

# 7th Annual OH MY EARS New Music Festival

## LOCALS SHOWCASE

Valley Bar, Reading Room | Thursday, Feb 20, 2020; 7:30p

### TROUBADOURS

Troubadours will present a set of improvised music that is heavily inspired by the folk music of Early America and Great Britain. Taking inspiration from the Folk revival of the 1960's in England, we aim to build upon the foundation that artists such as Anne Briggs, and bands such as Fairport Convention laid down by re-presenting material of the time through the lens of modern and contemporary freely improvised music.

### AMBER WALKER

Can I have it without begging? (2018) for flute & pre-recorded sound by Eve Beglarian

Trillium (1999) for solo flute by Elizabeth Brown

TRKs (2001) for flute & CD by Ian Clarke & Simon Painter

*Something Borrowed - music for solo flute.* This program features three stylistically contrasting pieces, unified by the fact that they are all newly composed works that borrow elements from older musical traditions. Part of Eve Beglarian's "Machaut in the Machine Age" project, *Can I have it without begging?* is based on medieval poet/composer Guillaume de Machaut's *Ballade 19: Amours me fait desirer*. Elizabeth Brown's *Trillium* utilizes extended techniques to emulate the timbral qualities of both the Shakuhachi and birdsong. Ian Clarke's *TRKs* incorporates elements of 1970s prog rock and is described by the composer as "An individual and dramatic piece...sort of, but not Pink Floyd for flute."

### JULIA LOUGHEED

Hummingbrdd by Steven Bryant

Pimpin' by Jacob TV

Looking for Alligators by Julia Lougheed

This program for bass clarinet and fixed media combines electronic sounds, spoken word audio, influences from popular music genres, and sounds from the natural world. It explores a wide range of themes—from technology's role in our daily lives to society's view of sex workers to nostalgia, and the elusive concept of 'home'. With this set, Julia hopes to showcase her instrument's wide range of musical potential, and maybe get you to think a little bit.

### GLASS HOUSE DOLLS

**Trigger warning for domestic violence, sexual assault, and drug use**

*This Is What Love Is* (Megan DeJarnett)

*the big D* (Kaili Otsuka/Megan DeJarnett)

*The Sun and The Sea* (Kaili Otsuka)

*something else* (Kaili Otsuka/Megan DeJarnett)

*Take What You Want* (Megan DeJarnett)

*don't call it a love song* (Megan DeJarnett)

*there's a light//but it's a good thing* is a story of trauma, (continuing) recovery, and hope as told through narration, fixed media, effects pedals, movement, and a little bit of song. The story follows two characters through a journey in three parts—trauma/anger, early recovery, and understanding/hope. The program, which

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will consist entirely of works by Otsuka and DeJarnett, will draw from our own experiences as women carrying trauma and our journeys reaching for something better.

### **BLACK AIR**

Recurrence for Bass Clarinet and Electronics (2020) by J. Bennett

Stratus (1973) by Billy Cobham arranged for Bass Clarinet and Electronics by J. Bennett

### **BIOS:**

**BLACK AIR** An active educator, freelance musician and arts administrator, Josh Bennett holds a Master of Music in Clarinet Performance from Arizona State University and a Bachelor of Music in Clarinet Performance from University of Missouri Kansas City Conservatory of Music. As an educator, Mr. Bennett is an Adjunct Professor at Paradise Valley Community College and has a private woodwind studio. His performance accolades include performing with various professional ensembles such as the Arizona Opera, Crossing 32nd Street, and Phoenix Theater. Mr. Bennett has also performed and presented at a variety of conferences including the OME Marathon Festival, ASU Contemporary Music Festival, Society for Ethnomusicology Southwest Chapter, and the ISIM Sixth Annual Festival/Conference.

**AMBER WALKER** is a flutist, music educator, and arts administrator from Phoenix, AZ. She is currently the Band/Orchestra Director at Royal Palm Middle School, the Associate Director of OME, and a Board Member for the Arizona Flute Society. Amber performs regularly throughout AZ as a soloist and as a member of the Desert Echoes Flute Project. She specializes in contemporary repertoire and is particularly passionate about performing the works of living and female composers. Amber holds a Master of Music in Performance from Stephen F. Austin State University and Bachelor's degrees in Music Education and Music Performance from Northern Arizona University.

**JULIA LOUGHEED** is a sought-after bass clarinetist in Phoenix's growing new music scene. Julia performs as a soloist, chamber musician, and large ensemble collaborator. Described as an adventurous musician, Julia plays in a variety of styles, improvises, and often performs in non-traditional concert venues. She is a passionate advocate of new pieces written for her instrument, and actively commissions and co-composes new works for bass clarinet. Julia's musical voice isn't only heard in Phoenix--she has been a featured guest artist at concerts in several United States and Canada, and recently returned from a new music residency program at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. In addition to her active performance schedule, Julia manages a private studio, teaches at Paradise Valley Community College, and serves as Production Manager for Oh My Ears. She holds a Master of Music in Performance from Arizona State University and Bachelor of Music in Performance from Virginia Commonwealth University.=

**GLASS HOUSE DOLLS** is a concert theater project fronted by vocalist Kaili Otsuka and composer-trumpeter Megan DeJarnett. Inspired by classical music, jazz, experimentalism, and the intersection of music, text, and sound, Glass House Dolls crafts experiences that strip the polish away from traditional concert presentation to explore the depths of stories not often told in the concert music world. With words and music by both Otsuka and DeJarnett, Glass House Dolls works extensively with trauma, sexual assault, and misogyny, often juxtaposed against fearless love, empowerment, and classic heartbreak. The goal: bringing audiences in close contact with an honest look at the joys and struggles of navigating the world in a female body.

**TROUBADOURS** is a trio from Phoenix, Arizona that focuses on reinterpreting the folk repertoire of America and Britain through the lens of improvisation and free music.