Ustatshakirt Plus

Sunday, October 4, 2015
Welcome to the Cleveland Museum of Art

The Cleveland Museum of Art’s performing arts series brings together thoughtful, fascinating, and beautiful experiences, comprising a concert calendar notable for its boundless multiplicity. This year we look forward to visits from old friends and new, bringing us music from around the globe and spanning many centuries. Here is the place where performance is intended to explore connections of cultures, the heart, the human spirit.

In the galleries

Shadows and Dreams: 
Pictorialist Photography in America
Through January 17, 2016

Painting the Modern Garden: Monet to Matisse
October 11, 2015–January 5, 2016

Imagining the Garden
October 31, 2015–March 6, 2016

Silent Poetry: Masterworks of Chinese Painting
November 14, 2015–April 24, 2016

Please turn off all electronic devices before entering the performance hall.

Photography and audio/video recording in the performance hall are prohibited.

Ustatshakirt Plus

Sunday, October 4, 2015, 2:00 p.m.
Gartner Auditorium, the Cleveland Museum of Art

Music Director
Nurlanbek Nyshanov

Musicians
Bek Alagushov komuz, jaw harp, choor, vocal
Aizada Kasabolotova komuz, jaw harp, vocal
Makhabat Kobogonova komuz, jaw harp
Adinai Kudabaeva komuz, jaw harp
Nurlanbek Nyshanov jaw harp, sybyzgy, choor, chopo choor
Tolgonai Osmonova jaw harp, sybyzgy, choor, chopo choor

Ustatshakirt Plus appears in collaboration with the Aga Khan Music Initiative, a program of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture.

Program

“Spoiled Red-Haired Boy”
R. Jumabaev
Ensemble

“Echo of Time”
K. Kalendarov
Ensemble
“I Remember”  
A. Ogombaev  
Aizada Kasabolotova, vocal  
Bek Alagushov, vocal  
Ensemble  

When summer reached its peak  
On the hilly mountain,  
She chose one of the many flowers and picked it.  
I remember that tranquil girl.  

We agreed to entrust our fate to one another;  
We agreed to pick the flowers of this life together.  
I remember the days when we talked about this,  
As the meaning of life grew deeper.  

Recall your vow and make a choice;  
My passion for you did not cool.  
Let modern, merry youth  
Have a life-partner in you.  

“Impudent One”  
N. Boroshev  
Bek Alagushov, solo komuz  

“Qanykey's Story”  
Traditional  
Ensemble  

“I'm So Sad to Say Goodbye”  
Q. Dosmambetova  
Text: O. Sultanov  
Aizada Kasabolotova, vocal  
Ensemble  

Driving a herd of horses at dawn,  
I slowly rode my horse along the shallow gully.  
The cool air of the summer pasture  
Met me with a tender and discreet hug.  
The native aroma of flowers  
And their beauty intoxicate me.  

Cholo-Tor and Ashuu-Tor pastures,  
I dearly long for you.  
Picking your iridescent flowers,  
I fixed them on my collar.  
If you sing, share with me  
The song’s echo reflected form cliffs.  

During our childhood in the mountains,  
I played chikit [a Kyrgyz children's game].  
We argued ten times a day.  
We made up ten times.  
We played catch,  
Competing with foals.  

Those days of mine  
Grow more and more distant.  
I’m sad to say goodbye  
To my dear childhood.  
Life tries to steal from me  
My insatiable youth.
“Ak Satkyn and Kulmyrza”
Traditional
Aizada Kasabolotova, vocal
Bek Alagushov, vocal
Ensemble

Under me is a blanket from rough silk, my friend.
Under my head is an embroidered pillow.
I lay on my side.
In my head were deep thoughts.
Having made a path from one side, you followed it across.
Slashed the side of the yurt, and thrust in your hand.

I said, “Stop, stop” but you didn’t stop.
You crawled into my bed.
I pleaded with you but you didn’t obey.
You crawled next to me.
Not only did you not leave, you didn’t listen to me.
After midnight you fell asleep.
I slept uneasily; there were strange dreams.
I awoke from nightmares.

You didn’t take your hand away from my neck;
You didn’t get out of my bed.
Someone bent down and looked through the hole [of the yurt].
Two people came in through the door.
You were thrown toward the entrance.
You fell to the ground, breaking your neck.
A double-whip hit your croup;
A double-dagger plunged into your liver.

Your innards are strung out on the ground.
Your face turned pale, you’re dying.
Six people came together.
Your dear life was put to an end.
My brothers talked among themselves.
They gave advice to people around,
And buried the body in an ash heap.
That’s how my grief was buried.

