
Gamelan Son of Lion

Barbara Benary, Director

with

Barbara Pollitt, puppeteer

4:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 24, 1999



First Presbyterian Church
3231 West Tilghman Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18104

PROGRAM

**INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME
OFFERING** Donald Ryan

Piece For Peace In The Middle East Laura Liben

Imogen's Song Darryl Gregory

Cool It Wayang David Simons

Circle Line David Demnitz

Re: Sound Daniel Goode

Planxty Heatt Jody Krustal

Shadow Puppet Scenes: Barbara Pollitt, puppeteer
Traditional wayang kulit puppets of central Java
Story to be announced

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Performers

Barbara Benary, David Demnitz, Daniel Goode, Darryl Gregory, Lisa Karrer, Laura Liben, Jody Krustal, David Simons, Allison Sloan

Gamelan Son of Lion is a new music repertory ensemble based in downtown New York City specializing in contemporary pieces written for the instruments of the Javanese gamelan. Gamelan Son of Lion's instruments were built in village style by Barbara Benary using steel keys, cans for resonators, hubcaps for kempul, etc. There are about sixty five active gamelan ensembles in the United States at the current time. Gamelan Son of Lion now rates among the oldest of these, having performed continuously since 1976. It is also one of the few which operate independently of institutions as a professional music ensemble.

The ensemble was begun by a core group of composers: Barbara Benary, Daniel Goode, and Philip Corner. Its repertoire centers on new compositions by these and other American composers, both ensemble members and commissioned guests. The repertoire represents a variety of contemporary music styles. The gamelan has also performed experimental works by Indonesian composers, a number of pieces involving gamelan with electronic music, and a theatre work involving opera and wayang kulit. More than a hundred pieces have been premiered by the ensemble since its inception.

Gamelan Son of Lion is organized as a not-for-profit corporation and has been supported in its presentations by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, Arts International and several private foundations. The ensemble performed as guests of the Government of Indonesia at Expo 86 in Vancouver, Canada, and toured Java in 1996, participating in the Jogjakarta Gamelan Festival and the Borobudur Festival.