



March 8, 1998
New City Public Library

Javanese Shadow Puppets and Gamelan Music

program

Bethuel Bazda	by Bill Naylor
Songs for Trombone and Gamelan	by Darryl Gregory
An introduction to Wayang Kulit puppet theatre	
Scenes from "A Javanese Purimspiel"	by Barbara Benary

performed by:

Barbara Benary, Sasha Bogdanowitsch, David Demnitz, Daniel Goode,
Darryl Gregory, Jody Kruskal, Laura Liben, Bill Naylor, and soprano Cathy Schwartzman.
Puppets by Barbara Pollitt and Jody Kruskal

Gamelan Son of Lion is a composers' collective and repertory ensemble which is dedicated to developing and presenting new music for the instruments of the Javanese gamelan orchestra. Over the past twenty years the ensemble has premiered more than a hundred new music pieces by American, Indonesian and other international composers. The ensemble has toured in Indonesia in 1996, and has released two CD's: "New Gamelan/New York" and "Gamelan As A Second Language."

The Javanese Purimspiel is a cross-cultural work in progress combining wayang kulit shadow puppet theatre of Java with the biblical story of the Book of Esther. Today's portion of the story is based on the middle part of the Book. Composer Barbara Benary is one of the ensemble's founders, as well as builder of many of the instruments and a main contributor to the ensemble's repertoire. She and *dalang* (puppeteer) Barbara Pollitt have collaborated on a number of previous music theatre endeavors, including the 1994 production of "Karna: A Shadow Puppet Opera" presented at LaMama theatre in New York City. Ms. Pollitt has designed puppets and masks for many theatre productions in New York, nationally and internationally. She is winner of an Obie award for her performance in Lee Breuer's "Epidog."

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