

TEDDY ABRAMS+
LOUISVILLE ORCHESTRA

LOUISVILLE ORCHESTRA PRESS RELEASE

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HEAR IT. SEE IT. TASTE IT?

Louisville Orchestra collaborates with Kentucky College of Art and Design on **ART + MUSIC**

Louisville KY (January 8, 2019)...On January 25+26, the **Louisville Orchestra** presents an interdisciplinary, multi-sensory “**ART + MUSIC**” collaboration with the **Kentucky College of Art + Design (KyCAD)**, exploring the possibilities for cross-fertilization between music and the visual arts. Seven internationally acclaimed artists who have various affiliations with Louisville and KyCAD will create **site-specific, time-based artworks** that build upon, interpret, or reimagine a variety of orchestral works, some of which themselves were inspired by the visual arts or are evocative of extra-musical subjects. Artists [Mariam Eqbal](#), [Josh Azzarella](#), [Jace Stovall](#), [Ron Schildknecht](#), [Ricardo Mondragon](#), [Charles Rivera](#), and [Anthony Schrag](#), as well as gustatory synesthete and chef [Taria Camerino](#), respond to works by Handel, Schumann, Stravinsky, Ravel, Bartók, Ives and Mussorgsky at the Kentucky Center. **Tickets start at \$20 and are available by calling 502.584.7777 or by visiting LouisvilleOrchestra.org.**



Top L – R: Charles Rivera, Ricardo Mondragon, Moira Scott Payne (KyCAD president), Teddy Abrams, Anthony Schrag, Ron Schildknecht
Front L – R: Jace Stovall, Mariam Eqbal, Lori Larusso (curator + project manager), Hannah Goodwin (assisting Ron Schildknecht), Josh Azzarella

In preparation for the **Art + Music** program, Abrams offered a range of orchestral pieces to the selected artists as possible subjects for their own contributed works, and the artists' choices range over two centuries of western classical music. The program comprises the "Alla Hornpipe" from **Handel's *Water Music***; the fourth movement of **Schumann's "Rhenish" Symphony**; **Stravinsky's "Infernal Dance"** from the ***Firebird Suite: 1919***; the final movement of **Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite***, titled "The Fairy Garden"; the final movement from **Bartók's *Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta***; **Charles Ives's "The Housatonic at Stockbridge"** from *Three Places in New England*; and **Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition***. The January 26 evening performance will also include **Mussorgsky's evocative *Night on Bald Mountain***.

The responses of the seven artists to these works are as varied as the works themselves. Two of the artists, **Josh Azzarella** and **Charles Rivera**, are creating sound-based pieces in response to the musical works. Azzarella, who was part of the 2017 "Failure of Progress" group exhibition at Louisville's Zephyr Gallery, is transforming the play of light from the musicians and instruments into a layer of sound that will add a randomized dimension to the stage orchestral performance, as a way of contemplating the tinnitus from which Schumann suffered. Rivera, who was born and raised in Louisville, is creating a sound collage installation that incorporates elements of Ives's composition with radio frequencies from the vicinity of the concert hall and field recordings in nature.

Pakistani-American artist **Mariam Eqbal**, who teaches at the School of the Arts at Virginia Commonwealth University, will use Abrams's motions as he conducts Handel as the basis for her work. This will involve moving image projections onto multiple surfaces, combined with hand-drawing, abstracting the timing and form of the music as expressed through the conductor's gestures into formal visual elements. Mexican-born and Chicago-based artist and composer **Ricardo Mondragon** will also employ projections, using an algorithm to convert the sound of the orchestra playing Bartók into a pixelated spectrogram that will be projected on a scrim between orchestra and audience.

Perhaps the most unusual work will be by chef, pastry chef, chocolatier, and herbalist **Taria Camerino**. During the Saturday evening performance she will present work that explores how flavors might manifest to communicate sound and image, based on her own gustatory synesthesia. While the orchestra performs Mussorgsky's *Night on Bald Mountain*, the audience will participate in a tasting that will suggest what Camerino tastes when she hears music.

The remaining three works venture into the realm of social commentary. Louisville artist **Jace Stovall**, a recent graduate of KyCAD, will create an animatic and narrative accompanying book telling the story of the Firebird. Inspired by the way every choreographer's vision can alter the way the story is told, Stovall's version will be a unique telling that explores costume and gender identity to create a new perspective on an old tale. Independent filmmaker and Louisville native **Ron Schildknecht** will use his work to draw a parallel between Ravel's take on the Sleeping Beauty fairytale and the hundreds of refugee children in Sweden who have been diagnosed with "resignation syndrome" and lie in bed unresponsive for months or years while their families seek the security of acceptance by a new country. Finally, **Anthony Schrag**, an eclectic

Zimbabwe-born, Scotland-based artist, will create a work reflecting on the plurality of cultural expressions and the implicit hierarchy between the forms they take. His inspiration is Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, which was itself inspired by the paintings and drawings of the composer's close friend Viktor Hartmann.

ART + MUSIC

Friday, January 25, 2019 • 11AM + Saturday, January 26, 2019 • 8PM
Kentucky Center • Whitney Hall

Teddy Abrams, conductor

HANDEL "[Alla Hornpipe](#)" from *Water Music Suite No. 2* • *Mariam Eqbal, artist*
SCHUMANN [Symphony No. 3 in E-flat major, Op. 97 Mvt. IV. Feierlich](#) • *Josh Azzarella, artist*
STRAVINSKY "[Infernal Dance](#)" from *The Firebird*(1919) • *Jace Stovall, artist*
RAVEL "[The Fairy Garden](#)" from *Mother Goose* • *Ron Schildknecht, artist*
BARTÓK [Music for Strings, Percussion, & Celesta Mvt. IV. Allegro molto](#) • *Ricardo Mondragon, artist*
IVES "[The Housatonic at Stockbridge](#)" from *Three Places in New England* • *Charles Rivera, artist*
MUSSORGSKY [Night on Bald Mountain](#)(Orch. Rimsky-Korsakov) • *Taria Camerino, artist*
MUSSORGSKY [Pictures at an Exhibition](#) (Orch. Ravel) • *Anthony Schragg, artist*

About KyCAD

The Kentucky College of Art + Design (KyCAD) is the only four-year independent college of art and design in the Commonwealth. With approval from the Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education to award a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Studio Art, KyCAD is now designing its future and creating exciting new goals to be a college that sees the city of Louisville as its campus. KyCAD welcomes its first class of students in January of 2019 and is currently accepting applications for the fall. For enrollment information or to make a donation to help further the education of KyCAD students, visit www.KyCAD.org.

UPCOMING AT THE LO

Slatkin Conducts Elgar | 1.12.2019 | 8PM | Leonard Slatkin, conductor | The Kentucky Center
1812 Overture | 1.17. 2019 | 7:30PM | Teddy Abrams, conductor | Adath Jeshurun
1812 Overture | 1.18.2019 | 7:30PM | Teddy Abrams, conductor | St. Francis in the Fields
1812 Overture | 1.19.2019 | 7:30PM | Teddy Abrams, conductor | Ogle Center at IUS
Art + Music | 1.25+26.2019 | 11AM + 8PM | Teddy Abrams, conductor | Artists from KyCAD | The Kentucky Center
Star Wars: A New Hope™ in Concert | 2.2+3.2019 | Keitaro Harada, conductor | The Kentucky Center

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