



Gateway Performance Series
2011-12 Season

GATEWAY JAZZ ORCHESTRA with Alan Chan



Sunday, May 20, 2012, 7 p.m.
Sanctuary of Gateway Christian Church
11760 Gateway Boulevard, Los Angeles

www.gatewayperformanceseries.org

Program

GATEWAY JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Alan Chan, composer / bandleader

Lauren Marks, narrator

Kevin Garren, soprano, alto sax / flute / piccolo

Alex Budman, soprano, alto sax / flute / clarinet

Tom Luer, tenor sax / flute / clarinet

Ben Burget, tenor sax / flute / clarinet

Tim McKay, baritone sax / bass clarinet

Tony Bonsera, trumpet

Jon Bradley, trumpet

James Blackwell, trumpet

Brian Swartz, trumpet

Charlie Morillas, trombone

Dave Ryan, trombone

Dave Richards, trombone

Ben Devitt, bass trombone

Andrew Synowiec, guitar

Geoff Stradling, piano

David Hughes, bass

Jamey Tate, drums

*~ Music will be selected from the following repertoire,
composed and arranged by Alan Chan ~*

René's Barcarolle

Moving to a New Capital 遷都怨

A Spirit's Dream 紅塵念

Monte Alban / Solita (two poems by Elaine Cohen)

Peanut Noir 黑花生 **

Shrimp Tale 蝦故事

Tzu Zu Ku (To Be Continued) つづく †

** World Premiere

† Winner of the 2011 ArtEZ Jazz Composition Contest, Netherlands

Total duration of tonight's program is about 60 minutes (without intermission).

The 17-piece **Gateway Jazz Orchestra** (GJO) was founded by Alan Chan in April 2011, as part of the 2011 Season of the Gateway Performance Series in West Los Angeles. It is made up of top classical, jazz and studio musicians in Hollywood. Many are active in the West Coast big band scene and have played in bands of Clare Fisher, Bill Holman, Gordon Goodwin, Ron King and Chris Walden, among others. Their film and TV credentials have included *CSI*, *The Simpsons* and *Mission Impossible*.

Alan Chan is a multi-faceted composer, with a goal to create original and innovative music that incorporates elements from across cultures and styles, to bring refreshing experience to audiences. He has received commissions and recognitions from ArtEZ (Netherlands), ASCAP, twice from American Composers Forum (ACF), twice from Percussive Arts Society (PAS) and Los Angeles County Arts Commission, among others.

Tzu Zu Ku (aka *To Be Continued*) for jazz big band was chosen among 5 finalists from North American and Europe as the winner of the 2011 ArtEZ Jazz Composition Contest in Enschede, the Netherlands. An alumnus of University of Southern California and a former member of the BMI Jazz Composers Workshop in New York, his mentors have included Donald Crockett, Vince Mendoza, and Jim McNeely. His jazz chart has been performed by the Chuck Owen and the Jazz Surge Band, Millennium Jazz Orchestra (Netherlands) and by college big bands in Los Angeles, Miami and Redlands. His percussion music is published by HoneyRock and MPI. Visit alanchanmusic.com.

Lauren Marks is a Los Angeles native and an NYU, Tisch School of the Arts graduate. She spent a decade in professional theater and pursued a PhD at The Graduate Center at CUNY. She's been published in *Brain World*, *Fresh Yarn*, and the *Huffington Post*. She has received grants from the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, VCCA France, Ragdale, Atlantic Center for the Arts, and Yaddo. At age 27, Lauren suffered a ruptured brain aneurysm, which became the inspiration for her memoir, *A Stitch of Time: Portrait of a Mind in Construction* (2014, Free Press / Simon & Schuster). Find her at AStitchofTime.com.

Text

Letter from *Mount Analogue* by René Daumal (1944)

Je suis mort parce que je n'ai pas le désir;
Je n'ai pas le désir parce que je crois posséder;
Je crois posséder parce que je n'essaie pas de donner;
Essayant de donner, je vois que je n'ai rien;
Voyant que je n'ai rien, j'essaie de me donner;
Essayant de me donner, je vois que je ne suis rien;
Voyant que je ne suis rien, j'essaie de devenir;
Essayant de devenir, je vis.

English translation

I am dead because I have no desire,
I have no desire because I think I possess,
I think I possess because I do not try to give;
Trying to give, we see we have nothing,
Seeing that we have nothing, we try to give ourselves,
Trying to give ourselves, we see we are nothing,
Seeing that we are nothing, we desire to become,
Desiring to become, we live...

Monte Alban by Elaine Cohen

By May, the heat, the longed for heat, was incessant
and garbage was burned near the center
of town on Sunday afternoons causing unbearable stench
The water, even bottled, was not to be trusted

I went to see the ruins at Monte Alban
high above the city, a world carved out of a mountain
by Olmecs, Zapotecs, Mixtecs and lastly, Aztecs
whose god demanded fresh human hearts

Goat-like I climbed monuments, imagining
the deadly stakes of their ballgames
The sun grew huge in the hard blue sky
the stellae shimmered in front of my eyes

The arrow-shaped observatory and esplanade
were now off limits, so I only learned that the ancients
had aligned their sights with Alpha and Beta Centauri,
only imagined seeing the Pleiades through the magic tunnel

When it came time to leave how I struggled against
the descent, as if something were holding me back
I can still see the dusty valley spreading out and the city
with its cathedrals, where everyone prayed for rain

Solita by Elaine Cohen

In Spanish, the feminine for alone is *solita*.

Once I hated to eat alone.
But then I discovered
a culinary jewel that served
comida, the midday meal
until 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The first time I arrived just before
they took in the handwritten sign
for the 40-peso special. The proprietor
in his sparkling white shirt asked me
gently, "Solita?"

"Si," I nodded shyly, as
he showed me to a table
in the walled garden
under a grapefruit tree laden
with pendulous low-hanging fruit.

Every day I returned
just before they took in the sign.
I raved to my friends about
the squash blossom sauce
the insanely delicious pork and fish
and sometimes they joined me
in dining like a goddess
under the shining
yellow globes of fruit.

But mostly I went alone. I liked
to hear the gentleman in charge
so politely inquire, "*Solita?*"
and my unwaveringly confident reply,
"*Si, gracias, solita.*"

Come join us for new music + fine dinning this summer!!!

ALAN CHAN JAZZ ORCHESTRA debut concert at
TYPHOON – Santa Monica Airport
Monday, July 30

2 sets – 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Address: 3221 Donald Douglas Loop South, Santa Monica, CA 90405

Website: Typhoon.biz

Acknowledgements

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