



**ABOUT PARK AVENUE ARMORY
2017 RECITAL SERIES and ARTISTS STUDIO**

The Recital Series and Artists Studio series provide a range of performances in which contemporary artists engage with audiences on a level of intimacy that is unprecedented in conventional concert halls and performance spaces today. The programs offer artists the opportunity to respond to the context and character of two of the most important historic interiors in the country, the Board of Officers Room and the Veterans Room, complementing the institution’s groundbreaking productions in the soaring Wade Thompson Drill Hall and providing audiences experiences with artists from around the globe.

Presented in the glorious salon setting of the Board of Officers Room, the acclaimed Recital Series offers audiences the opportunity to experience chamber music as it was originally intended. Launched in 2013 with the revitalization of the room, the series showcases musicians performing a range of classical and contemporary works. The 2017 series includes both established and emerging opera performers and musicians in a range of programs reflective of their individual artistry.

The Artists Studio, curated by MacArthur “Genius” Jason Moran, launched in March 2016 alongside the inauguration of the revitalized Veterans Room, a collaboration amongst some of the most talented emerging designers of the time—including Louis C. Tiffany, Stanford White, and others. The series takes inspiration from the exuberant design of the room and experimental spirit of the designers who conceived it. Drawing from the variety of cultures and styles visible in the space, this season explores global influences in contemporary music with performances by musicians, composers, and artists who infuse their work with references and source material from around the world—from Japan, India, and West Africa to the American South and Harlem.

2017 CALENDAR

RECITAL SERIES

Board of Officers Room

FEBRUARY

Lindemann Young Artists

Wednesday, February 1 at 7:30pm

Thursday, February 2 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$35

The Metropolitan Opera’s Lindemann Young Artist Development Program has trained a new generation of celebrated American and international opera singers who perform at the highest standards in productions at the Met and opera houses around the world, with a roster of alumni that includes Paul Appleby, Stephanie Blythe, Nathan Gunn, Mariusz Kwiecień, Sondra Radvanovsky, and Dawn Upshaw. The program will feature current participants—including soprano Michelle Bradley and mezzo-soprano Virginie Verrez—for an evening of opera arias and duets, lieder, and art song.

ARTISTS STUDIO

Veterans Room

Dawn of Midi

Saturday, February 18 at 7:00pm and 9:00pm

Tickets: \$45

Dawn of Midi may share the instrumental makeup of a traditional jazz piano trio, but the Brooklyn-based acoustic ensemble has distinguished itself by exploring new avenues of sound. Subverting conventional jazz forms and employing sophisticated rhythmic structures from North and West African folk traditions, Dawn of Midi comes to the Veterans Room to play sets drawn from their acclaimed album, *Dysnomia*.

MARCH/APRIL

Sarah Connolly, mezzo-soprano

Joseph Middleton, piano

Wednesday, March 15 at 7:30pm

Friday, March 17 at 8:00pm

Tickets: \$75

Program to include works by Copland, Berlioz, Schumann, and Poulenc

Sarah Connolly is celebrated for her performances in some of the world's most renowned opera houses including English National Opera, Glyndebourne Festival, Covent Garden, Bayreuther Festspiele, and the Metropolitan Opera. The celebrated British mezzo-soprano moves from the vast opera stage to the intimate Board of Officers Room for a recital that showcases her communicative power through lieder and art song.

JUNE/JULY/AUGUST

Wu Man and the Shanghai Quartet

Tuesday, June 20 at 8:00pm

Wednesday, June 21 at 8:00pm

Tickets: \$45

Program to include works by Yi-Wen Jiang, Zhou Long, and Tan Dun

The acclaimed Shanghai Quartet and *pipa* (Chinese lute) virtuoso Wu Man unite to perform new works by contemporary Chinese composers. The Quartet is internationally recognized for their fluency in both Eastern Folk and Western Classical idioms. Wu Man is a leading ambassador of Chinese music throughout the world, performing and recording with musicians across a range of musical genres.

Ryuichi Sakamoto

Tuesday, April 25 at 7:30pm

Wednesday, April 26 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$60

Japanese composer Ryuichi Sakamoto has received accolades for his film scores, including for *The Last Emperor*, *Little Buddha*, and *The Revenant*. A renaissance man who collaborates with international artists and works also as a musician, producer, pianist, activist, writer, actor, dancer, and electronic music pioneer, he presents for the Artists Studio a work that mixes both sound installation and musical performance for the first time in his career. Sakamoto and his long-time collaborator and visual artist, Shiro Takatani, are currently developing unique visuals and a brand-new instrument specially created for this show, which features music drawn from Sakamoto's first album in eight years.

