



ARTSWISE

A QUARTERLY BULLETIN

Spring 2005

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FORD AMPHITHEATRE SUMMER SEASON OPENS JUNE 4 WITH WORLD PREMIERE PLAY

The historic open air Ford Amphitheatre, operated by the Arts Commission, hosts an impressive range of premier local and international performing arts, film and family events this summer. The season opens Saturday, June 4 with the world premiere of James Still's *A Long Bridge Over Deep Waters* produced by Cornerstone Theater Company. (See below for more detail on this extraordinary production.) The season continues through October 22 and encompasses 78 performances of 62 events in all.

Ford complete information and tickets, log on to the bilingual (English/Spanish) Ford web site, www.FordAmphitheatre.org or call the Ford box office, **323 GO 1-FORD** (461-3673). Highlights

of the Ford Amphitheatre 2005 Summer Season programming include:

Exploring the spiritual

The season opens with a world premiere production by **Cornerstone Theater Company** of the play *A Long Bridge Over Deep Waters* by James Still (June 4-12); the work traces a chain of encounters between people of different faiths in contemporary Los Angeles and features a cast of 60. The Ford is also a key venue in this fall's citywide World Festival of Sacred Music, hosting four performances. **Viver Brasil Dance Company** performs choreographies based on Brazilian ritual (Sept. 23). **Levantine Cultural Center's Levantine Festival 2** features Suzanne Teng and Mystic Journey in a program with a Middle East meets West theme (Sept. 24). The 50-voice chorus **Cantori Domino** and the **Southern California Panharmonic Orchestra** share an evening including Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* and steel drum music (Sept. 25). Brazilian Nites Productions presents an **homage to Tom Jobim**, the father of the bossa nova, featuring Brazilian musicians **Armandinho, Yamandu Costa, Paulo Moura** and **Marcos Suzano** (Sept. 30).

Expanded film and multimedia offerings

For several seasons, **OUTFEST**, the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, (July 13-17) and the **IFP Los Angeles Film Festival** (June 17-19, 22-23) have included screenings at the Ford. The latter expanded from 3 nights in 2004 to 5 nights this season. In 2005, the two festivals will be joined by **Latin American Cinemateca** presenting a film tribute to the Mexican comedian Tin Tan (July 12), and **Visual Communications**, producers of the VC Film Festival, which marks its 35th anniversary with an Asian-Pacific film-live performance evening (Sept. 29). **Vox Lumiere** combines live music and theatre and silent film in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (October 14-15).

Strong jazz lineup

In 2005 the Ford has the strongest jazz lineup since the inception of the amphitheatre summer season in 1993. **The Jazz Bakery's** songfest features Mississippi jazzman **Mose Allison**, Brazilian songstress **Luciana Souza** in duet with guitarist **Romero Lubambo**, guitarist-vocalist **Kenny Rankin**, and pianist-singer **Andy Bey** (Sept. 18). **Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra** kicks off their 20th anniversary international tour (Sept. 11), **Hollywood Arts Council's** Jazz Pilgrimage honors percussionist **Pete Escovedo** in a concert also featuring **Louis Cruz Beltran** and his Latin jazz band (August 20), and **Instrumental Women's Lady Jazz Orchestra** led by violinist **Lesla Terry** plays "Jazz on a String" (July 2). **People Informing People** presents two Soulful Sundays concerts (July 3 and October 9); the July 3 concert features **Katia Moraes & Sambaguru** and **L.A. Mambo Combo**.

New direction in chamber music

Instrumental combinations beyond the string quartets that have dominated the past few seasons characterize the 2005 Chamber Music Under the Stars series, presented by the Ford Theater Foundation. An ensemble of four guitars - the **Brazilian Guitar Quartet**, known as "The Dream Team" in their native country - opens the series (June 24) and a group of 8 cellos - **Conjunto Ibérico** - closes it (October 8) by kicking off their first major U.S. tour. In between, renowned cellist **Lynn Harrell** is joined by a group of valued colleagues for an evening of duos and trios (August 23) in a program crafted exclusively for the Ford.

SIGN UP FOR FORD EMAIL LIST IN JUNE AND ENTER DRAWING FOR FREE TICKETS

The best way to keep abreast of Ford summer season events is to join its email list and the month of June is the time. Simply go the Ford's web site homepage - www.FordAmphitheatre.org - and sign up. Each week in the month of June one lucky person will win two tickets to a Ford 2005 performance of their choice. Weekly email communications during the season include previews of Ford events, updates on programming and special offers.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUMS AND GARDENS AND FORD AMPHITHEATRE FAMILY SERIES OFFER FREE ADMISSION TO LOW INCOME FAMILIES

Through a joint effort of two Los Angeles County agencies - the Arts Commission and the Department of Public Social Services - low-income families receiving CalWORKs/Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) and/or Food Stamp benefits can visit 18 regional museums and gardens for free. In addition, these families enjoy free admission to the Big!World!Fun! family series at the Ford Amphitheatre this summer.

