Princeton University Sinfonia

Ruth Ochs and Anna Wittstruck, conductors

Thursday, May 7, 2009
8:00 P.M.

Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall
~Program~

Pavane pour une infante défunte (1908-10, orch. 1911)  
Maurice Ravel

In Another Time (2009)  
World Premiere  
Laurie Altman

Part 1: Introduction: Strings
Parts 2A: Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble and Choir
Part 2B: Jazz Ensemble and Choir
Part 3: Jazz Ensemble, Strings, and Choir with Solos
Part 4: Wind Ensemble
Part 5 Intro: Choir and Electric Guitar
Part 5 Finale: Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, and Choir

Princeton University Concert Jazz Ensemble
Anthony D.J. Branker, conductor

Princeton University Sinfonia  
Ruth Ochs, conductor

Fuma Sacra  
Andrew Megill, conductor

The commission of this work was generously supported by the Lewis Center for the Arts, the Department of Music, and the Jazz Program.

~Intermission~

Violin Concerto No. 1 in G Minor (1868)  
Max Bruch

I. Vorspiel: Allegro moderato

Kathy Li ’12, violin — Winner of the 2009 Sinfonia Concerto Competition

Symphony No. 1 in B-flat Major, “Spring” (1841)  
Robert Schumann

I. Andante un poco maestoso – Allegro molto vivace
II. Larghetto
III. Scherzo: Molto vivace
IV. Allegro animato e grazioso
Program Notes for *In Another Time*

*In Another Time* began on a bleak October afternoon. The impending Presidential race was becoming far too close to call; the economy was tanking; workers were being laid-off daily, and retirement incomes were vanishing. The opening Prelude commenced within this backdrop, hence its rather somber and sobering tone. I had found a poem that I had written the winter before. Entitled, "Acquiescence" it seemed to contain several lines commensurate with my mood at the time. The plunge had to be taken, and so I began. I had been thrilled by the opportunity to create a large ensemble work for the Princeton University Sinfonia, the Princeton University Jazz Ensemble, and the vocal group, Fuma Sacra. The directors of these three ensembles, Ruth Ochs, Anthony Branker, Jr. and Andrew Megill are not only wonderful musicians, but great friends, therefore the chance the piece afforded me to work with them was both rare and special. Furthermore, I was able to exploit both written as well as improvisational content within the scope of the work, as well as having a diverse palette of textural colors at my disposal.

As the piece progressed I became more and more troubled that its outlook- the overall tone of the work might prove far too morose and embittered. What was the antidote to all this bad news? I found my answer in a wonderful poem by the great poet Pablo Neruda, "Oda a las cosas"- "Ode to things," which is a work (excerpted for this piece) which served to reconnect me to the world, giving a sense of priority to what really mattered and allowing me to move beyond the events of the moment. Coupled with a beautiful poem by the fine American poet, David Herrstrom, who I have worked with before, I was able to take the composition to a place that was more comforting and assuring.

I am deeply grateful to Princeton University’s Lewis Center for the Performing Arts, the Department of Music, and Jazz Program for their funding of this work, and to Andrew, Ruth and Tony for the commitment of time, enthusiasm and energy given over to the music. I am as well sincerely thankful for the hard work put forth by all the Princeton University students who are participating tonight. I would also like to thank guitarist Nate Radley for his inspired and creative efforts.

— Laurie Altman

**Violin 1**
Katherine Li ’12 concertmaster
Walter Chen ’09
Yun Chung ’12
Michael Graves ’10
Catalina Hwang ’12
Joyce Hwang ’09
Pawina Jiramongkolchai ’10
Mina Kojima ’11
Zoe Li ’12
Levi McLaughlin GS
Janie Qi ’11
Brian Ranes
Chao Wang ’12

**Violin 2**
Noah Freedman ’12, principal
Efrem Huang ’12
Jason Huang ’11
Alexander Leaf ’12
Sara Nason ’12
Aaron Potechin ’09
Rafeal Ryu ’09
David Sprunger ’11
Victoria Tan ’11
Jonathan Wang ’12
Rick Yin ’12
Rachel Yu ’11
Rebecca Yu ’11

**Violoncello**
Kenneth Jenkins ’11, principal
Michael Salazar ’11
Bryan Chun ’12
Tristan Hastings ’11
Wesley Loo ’10
Ethan Ludmir ’11
Kate Moore GS
John Pardon ’11
Erik Zyman ’12