Lawrence Brownlee, tenor

Myra Huang and Jason Moran, piano

****Part of both the Recital Series and Artists Studio****

Wednesday, August 9 at 7:30pm

Friday, August 11 at 8:00pm

Tickets: \$60

Program to include works by Rossini, Bellini, and Donizetti, as well as spirituals, jazz standards and improvisations

One of the world's leading bel canto tenors, American-born Lawrence Brownlee has garnered acclaim singing a wide range of roles from opera to contemporary music and jazz to spirituals. Brownlee comes to the Armory for a progressive concert performed in multiple historic period rooms. The evening begins in the Board of Officers Room with a recital of lieder and art songs and continues in the Veterans Room with jazz standards and American spirituals. Joined by Myra Huang and Jason Moran on piano, the program showcases the singer's vocal artistry and explores spiritual and jazz influences from the American South in contemporary music.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Sabine Devieille, soprano

Anne Le Bozec, piano

Sunday, October 1 at 3:00pm

Tuesday, October 3 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$45

Program to include works by Berlioz, Bizet, Fauré, Richard and Clara Schumann, Brahms Massenet, and Viardot

Rising coloratura soprano Sabine Devieille makes her North American recital debut following lauded engagements at opera houses throughout Europe including Dutch National Opera, Opéra national de Paris, Aix-en-Provence Festival, and the Glyndebourne Festival. Her Armory program centers on singer, composer, pianist, and teacher Pauline Viardot and the famed gatherings at her Parisian salon that drew a veritable “who’s who” of the international artistic scene.

Patricia Kopatchinskaja, violin

Jay Campbell, cello

Monday, October 9 at 7:30pm

Tuesday, October 10 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$45

Program to include works by Widmann, Gibbons, Ravel, Xenakis, Ligeti, Kodály, and Michael Hersch

Born into a Moldavian family of musicians, violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja is known as much for the passion and virtuosity of her playing as for the fact that she often performs barefoot. Dubbed the “wild child” of the violin, she performs around the world and is celebrated for her charm, charisma, and an expressiveness likened to that of a stage actor. The natural phenomenon comes to the Board of Officers Room with cellist Jay Campbell to perform duos from a wide-ranging repertoire that showcases the pair’s extreme styles of music making, from the early music of Gibbons to classical works by Ravel and contemporary compositions by Xenakis, Ligeti, and a world premiere by Michael Hersch.

Rashaad Newsome

Tuesday, November 7 at 7:00pm and 9:00pm

Tickets: \$45

Rashaad Newsome is a multidisciplinary artist whose practice is deeply invested in how images used in media and popular culture communicate distorted notions of power and status. He comes to the Armory to premiere *Running*, a new immersive performance evoking an abstract portrait of soul created through light and voice. *Running* is centered on the musicology term for a singer’s improvised embellishment: a “vocal run” is a rapid series of ascending or descending musical notes sung in quick succession. *Running* is a vocal effect that spans a variety of musical genres from the 19th century to today. Newsome’s stirring performance features three local New York City vocalists performing an original score composed by the artist, which incorporates samples of vocal runs by Aretha Franklin, Patti LaBelle, Whitney Houston, Marvin Gaye, B.B. King, James Brown, and Kelly Price, among others. In order to fully experience the work, audience members will be blindfolded for a portion of the performance.

**Dominique Eade & Ran Blake
with Kavita Shah**

Tuesday, November 21 at 7:00pm and 9:00pm

Tickets: \$45

The influences and improvisational fluidity of jazz take center stage in a thrilling double bill of artists who infuse their sets with unique musical cultures and perspectives. Known for reshaping mostly familiar melodies into art songs with their genre-blurring mastery of jazz, blues, classical, folk, and gospel music, vocalist Dominique Eade and pianist Ran Blake showcase their strikingly unique harmonies, lyrical force, and evocative atmospheres with a set that includes songs from their latest release—*Town and Country*—as well as other standards, originals, and tributes. Kavita Shah seamlessly weaves together diverse cultural traditions into her jazz-based repertoire, from the Indian table and West African kora to African and Brazilian rhythms, placing seemingly eclectic songs, instruments, and artists in dialogue with one another to create a new type of jazz with global sensibilities that defies categorization. For her appearance at the Armory, Shah will be debuting the new work *Folk Songs of Naboréa*, a song-cycle for seven voices that imagines the folk music of a futuristic, post-nuclear society.

Barbara Hannigan, soprano

Reinbert de Leeuw, piano

Thursday, November 16 at 7:30pm

Saturday, November 18 at 5:00pm and 8:00pm

Tickets: \$75

Second Viennese School (November 16): Program to include works by Schoenberg, Webern, Berg, Zemlinsky, Alma Mahler, Wolf

All Erik Satie (November 18): Program to include *Uspud* and *Socrate*

Barbara Hannigan has made a name for herself creating roles on leading opera stages as a muse and collaborator with a number of legendary composers, including György Ligeti, Henri Dutilleux, and George Benjamin. In her U.S. recital debut, the soprano begins with an exploration of the Second Viennese School, where new musical language was developed through the extraordinary collaboration between composers, painters, writers, and other artists in the city's salons and cafes at the turn of the century. She then looks to Paris to explore the work of Erik Satie, from his dramatic music written for ballet to his magnum opus *Socrate*, in a unique program performed with renowned Satie interpreter Reinbert de Leeuw. Satie's work will be performed throughout the Armory's historic spaces and in the Veterans Room.

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