Those who came to search for their dear one,
Let them dig up that ash heap.
If they open it, they will find your body;
The flower-bed will be refreshed.

I'm testing my strength;
Let me fix the levy for your death:
Sixty herd animals with big horns and a hundred gold coins
And a beautiful young girl.

I am at their disposal.
Let’s agree on this, my friend:
Let my father suffer, paying the compensation;
Let your father be joyous taking the compensation.
Kulmyrza died, very good indeed;
And he became a couple with Ak Satkyn.
Ak Satkyn killed herself with the white dagger’s thrust:
People saw the power of love.

“On the Road”
N. Nyshanov
Aizada Kasabolotova, komuz
Bek Alagushov, komuz
Adinai Kudabaeva, komuz

“Dream”
N. Nyshanov
Ensemble
“I Burn, I Smolder Like Charcoal”  
A. Ogombaev  
Aizada Kaasbolotova, solo vocal  
I burn, I smolder like charcoal  
I think I'm burning, but there is no smoke.  
On the upper part of my heart  
There is no spot that is whole.  

In the high mountain pass Kan-Jailoo  
A cold breeze blows when the snow falls.  
My dark-eyed one in the wide collar,  
I burn; if you know the price of my love, come yourself.  

Like a blossoming white poplar  
You walk, showing off a white dress.  
I have no choice; I cannot be with you  
I wander around like a lost young camel.  

Like a blossoming silvery poplar  
You walk coquettishly in a silvery scarf.  
Unable to find a way to be with you,  
I am left suffering like a weeping young camel.  

“A Melody That Wakes a Girl Up”  
A. Oshur Uulu  
Ensemble  

“Attila Khan”  
N. Abdyrakhmanov  
Bek Alagushov, solo komuz  

“Novelty”  
N. Nyshanov  
Ensemble, Jaw harp  

“White Neck/Gray Neck”  
A. Ogombaev  
Adinai Kudabaeva, solo komuz.  

“Spoiled Girl”  
Traditional  
Ensemble  

“Shepherd's Deep Melody”  
Traditional  
Ensemble  

“Appeal to the People”  
K. Ryskulov  
Aizada Kasabolotova, vocal  
Ensemble  

Love your people, motherland and your husband or wife  
Devote your strength to pure things  
If you are killed for your people  
Everybody will remember you.  

Don't be greedy,  
Don't be a scoundrel, don't strike at humanity.  
So there is a dagger called death above your head;  
It is an age without fighting with spears and sabers,  
It is an age with lots of clothes and food,  
But it is an age with lots of arms and wars.  

If you always think of illness and death  
They will always win you.  
Instead, be ready for the future.  
Make a meal, boil soup in the saucepan;  
The difference between day and night is the light.  
Nobody envies your dream:  
Your services will stay in the history  
Share your thoughts with the people  
Let them judge them true or false,  
Don't say that you are the best;  
You can't plough the land by yourself.
Alcohol will weaken the wisdom of the wise man
After some years;
That's why a wise man doesn't drink alcohol.
Why do you drink alcohol, my dear?
Somebody has no water to drink,
Somebody has no water to swim,
All this too can come to you.
I wish we could raise our future generation,
I wish the waves of the oceans would be quieter.

I remember that a silkworm dies after spinning silk.
For forty days the world is a wonder
Which is sifted through the sieve of time.
We living beings are the boundary
Between dead and future people.
Men: lay your table for everyone
But remember that not everyone
will come when you are in trouble.
Oh men you are tiresome, ambitious,
Clever, wise, and sensible
After ants and bees
You are a diligent person of nature.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Ustatshakirt Plus is a traditional music ensemble from Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. Music and musicians have historically played a vital role in the cultures of Kyrgyz Republic and Central Asia in general. Music traditionally served not only as entertainment but also as a way to reinforce social and moral values, and musicians provided models of exemplary leadership. When these rich traditions were confronted with the withdrawal of resources and the influx of western pop following the demise of the Soviet Union, many went into decline.

Ustatshakirt Plus works to preserve the customs and lineage of the Kyrgyz Republic's rich musical history. Following a traditional model, students travel to their teacher's domicile and become members of the household, living together, practicing music, and helping with chores. The pride and artistic stimulation that result from presenting their traditions to an international audience underscores the invaluable necessity of preserving this unique musical heritage.