**Bass**
Alex Cooksey ’12, principal
Stephen Ham ’12
Michael Sobin ’12

**Flute**
Alyson Kaplan ’12
Dana Weinstein ’12
Sarah Wellons ’11
Lily Yu ’12

**Oboe**
Erin Brady ’10

**Clarinet**
Brandon Chan ’12
Marian Messing ’11

**Bassoon**
Jessica Dağci
Greg Rewoldt

**Horn**
Sheena Knights ’10
Cara Liuzzi ’12

**Princeton University Sinfonia**
Ruth Ochs and Anna Wittstruck, conductors

Anthony McMahon
Vinson Young ’12

**Trumpet**
Tim Campion ’11
Ryan Dahn ’11

**Trombone**
Ioannis Mountziaris ’11
Dan Jaffe ’10
Matt Rich ’09

**Timpani**
Andrew Schran ’09

**Triangle**
Anna Wittstruck ’09
Princeton University Concert Jazz Ensemble  
Professor Anthony D.J. Branker, conductor

Saxophones
Stephen Hammer (alto)  
Ethan Goldstein (alto)  
Kevin Sun (tenor sax)  
Alex Bourque (tenor)  
Andrew Huelsenbeck (baritone)

Trumpets
Peter Ketchum-Colwill  
Will Livengood  
Joseph Codega

Trombones
Matt Rich  
Mark Nagy

Rhythm Section
Jason Weinreb (piano)  
Jackson Greenberg (vibraphone)  
Allison Wood (bass)  
Kevin Laskey (drums)

Fuma Sacra
Andrew Megill, director

Linda Lee Jones, Rebecca Mariman, Vakare Petroluinas, sopranos  
Alyson Harvey, Heather Kayan, Mimi Lanseur, mezzo-sopranos

Special Guests for In Another Time
Karl Megules, tuba; Nate Radley, electric guitar

Performers
Composer Laurie Altman was born in New York City where he did his undergraduate work with William Sydeman and Lester Trumble. Throughout the '70s and a significant portion of the '80's he performed extensively as a Jazz Pianist with the Laurie Altman Quintet at such venues as Seventh Ave. South, Soundscapes, The Blue Note, and numerous loft clubs, as well as festivals in Russia and clubs in Helsinki, Finland. Mr. Altman's work has been performed in both the United States and throughout Europe and Mexico. Awards have included a Mason Gross Fellowship, a Composer's Forum Prize, a National Endowment Teaching Fellowship, and seven New Jersey Artistic Grants. Works of his have been published by Theodore Presser, Warner Brothers, and Carl Fisher. Recent recordings of his works include his Piano Work, "Pedro's Story" on the Solo Rumores CD of Pianist Ana Cervantes; "O del mio ador- A Reimagining" on Soprano Patrice Michaels American Songs CD (Cedrille Records); "Accordingly" with Bassist Ed Schuller, and his most recently released CD, "On Course" on Albany Records featuring Eight of his compositions, produced by Judith Sherman, and featuring the superlative conducting of Ruth Ochs. Fanfare magazine in its March/April issue remarked that "Altman's music is bright and vibrant......the result is never less than fascinating." Mr. Altman has lectured extensively as well at the Universities of North Carolina, Princeton, Rutgers and NYU. Past musical performances have included members of both the Chicago Symphony and the Orpheus Chamber Ensemble. He counts Anthony Branker as one of his dearest friends and has made an extensive study of some of Mr. Branker's finest dance and conducting moves!!!

Anthony D.J. Branker is Senior Lecturer in Music and Conductor of University Jazz Ensembles at Princeton University, where he also serves as Associate Director of the Program in Musical Performance. He has served as a U.S. Fulbright Scholar and visiting professor at the Estonian Academy of Music in Tallinn, Estonia and has been a member of the faculties of the Manhattan School of Music, Hunter College of the City University of New York, Rutgers University Mason Gross School of the Arts, and Ursinus College.

At Princeton, Professor Branker has led performances that have featured the Princeton University Orchestra, Chapel Choir, Glee Club/Concert Choir, and Gospel Ensemble, and has directed two national award-winning jazz groups, including the Monk/Mingus Ensemble, winner of the Down Beat magazine Student Music Award for "Best Jazz Instrumental Group," and Ensemble X, recipient of a 2003 Down Beat music award for "Outstanding Performance." In addition, the University Jazz Composers Collective has traveled to Estonia for a series of concerts sponsored by the Department of State of the United States of America, the U.S. Embassy in Estonia, and the Estonian Academy of Music, and to Hong Kong, China to perform at the Vibe Jazz Club. Professor Branker has also conducted such extended works as Lalo Schifrin's Gillespiana Suite, Michael Philip Mossman's John Coltrane Suite, Ellington's A Tone Parallel to Harlem, New World A Comin', Music From the Sacred Concerts, as well as the Ellington/Strayhorn collaborative adaptation of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite and Edvard Grieg's Peer Gynt Suites Nos. 1 & 2.