"The CalWORKs free access project is a pioneering effort to bring cultural services to a chronically underserved population," said **Laura Zucker**, Executive Director of the Arts Commission. "The project is also a prime opportunity for cultural institutions to introduce themselves to an audience they are not reaching."

The week of May 30 the Department of Public Social Services is sending announcements of the free cultural offerings in nine languages to the 167,000 families who are CalWORKs/RCA and Food Stamp participants. Free admission is conditional upon presentation of the family's Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card.

"Our department's goal is to provide families with an experience that would otherwise be beyond their reach," said **Bryce Yokomizo**, Director of the Department of Public Social Services.

Participating institutions, in addition to the Ford, include Arboretum of Los Angeles County, Autry National Center (including Southwest Museum and Museum of the American West), California African American Museum, Descanso Gardens, Hollywood Entertainment Museum, Japanese American National Museum, Long Beach Museum of Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA), Natural History Museum, Pacific Asia Museum, Santa Monica Museum of Art, Skirball Cultural Center, South Coast Botanic Garden, UCLA Fowler Museum, USC Fisher Gallery and Virginia Robinson Gardens.

NEW ARTS COMMISSION OFFICERS FOR 2005-6

Community leader Hope Warschaw assumed the office of President of the Arts Commission in April succeeding Carlos Barrón. Ms. Warschaw is chair of the board of Otis College of Art and Design and a board member of LA's Best, and served on the Mayor's Task Force for the arts last year. Other officers for 2005-6 include Marjorie Lyte (Vice President), Rosalind Wyman (Secretary), and Betty Haagen (Executive Committee). Carlos Barrón also serves on the Executive Committee as immediate past president. The Arts Commission consists of 15 members; each of the five Los Angeles County Supervisors appoints three commissioners.

FREE "ARTS TUNE UP" FOR INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS AND SMALL BUDGET ORGANIZATIONS JUNE 18

Individual artists and small budget organizations can benefit from free expert advice and information on various aspects of arts management on Saturday, June 18 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at an "Arts Tune Up" at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center in Torrance. Topics include fundraising, how to market and publicize your art, information on new loan fund programs for artists and organizations, benefit opportunities for artists, training programs for artists and organizations, board development for arts organizations, arts education resources, and much more.

The fast-paced "arts tune up" format works like this: There are several tables set up with an arts expert/consultant addressing a specific subject located at each table. Participants choose a topic they want to learn more about. After 25 minutes, participants rotate to another table with a topic of

interest as the sessions repeat. There are a total of five round-robin sessions of 25 minutes each. Participants are welcome to come by for an hour or stay for the entire morning.

The "Arts Tune Up" is free, but it is recommended that **participants REGISTER by E-MAIL** to Charlotte Frazer, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, cfrazer@bos.co.la.ca.us. **When registering, please include your name, telephone number and e-mail address.** Also, indicate whether you are an artist or attending on behalf of an arts organization.

The Arts Tune Up will be held in the Toyota Meeting Hall of the Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Drive North, Torrance, CA 90503. (Map link: http://maps.yahoo.com/maps_result?addr=3330+Civic+Center+Drive+North&csz=Torrance%2C+CA+90503&country=us&new=1&name=&qty=)

The Arts Tune Up is sponsored by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the City of Torrance Cultural Services in collaboration with the Center for Cultural Innovation and the participation of the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Division.

L.A. COUNTY'S ONLINE MUSICIANS DIRECTORY EXPANDS

Looking to hire a quality musical group for a benefit, wedding, bar mitzvah, anniversary or other special occasion? Simply log on to www.lamusicians.org. This online directory of Los Angeles County-based musicians was recently expanded. The 111 groups now on the roster were selected by a panel of experienced and respected professionals in the music and/or presenting fields. The roster is searchable by key words, music style and name of artist and features audio clips. Some of the groups just added represent styles new to the roster including Hawaiian slack key guitar, Zimbabwean marimba, Western marimba and taiko drumming. Photos, background, and contact information are also provided. The roster was established for presenters of the Arts Commission's Free Concerts in Public Sites to select ensembles for their events, but anyone can discover the impressive musical resources of the County by using the directory. Log onto the Musicians Roster to hear sound clips of any of the groups performing free concerts on the list below.

