

SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT

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CONCERTS FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SEASON 87 A YEAR OF AMERICAN VOICES

2012-13 HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE THE *SONGS OF AMERICA* PROJECT, A JOHN ADAMS RESIDENCY, *MUSIC IN THE CIVIL WAR* MINI-SERIES, WOODY GUTHRIE AND JOHN CAGE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS, AND LOTS OF NEW MUSIC, PUBLIC PROGRAMS, LECTURES AND FILMS!

AMERICAN VOICES is the theme for the 2012-2013 concert season, offering a packed lineup of 40 concerts, lectures, film screenings, master classes and workshops. Celebrating the rich tapestry of the nation's musical heritage--classical music, jazz, folk, pop, country, rock, blues and gospel--the Music Division curates a season highlighting America's Music at the Nation's Library. We salute great American voices from the past, including **Woody Guthrie**, **John Philip Sousa**, and **Victor Herbert**, and spend a week with a composer who's been called "the voice of America", John Adams, in residence May 20-26, 2013.

Our *Talking About Music* series offers in-depth conversations with artists, panels, lectures and interviews. Two distinguished scholars **Dr. Barbara Heyman** and **Dr. Todd Decker**, present lectures under the joint auspices of the Library and the American Musicological Society, and our Tuesday Noon-time Lectures by the Music Division's expert curators opens the doors to the treasures of the world's largest music collection, connecting culture and community in informative and entertaining talks.

SONGS OF AMERICA

October brings the launch of a two-year *Songs of America* project, tracing a colorful quilt created in a land of many cultures. Offered in conjunction with a new multi-media web presentation, our programs explore American history through its songs in the works of some of the country's most eloquent musicians, poets and scholars. You'll hear Shaker hymns, spirituals, songs from farms and towns, revival meetings and battlefields. We evoke America's earliest voices in Native American chants and colonial ballads, and performances of Americana from a century bounded by the Revolution and the Civil War. We present major new works by established masters **George Walker**, **Morton Subotnick** and **George Crumb**.

Highlighting the project is George Crumb's epic seventh and final volume of the *American Songbooks* song cycle, a stunningly evocative work--shimmering transformations of America's folk song heritage, woven into a tapestry threaded with cowboy tunes, hymns, revival songs, Appalachian ballads and African American spirituals. *Songs of America* also features the newest voices in American composition with world premieres of Library of Congress commissions by **Nico Muhly** and leading composer **Chaya Czernowin**, **ACME** and **yMusic** introduce new works from composers under thirty-five, and a showcase of new voices from Nashville and Broadway. Finally, new songs from composer-performers **Gabriel Kahane** and **Theo Bleckmann**, the **Ron Carter Trio** and a starry lineup from the **Country Music Association** create a virtual snapshot of American song today.

JOHN ADAMS RESIDENCY

Composer, conductor, and creative thinker - **John Adams** occupies a unique position in the world of American music. His works, operatic, chamber and symphonic, stand out among contemporary classical compositions for their depth of expression and the profoundly humanist nature of their themes. Over the past 25 years, Adams' music has played a decisive role in turning the tide of contemporary musical aesthetics away from academic modernism and toward a more expansive, expressive language. The week-long festival in May features **Jennifer Koh**, the **Attacca Quartet** and the **U.S. Army Blues**. John Adams also returns to conduct the spectacular **International Contemporary Ensemble** in Stravinsky, Schoenberg and his *Son of Chamber Symphony*.

MUSIC IN THE CIVIL WAR

The Music Division commemorates the Civil War sesquicentennial, in conjunction with a major Library exhibition, *The Civil War in America*, with a 3-part series mining its unmatched collections from the period: a 2,500-item Civil War Sheet Music Collection, and the personal archive of President Lincoln's bandmaster, Francis M. Scala. **Dr. Ysaye M. Barnwell** (Sweet Honey in the Rock) leads a workshop, followed by a performance by the **Howard University Chorale** on the legacy of African American spirituals during the Civil War. From spirituals and popular songs to the music that graced President Lincoln's White House, with a performance from "**The President's Own**" **United States Marine Band**, these programs will reveal the complex story of the war through the music representing people of all backgrounds affected by the conflict.

VOICES FROM OUR FUTURE

"An opera without words," as **Morton Subotnick** calls it, is something to look forward to! On Founder's Day, the world premiere performance of his *LUCY, Song and Dance* features singer-composer **Joan LaBarbara**, putting two major figures in American contemporary music together on the Coolidge stage for the first time. Subotnick is a pioneer in the development of electronic music and multi-media performance and an innovator in works involving instruments and other media, such as interactive computer music systems. German animation, video and media artist **Lillevan** provides the visual landscape for this stunning production. Lillevan's work, whose often focuses on the musicality of the imagery, defines his moving imagery as an instrument in its own right.

All events are presented free of charge in the Library's historic 500-seat Coolidge Auditorium or (when noted) at The Atlas Performing Arts Center and the Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital. Visit the Concerts from the Library of Congress website for detailed program and ticket information - www.loc.gov/concerts.

"THE WORLD'S LARGEST LIBRARY HOSTS THE WORLDS BEST ARTISTS" – *THE WASHINGTON POST*

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