The Princeton University Concert Jazz Ensemble has had the wonderful opportunity to premiere a number of new works for big band throughout the years. Jazz composers who have been commissioned to write for the CJE have included Jimmy Heath, Bob Mintzer, Michael Philip Mossman, Ralph Bowen, Randy Bauer, and Conrad Herwig. Of these commissioned works, Bob Mintzer's "March Majestic" has been made available through Alfred Publishing and appears on recordings by the Bob Mintzer Big Band (Old School, New Lessons) and the Yellowjackets (Altered State), and Michael Mossman's three-movement...
"John Coltrane Suite" has been performed by university and conservatory jazz programs throughout the United States and is published by RGM. Randy Bauer, a recent Ph.D. recipient and graduate of Princeton's composition program was named the winner of an Honorable Mention Award in the 2004-2005 ASCAP Foundation Young Jazz Composers Award Competition for his composition, "Wide-Eyed Wonder."

Over the years, the award-winning University Concert Jazz Ensemble has dedicated itself to the performance of the historically significant music of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn. The Concert Jazz Ensemble has also been proud to present a number of concerts devoted to the works of guest composers. Such programs have focused on the music of Jimmy Heath, Frank Foster, Slide Hampton, Bob Mintzer, Oliver Lake, Michael Philip Mossman, Bobby Watson, Ralph Bowen, Conrad Herwig, Ted Curson, Ralph Peterson, Jonny King and Walt Weiskopf.

The Concert Jazz Ensemble has appeared in concert with such internationally renowned jazz artists as Clark Terry, Phil Woods, Slide Hampton, Jimmy Heath, Jon Faddis, Conrad Herwig, Oliver Lake, Frank Foster, Benny Carter, Ted Curson, Stanley Jordan, Bobby Watson, Terence Blanchard, Bob Mintzer, Ralph Peterson, Steve Nelson, Antonio Hart, Don Braden, Jacky Terrasson, Jonny King, Walt Weiskopf, Valery Ponomarev, Bryan Carrott, Michael Philip Mossman, Rick Margitza, Ralph Bowen, Mark Gross, Clifford Adams, Jeffery Smith, Guilhem Pre, Renato Thoms, and Winston Byrd. In addition, they have been featured in performance at the International Association for Jazz Education International Conference in Washington, D.C., the National Endowment for the Humanities Paul Robeson Institute at Rutgers University, Down Beat MusicFest U.S.A. National Finals (Oakland, California), and has received numerous awards at intercollegiate jazz festivals held at the University of Notre Dame, Villanova University, and Rowan (Glassboro) University.

Fuma Sacra is recognized as one of the country's most exciting and important chamber choirs specializing in early music. Founded in 1989, the ensemble has been consistently acclaimed by critics and audiences for the passion and virtuosic performances which have consistently "left the audience gasping in amazement." (Classical NJ).

Andrew Megill and Fuma Sacra have a special love for the music of Johann Sebastian Bach, frequently sharing his choral masterworks with Princeton audiences. For the Westminster Bach Festival each summer and the Princeton Bach Festival each January, Fuma Sacra has presented performances of the St John Passion, the St Matthew Passion, the Magnificat, and the B Minor Mass, as well as over forty cantatas. Fuma Sacra's interest in Bach has led the ensemble to discover and recreate music of earlier Baroque composers, such as Monteverdi, Carissimi, Caldara, Schein, Schütz, Pachelbel, and Buxtehude, as well as Bach's contemporaries, including Handel, Telemann and Zelenka.

Fuma Sacra's repertoire extends well beyond the Baroque. The ensemble regularly performs music ranging from Renaissance polyphony to newly-written works by composers such as Andrew BLECKNER, Peter Maxwell Davies, Jon Magnusson, Joanne Mcteal, Arvo Pärt, Augusta Read Thomas, and Stephen Stuckey.

Highlights of past seasons include collaborations with leading period instrument ensembles and soloists, including Piffaro, Tempesta di Mare, and Brandywine Baroque, Nancy Wilson, John Hollaway, and Julianne Baird. Fuma Sacra has also sung with Dalton Baldwin in an evening of Schubert and with Paul Salamunovich in a performance of Vaughan Williams' Mass in G Minor, and made their European debut at the Festival dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy.

Kathy Li is currently a freshman at Princeton University from distant Plainsboro, New Jersey. She is studying chemical engineering, and plans to work in the environmental sector. Kathy has been playing violin since the age of seven, and she currently studies with Nancy Wilson. Although she has played in various orchestras, Sinfonia is her favorite because Ruth Rochs. Aside from playing violin, Kathy also sings with the Princeton Tigerlilies, whom she would like to thank for being supportive and enhancing her musical experience. In addition, Kathy would like to thank her family for bringing her chocolate on weekends and her 7 roommates for putting up with her practicing and letting her borrow their shoes.

