitals
- Churches
- Schools
- Museums
- Libraries
- Museums
- Assisted living facilities
- Community centers

Option 3: Customized residency

- length and content to be determined by the presenter in collaboration with the Marian Anderson String Quartet

Program repertoire will consist of works spanning the history of the classical chamber music literature from earliest composers to contemporary. The newly composed material will be incorporated into the program and tied together thematically.



Marian Anderson String Quartet

"Songs of the Middle Passage"

Felix Mendelssohn

Quartet in A Minor op 13
Based on the Art Song, "Ist es Wahr"

Alfred Pochon

Negro Melody Suite

-----interactive lecture-----

-----intermission -----

Commissioned Work for the **CONTINUING THE LEGACY** project.

Antonin Dvorak

Quartet in F major, op. 96 "The American"

PROGRAM FEES

The fee for a **CONTINUING THE LEGACY** project concert performance and/or residency will range from \$5000- \$20,000. Fees for residencies will be negotiated based on the length of the residency and activities within it. A portion of this fee will be distributed as the composer's commission fee. This project is ongoing and will begin its booking for season 2013-2014.



To learn more about the **CONTINUING THE LEGACY** project, and the **Marian Anderson String Quartet**, please visit our website at www.masqllc.com or scan below:



For booking information please contact:

Rile & Gallant Artists

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