



Gamelan Son of Lion

at

Wooster Arts Space

147 Wooster St. NYC (btw Prince & Houston)

Friday April 2nd, 8pm

*New Music for Javanese gamelan percussion orchestra
to accompany*

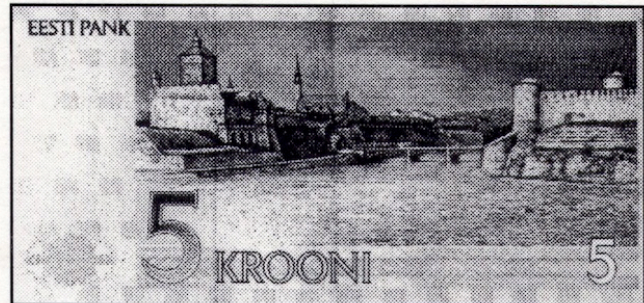
Porfirio DiDonne's exhibit "Works on Paper"

Three Inspirations from our 2003 tour to ESTONIA:

Arvo Pärt's **Pari Intervallo**
arr. for gamelan by Laura Liben

Lisa Karrer's **Kui Mina**,
a setting of the national poem

Barbara Benary's
The Cobblestones of Tallinn,
a one-day tour



and other new works

Masija by guest composer Skip LaPlante,
master of homemade instruments -
Bowery born cardboard tubes
& styrofoam fiddle meet Javanese gongs
and New Jersey-made keyboards.

Jody Kruskal's **Music Box**

David Demnitz' **Out of Tune/Out of Time**

Daniel Goode's **Circular Thoughts**

in honor of

**the Re-Release as CDs of
Gamelan Son of Lion's earliest recordings**

Tickets \$12./\$10.
for info/reservations call 212 925-6684

This event is made possible by public funds from
the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.

State of the Arts





3/10/04

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On Friday April 2nd 8:00pm, Gamelan Son of Lion, New York's new music gamelan, will present our annual spring premiers concert at Wooster Arts Space, 147 Wooster St., New York City (between Prince & Houston).

Special themes of the program are three pieces inspired by the ensemble's 2003 tour to Estonia; the premier of guest composer Skip LaPlante's "Mazija," and the re-release of the ensemble's 1979-1980 LPs "Gamelan In The New World" as a CD set.

Gamelan is the indigenous percussion orchestra of Indonesia. The instruments are gongs, metallophones, and drums supplemented by melody instruments from east and west. The ensemble has been commissioning and performing American compositions for these instruments since 1976.

Gamelan Son of Lion toured in Estonia this past summer to participate in the Glasperlenspiel Festival at Parnu and Tallinn, the first time gamelan music has been played in that country. Three new pieces honor our Estonia encounter: Lisa Karrer's arrangement of a national poem "Kui Mina"; Laura Liben's gamelan incarnation of Arvo Part's "Pari Intervallo" and Barbara Benary's travel impression "The Cobblestones of Tallinn."

Skip LaPlante's "Mazija" is the fruit of his recent residency as guest composer with Gamelan Son of Lion. LaPlante is a master of making musical instruments from junk, and directs another contemporary repertory ensemble: "Music For Homemade Instruments." Wearing quite another hat he is also a leading organizer in the New York Consulate's traditional Javanese gamelan ensemble Kusuma Laras. Thus Bowery-born cardboard tubes and styrofoam fiddles meet great iron gongs from Jogjakarta and New Jersey-born replica Javanese keyboards.

After 25 years we are please again to perform Daniel Goode's "Circular Thoughts," a minimalist masterpiece written first for clarinet in the 1970's and later arranged for pelog-tuned instruments as our very first new music gamelan piece. With it we celebrate the re-release of the ensemble's minimalist-meditative CD set "Gamelan in the New World" first recorded by Folkways (1979-80) and now available from Locust Records <www.locustmusic.com>.

Also on the program will be Jody Kruskal's "Music Box" - a tribute to the gamelan instrument's timbre, and David Demnitz's "Out of Tune / Out of Time" juxtaposing diatonic instruments with the very different gamelan tuning and a mixture of world music melody fragments inspired by the war in Iraq.

Concurrently the Wooster Arts Space is showing an exhibit "Works on Paper" by Porfirio DiDonna. Tickets are \$12/\$10. For concert information / reservations call 212 925-6684



at *Wooster Arts Space*, 147 Wooster St. NYC
Friday April 2nd 2004

PROGRAM

Kui Mina

Lisa Karrer

"Kui Mina" is a well-known national poem. Everyone in Estonia learns it in grammar school. I set the poem to music in 1992, as part of the NYFD Festival in Tallinn.

Kui Mina Olen vael vai kene meas
Uks helin muul helises riina saes
Ja kui mina sirgusin suuremaks
laks helingi riina saes kangemaks
Nuud on se helin pea matnud mind
ta ala ruusuks on raugenud rind
Se helin mu elu ja minu hing
Tal kitsaaks on ja nuud maa pal ne ring

When I was still a little girl
a tinkle was tinkling in my breast
and when I grew up to be bigger
the tinkling grew stronger too
And now this tinkling has nearly buried me
My breast has broken under it
This tinkling is my life and my soul
Earth and the land of the living
are too small for this tinkling

Pari Intervallo (1976)

Arvo Pärt

arr. for gamelan by **Laura Liben (2004)**

Pärt: "I discovered that it is enough to play a single tone beautifully...I work with only very little material, I build using the most primal elements, a triad, a particular tonality."

The Cobblestones of Tallinn

Barbara Benary

A travelogue commemorating my one day as tourist in an ancient walled city. The hymn at the center of the piece which we learned at an Estonian wedding is "Mu suda, arka ules" (P. Gerhardt)

Leg-Stretch #1

Out of Tune, Out of Time

David Demnitz

A movement of a suite in progress entitled "Iraqi Freedom."

Music Box

Jody Kruskal

A miniature sound portrait featuring suling (flute) duet in two different tunings.

Leg-Stretch #2

Circular Thoughts

Daniel Goode

A minimalist masterpiece written first for clarinet in the 1970's and later arranged for pelog-tuned instruments as one of our very first new music gamelan pieces. With it we celebrate the re-release of the ensemble's CD set "Gamelan in the New World"

Mazija

Skip LaPlante

The name comes from the three musics inspiring the piece: **Mali**, **Zimbabwe** and **Java**. LaPlante's homemade "carimba" and "styrebec" join the gamelan. The piece is dedicated to Tedd Judd.