This year marks Ruth Ochs’s seventh season as conductor of the Princeton University Sinfonia. Under her leadership, Sinfonia has grown from a small chamber orchestra into a full symphony orchestra. Welcoming undergraduate and graduate student musicians, the Sinfonia performs music from the Baroque to the modern, and they have performed symphonies of Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, and Tchaikovsky. With the growth of the ensemble, Ms. Ochs has offered new opportunities such as Sinfonia’s annual concerto competition. Tonight’s concert marks the first time that Sinfonia has premiered a new musical composition and worked directly with a living composer.

In addition to her work with Sinfonia, Ruth Ochs conducts the Westminster Community Orchestra. There she conducts major orchestral and choral-orchestra works, and she has led the orchestra in collaborations with choral ensembles from the Westminster Conservatory and the Westminster Choir College. Additionally, she has worked with the Princeton University Orchestra and conducted faculty ensembles at the Westminster Conservatory of Music.

Ruth Ochs holds degrees in music and orchestral conducting from Harvard University and the University of Texas at Austin, and she is completing her Ph.D. in musicology at Princeton University with a dissertation on twentieth-century Polish music. She spent many summers studying conducting at the Pierre Monteux School in Hancock, Maine with Maestro Michael Jirbo. She returned this past summer as the School’s first conducting associate.

Anna Wittstruck '09 is a music major pursuing certificates in conducting and creative writing. This is her second season serving as Associate Conductor for the Princeton Sinfonia. She is also Assistant Conductor and principal cellist of the Princeton University Orchestra. As a cellist, she has appeared as a soloist with the Charlotte and Hendersonville Symphonies, and on the Public Radio International show, "From The Top." She played four seasons as the youngest contracted member of the Asheville Symphony, and has participated in orchestra festivals at Round Top Festival, the National Symphony Orchestra/Kennedy Center Institute, and Tanglewood. Last summer she trained as a conductor and cellist at the Pierre Monteux School of Conducting in Hancock, Maine. She is a graduate of North Carolina School of the Arts, and now studying cello with Alan Stepansky and conducting with Michael Pratt. For her senior thesis, she wrote a novel about Ravel and his opera, L’Enfant et les Sortilèges. Next fall, she will attend Stanford University for a PhD program in musicology.
Special Acknowledgements

Tonight’s concert would not be such a success for Sinfonia if it had not been for the wonderful help and support of many, many people. Laurie Altman not only wrote a wonderful piece, but also came to countless rehearsals and patiently guided us through new harmonies, rhythms, and provocative sonorities. We wanted to usher a new musical work into the world, but the project broadened our horizons. Professor Anthony Branker’s enthusiasm, unbeatable knowledge, and instant willingness to become involved ensured the success of In Another Time. We pushed ourselves harder and farther thanks to his impeccable musicianship and expertise. Sharing Laurie Altman’s piece with the Concert Jazz Ensemble and their talents is an honor. It goes without saying that being able to collaborate with Fuma Sacra, Andrew Megill, Nate Radley, and Karl Megules showed us the wonderful gifts of inspired and passionate musicians. Randy Bauer helped with parts, scores and sound files, and ensured that we were off to a great start.

The practical challenges of commissioning In Another Time were overcome with generous support from many people and departments. We extend our thanks to the Lewis Center for the Arts, the Department of Music, and Jazz Program. Within the Music Department, we would like to especially thank Professor and Chair Steven Mackey and Department Manager Marilyn Ham for their special support and guidance. We would like to thank Cindy Masterson, Greg Smith, Kyle Subramaniam, Ernest Clark, Dan Gallagher and the Mendel Music Library staff, and all our friends at Richardson Auditorium, who always make the impossible happen. Maestro Michael Pratt always contributes special support and guidance for which we are extremely grateful.

Richardson Auditorium Staff
Delia Vayansky, director
Jennifer Harper, assistant director
Gina Madore, assistant director
Christopher Gorzelnik, production supervisor
John Burton, production technician
Liz Lammer, production technician
Bill Pierce, production technician
James Allington, audio engineer
Mary Kemler, assistant director of University Ticketing
Sharon Maselli, ticket manager

Princeton University Department of Music
Steven Mackey, chair
Ernest Clark, concert coordinator
Marilyn Ham, department manager
Alexander Kass, technical director
Cynthia Masterson, office assistant
Gregory Smith, academic programs manager
Kyle Subramaniam, business manager
Joseph Vizzini, piano technician