Nurlanbek Nyshanov (Music Director/Original Arrangement and Composition) is a composer, multi-instrumentalist, and musical instrument maker from Kyrgyzstan. In 1984, he joined the staff of Regional Cultural Center where he worked as an art director of the jaw harp ensemble and was a komuz player. In 1987, Mr. Nyshanov entered musical secondary school in Bishkek majoring in bas kyiak. The same year he was accepted to a workshop of musical instruments. The following year, he began working in the ensemble of folk music Kambarkan as a choor player and by 1990, Nurlanbek became a student of composition at the Institute of Art. In 1993, under the Bishkek Theatre of Drama, Mr. Nyshanov founded a folk group Saamal and worked there until 1996. Between 1995 and 2006, Nurlanbek lectured in the traditional music department of the Kyrgyz National Conservatory and since 1999, Nurlanbek Nyshanov has worked as an art director of Ordo Sakhna folk theatre. He became art director of Tengir-Too ensemble and Ustatshakirt Plus Public Association Center founded by Aga-Khan Music Initiative in 2005.

As a performer and composer, Nurlanbek Nyshanov has toured Turkey, France, Luxembourg, Italy, Singapore, Austria, Spain, Sweden, Slovenia, Greece, Morocco, Norway, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Kenya, Mongolia, China, United Kingdom, South Korea, Malaysia, Ukraine, Russia, Iran, Denmark, Cambodia, Portugal, and the United States. He gives concerts and participates in festivals around the world such as the “Silk Road Project” of Yo-Yo Ma (2004), Concert for His Royal Highness Prince of Wales (2006), and many others. His discography includes, Ordo Sakhna Flame Horses (2008), Tengir-Too Mountain Music of Kyrgyzstan (2006), Selection WOMEX (2005), Tien-Shan-Suisse Express (2003), Ordo Sakhna Song of Nomad (2001), Ordo Sakhna The Music of The Legend (2000), and the original sound track for Where the Sky Meets the Land, a film by Frank Müller (1999).
Bek Alagushov (Musician) was born in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan and began playing the komuz at the age of ten. Mr. Alagushov graduated from Ak Say School and went on to study at M. Kurenkeev’s state music school where he learned to play choor. Bek attended Aga Khan Music Initiative (AKMI) and currently studies komuz at Kyrgyz National Conservatory, named for K. Moldobasanov. He has performed in the 2012 Silk Road Festival in Houston, TX, Mystic Music 2011 in Istanbul, Turkey, and Khorog Festival 2012 in Khorog, Tajikistan.

Aizada Kasabolotova (Musician) began performing with song and dance ensemble, Ak-Suu Keremeti, organized by the Children’s Music School in Kyrgyzstan. While a member of the group, Ms. Kasabolotova learned to sing and play the komuz. She furthered her studies of the komuz at the Karakol State Music College named after Ybrai Tumanov, and in 2004, graduated with honors. Following her time in Karakol, Ms. Kasabolotova entered the National Conservatory of the Kyrgyz Republic and finished with a degree in national folklore. She has performed in Kazakhstan, Beijing, Paris, Tajikistan, Summerfest festival in Hungary, Parfums Music Festival in France, Ramadan Festival in Turkey, and Maailma Kula festival in Estonia.

Makhabat Kobogonova (Musician) began studying the guitar under Ch. Duysheeva and then attended the Kyrgyz National Conservatory where she studied guitar and qul qyak under K. Moldobasanov. Ms. Kobogonova attended the Center of Traditional Music and studied classes in qul qyak, metal and jaw harp. She was a recipient of a Presidential Fellow and received third place in the guitar category at the Kyrgyz Republic Competition of Classical Music. She teaches guitar at Children’s Art School No. 4 in Bishkek and has performed in International Festivals in Tajikistan, United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Korea and Kyrgyzstan’s Young Talents and Stars of Issyk-Kul. Ms. Kobogonova joined Ustatshakirt Plus in 2008.

Adinai Kudabaeva (Musician) was born and raised in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. She attended 59th High School and then studied music and graduated from Aga Khan Music Initiative (AKMI) where she learned to play the komuz and other Kyrgyz national musical instruments. She also studied at M. Kurenkeev’s state music school and graduated in 2014. Adinai has toured France, Tajikistan and the United States. In 2012, Ms. Kudabaeva played in the Olympic Games hosted in London as well as USA’s “Silk Road” Festival in Houston, Texas. Currently, Ms. Kudabaeva is a student at the Kyrgyz National Conservatory.

Tolgonai Osmonova (Musician) was born in Bishkek and began studying komuz at the Children’s Art School. She graduated from the Kyrgyz State University of Construction, Transportation and Architecture with a specialty in painting and went on to study woodwinds at the Kyrgyz National Conservatory. In 2013, Ms. Osmonova received the President’s Scholarship “Altyn Shaty,” awarded to promising students pursuing the arts. Tolgonai has played at the International Mystic Festival (Turkey), International Korkyt Festival (Kazakhstan), Heydar Aliyev Festival (Azerbaijan) and Cultural Heritage Days (United Arab Emirates). Ms. Osmonova teaches chopo-choor, sybyzgy, and jaw harp classes to children at art school No. 6. She joined Ustatshakirt Plus in 2010.