FREE CONCERTS IN JUNE

The Arts Commission sponsors free concerts at community venues throughout Los Angeles County to provide residents access to quality music programming. Free concerts in the month of June include:

Thursday, June 9, 2005 , 7:30pm-9:30pm
Hot Club Duo (Jazz/Popular Standard)
Sierra Madre Public Library
440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre 91024
Contact: Catriona Shafer, 626-355-7186

Sunday, June 12, 2005, 12:00pm-2:00pm
Marco Missinato (Popular Standard/Latin)
Israel Levin Senior Center
201 Ocean Front Walk
Venice 90291
Contact: Rosalie Fromberg, 310-396-0205

Monday, June 13, 2005, 11:00am-1:30pm
Tony Jones Vocal Project (Pop/Rock)

Anderson Memorial Senior Center, 4th District
828 South Mesa Street
San Pedro 90744
Contact: Cheryl Gray, 310-548-7596

Wednesday, June 15, 2005, 11:45am-1:15pm
Cal Bennett Band (Smooth Jazz)
Torrance Cultural Arts Center
3330 Civic Center Drive
Torrance 90503
Contact: John Powers, 310-316-0652

Sunday, June 26, 2005, 6:00pm-7:30pm
Brasil Brazil (Brazilian)
Skirball Cultural Center
2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd
Los Angeles 90049-6833
Contact: Sharon Levy, 310-440-4679

Sunday, June 26, 2005,
Susie Hansen Latin Band (Latin Jazz)
Library Park
119 W. Palm Ave.
Monrovia 91016
Contact: Cheri Kaliman, 626-256-8229

Wednesday, June 29, 2005, 11:45am-1:15pm
Orquesta Charangoa (Latin Jazz)
Torrance Cultural Arts Center
3330 Civic Center Drive
Torrance 90503
Contact: John Powers, 310-316-0652

Monthly free concert listings can be viewed at www.lacountyarts.org/free.html.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTERS OF FREE CONCERTS IN PUBLIC SITES

The Arts Commission seeks presenter applications for Free Concerts in Public Sites that take place from November 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006. Eligible organizations include Los Angeles County-based parks, libraries, hospitals, arts organizations, civic centers, senior citizen centers, and other non-profit performance venues. Applicants must be willing to coordinate all logistics, production and marketing of the event, and show that they can effectively bring in an appropriate audience size for their proposed concert to be considered. **The deadline to apply is Wednesday, July 20, 2005.**

Performances must be free and open to the general public. For more information about eligibility, the application process and selection criteria, please visit www.lacountyarts.org/free.html and read the Presenter Guidelines. **The program criteria has changed; both new and returning applicants should read the guidelines.**

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION 2005 APPLICATIONS DUE AUGUST 10

The Arts Commission's annual Holiday Celebration presents a great performing opportunity for Los Angeles County-based youth and adult community and professional choirs, music

ensembles, folk and traditional artists, and dance companies. Selection is by competitive application and proposed programming should be suitably themed for a multi-cultural holiday production. This year's celebration is on Saturday, December 24, 2005 from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Music Center. Interested artists are required to submit an electronic eGRANT application, which is accessible via the Arts Commission website at www.lacountyarts.org/holiday.html. Performing groups are paid and honoraria information is in the Holiday Celebration application guidelines, which are also online. A **workshop** for first-time applicants will be held **August 1**. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, August 10, 2005.

The *Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration* is a free public event that honors the spirit of many cultures and holiday traditions through music, song and dance. The stage production is also broadcast live on KCET, and an annual one-hour highlight broadcast is carried nationally on PBS.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARTS INTERNS LEARN ABOUT THE ARTS IN L.A.

As part of their experience, the 125 Los Angeles County Arts Interns working in 78 organizations throughout the County this summer take part in educational and arts networking activities designed to put their individual positions in the wider context of the arts in L.A.

During the July 5-15 period, every intern will take a field trip under the direction of a Discussion Group Leader. The group leaders are arts professionals representing a wide range of disciplines and backgrounds. Each leader designs a different field trip for his/her group of 10-11 interns.

The ArtBus Tour provides an annual adventure for interns and intern supervisors alike as they explore an area of greater Los Angeles. The tour takes place on July 19 this year and its destination is Pasadena. The itinerary to date includes the Armory Center for the Arts, the Boston Court Theatre, the Pasadena Playhouse, and the Levitt Pavilion for the Performing Arts in Old Pasadena's Memorial Park.

The final intern event is an Arts Congress at the Skirball Cultural Center August 1. The Arts Congress provides opportunities for interns to engage in policy discussions with artists and arts administrators to find out how they create art and carry out their organizational missions.

Together, the Arts Commission's internship program and the one in visual arts run by the Getty Foundation form the largest arts internship program in the country. The educational and arts networking components are supported by the Getty Foundation.

The **Los Angeles County Arts Commission**, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities. The Arts Commission provides leadership and staffing to support the regional blueprint for arts education, Arts for All; administers a grants program that funds more than 250 nonprofit arts organizations annually; funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Foundation, programs the John Anson Ford Theatres and supports the Los Angeles County Cultural Calendar on ExperienceLA.com. The Commission also produces free community programs, including the L.A. Holiday Celebration broadcast nationally, and a year-round music program that funds more than 60 free concerts each year in public sites. The 2005-2006 President of the Arts Commission is Hope Warschaw.

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