UNLV
College of Fine Arts – Department of Music

Presents

Stephen Ferradino
percussion

A Senior Recital

Tuesday, May 5, 2009
7:00pm
Doc Rando Recital Hall
Bea Rands Music Center
Doomsday Machine

Michael Burritt (b-1962)

Ensemble: Charles Gott, Ryan Simm, Nick Waters

The Doomsday Machine is named for an episode from Star Trek, my favorite science fiction series of all time. The “Doomsday Machine” is an enormous weapon, both in size and strength that was left adrift in space. This war machine was capable of destroying whole planets and was discovered, of course, by Captain Kirk and his crew. The Enterprise ultimately conquered the “Doomsday Machine” by feeding it to another star ship that was set to self-destruct. My “Doomsday Machine” is meant to be an aurally and visually captivating work that explores a multitude of wood, metal, and membraned sounds in an explosively energetic dance.

-Michael Burritt

Two Movements for Marimba

Toshimitsu Tanaka (b-1930)

Composed by Tanaka in 1965, this marimba solo serves as one of the standards of marimba literature. This piece has been awarded several prizes at National Arts Festivals. Two movements have been written for a four-octave marimba. Within the two movements much contrast between stroked and rolled textures are found. Tanaka also employs the use of many shifting meters in this composition.

Divertimento for Marimba and Alto Saxophone

Akira Yuyama (b-1932)

Travis Pardee, Alto saxophone

“Being commissioned by Ms. (Keiko) Abe to compose a piece for the marimba provided me with the ideal opportunity to work together with her in exploring the possibilities of the instrument. I immediately set a pen to paper and became engrossed in composing a work which combined the marimba, an instrument with a rich overtone structure, with the saxophone, an instrument which also has a rich overtone structure together with a fluent and lyrical nature, in an attempt to bring forth the effervescent, burning energy of the marimba.”

- Akira Yuyama

Credo in US

John Cage (1912-1992)

Musicians: Ryan Simm, Daniel Steffey, Kelli Rowe

Dance & Choreography: Bria Sison, Erin Downey, Katie Duffy

Written in 1942, Credo in Us was the first collaboration between composer John Cage and modern dance choreographer Merce Cunningham. The piece calls for two batteries of tin cans, muted gongs, toms, piano (in which the player mutes the strings and plays the body of the piano as a percussionist), and electric buzzer. For the first time Cage introduces the use of the phonograph and radio in his music, devices that would be important elements of his chance music in the years to come. A seven-part Rondo, Cage distinguishes each section of the piece calling the rondos Façades and the episodes Interludes. Tonight’s performance features members of the UNLV Dance Area, with choreography based on elements of chance.

Stephen Ferradino is a student of Dr. Dean Gronemeier and Dr. Timothy Jones. This performance is offered in partial fulfillment for the requirements of the Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Performance.