Julia Glawe (Producer) works with individual artists and companies in strategic planning, producing, fundraising, and tour booking. Her diverse clients have included Seán Curran Company, the Bolshoi Ballet, Scottish Ballet, Nederlands Dans Theater, Gallim Dance, Michael Clark Company, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, the National Ballet of Canada, Doug Varone and Dancers, and many others. She is a board member of the International Society for the Performing Arts, and a founder of Western Arts Alliance’s CODA Council.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

CIM/CWRU Joint Music Program
Wednesday, October 7, 6:00 p.m.
Gallery 229, East Wing

The kick off of our fifth season of “First Wednesday” concerts features movements from string quartets by Mozart, Janáček, and Smetana. Free, no tickets required.
cma.org/cim
Merima Ključo: The Sarajevo Haggadah
Wednesday, October 28, 7:30 p.m.
Gartner Auditorium

Composer/performer Merima Ključo’s multimedia work The Sarajevo Haggadah: Music of the Book (for accordion, piano and video) traces the dramatic story of one of Jewish culture's most treasured manuscripts. Ključo illustrates and illuminates the Haggadah’s travels from medieval Spain to 20th-century Bosnia where it was hidden and rescued during World War II, to its restoration by the National Museum in Sarajevo after the 1992–1995 war. Inspired by the historical novel by Pulitzer Prize–winning author Geraldine Brooks. As a concert accordionist, Ključo has performed recitals and has been a guest soloist with orchestras all over the world. With special guest Seth Knopp, piano. Program introduced by author Geraldine Brooks.
$33–$45; CMA members $30–40.
cma.org/kljuco

Calder Quartet
Monday, November 16, 7:30 p.m.
Transformer Station

Winners of the 2014 Avery Fisher Career Grant, the Calder Quartet is known for the discovery, commissioning, and recording of some of today’s best emerging composers. The group’s distinctive approach is exemplified by musical curiosity, whether it’s Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn, or sold-out rock shows with bands like The National or the Airborne Toxic Event. Known here for their groundbreaking collaboration with Iva Bittová and their guest appearance with the Cleveland Orchestra as part of the “California Masterworks” series, the quartet continues its residency of regular appearances in the intimacy of the Transformer Station. Program: Daniel Bjarnason, Stillshot; Benjamin Britten, String Quartet No. 2 in C Major, Op. 36; Beethoven, String Quartet No. 12 in E-Flat Major, Op. 127.
$25; CMA members $22.
cma.org/calder

Performing Arts

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Ellen Fullman
Thursday–Saturday,
September 24–26, 7:30

Ustatshakirt Plus
Sunday, October 4, 2:00

CIM/CWRU Joint Music Program
Wednesday, October 7, 6:00

Merima Ključo:
The Sarajevo Haggadah
Wednesday, October 28, 7:30

CIM/CWRU Joint Music Program
Wednesday, November 4, 6:00

Calder Quartet
Monday, November 16, 7:30

CIM/CWRU Joint Music Program
Wednesday, December 2, 6:00

James Feddeck
Sunday, December 6, 2:00

CIM/CWRU Joint Music Program
Wednesday, January 6, 6:00

CIM/CWRU Joint Music Program
Wednesday, February 3, 6:00

CIM Organ Studio
Sunday, February 14, 2:00

JACK Quartet
Tuesday–Wednesday,
March 1–2, 7:30

CIM/CWRU Joint Music Program
Wednesday, March 2, 6:00

Dervish
Friday, March 11, 7:30

Qasida
Wednesday, March 16, 7:30

Calder Quartet
Thursday, March 31, 7:30

Patricia Kopatchinskaja
Sunday, April 3, 7:30

CIM/CWRU Joint Music Program
Wednesday, April 6, 6:00

Orlando Consort
Wednesday, April 6, 7:30

Fanfare Ciocărlia
Wednesday, April 13, 7:30

Amir ElSaffar’s Rivers of Sound
Friday, April 15, 7:30

Tarek Abdallah & Adel Shams El-Din
Wednesday, April 27, 7:30

CIM/CWRU Joint Music Program
Wednesday, May 4, 6:00

Otomo Yoshihide
Monday, May 9, 7:30
Please turn off all electronic devices before entering the performance hall.

Photography and audio/video recording in the performance hall are prohibited.

DEPARTMENT OF
PERFORMING ARTS, MUSIC,
AND FILM
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Programs are subject to change.

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TICKETS 1–888–CMA–0033 cma.org/performingarts