



# 2016-17 WINTER PROGRAM BOOK

138TH SEASON // UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN | ANN ARBOR

# You have a part to play.

Uncommon and engaging experiences. A sense of connection between audience and artist. Moments of clarity, inspiration, and reflection. The performing arts provide us with these elemental experiences, offering a shortcut to our creative selves.



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[UMS.ORG/SUPPORT](https://ums.org/support)  
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Your gift will help in the following areas:

#### **ACCESS AND INCLUSIVENESS**

Helping make tickets more affordable. Helping create free educational events and community-building activities. Providing opportunities for all to experience the transformative power of the arts.

#### **ENGAGED LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS**

Integrating performing arts into the student experience. Creating meaningful connections between the arts and life. Encouraging creative thinking, collaboration, and experimentation.

#### **BOLD ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP**

Commissioning work that reflects our commitment to tradition and innovation. Solidifying and elevating our position as a recognized national and international artistic leader. Unique and bold programming.

As a Leader and Best among arts presenters, UMS wants anyone and everyone, students and community alike, to experience the transformative power of the performing arts. We seek generous partners who want to help us achieve our goal.

Visit us online or call the UMS Development Office to make your gift today.

# Be Present

UMS unleashes the power of the performing arts in order to engage, educate, transform, and connect individuals with uncommon experiences. The Winter 2017 season is full of exceptional, world-class, and truly inspiring performances.

Welcome to the UMS experience. We're glad you're present. Enjoy the performance.



When you attend a UMS performance,  
you're part of a larger equation:

nonprofit **ARTS**  
**+** **CULTURE**  
**=** **ECONOMIC**  
**PROSPERITY**  
in the greater Ann Arbor Area  
**\$100 million annually**

Together, we invest in our local community's vibrancy.



**Ann Arbor Area**  
Community Foundation

[aaacf.org](http://aaacf.org)



# Thank You, Ken...

Welcome to this UMS performance! We are delighted that you are joining us in our 138th season, a season that is bittersweet for the UMS staff and family; UMS President Ken Fischer will retire at the end of June, following 30 years of leadership and service to UMS, the University of Michigan, and to our community.

Ken has fostered a culture of openness, honesty, and out-of-the-box thinking at UMS — a supportive professional environment that can be measured in part by the 21-year average tenure of the UMS management team.

Beyond Ken's lasting contributions to UMS, which include an organizational commitment to Education and an increased focus on commissioning new work, Ken has had an impact that isn't always apparent outside of the organization. His dedication to mentorship and service is vast, and includes hosting weekend tours to prospective University students interested in the arts; tirelessly serving on boards of directors within the arts industry regionally, nationally, and internationally; and generously offering his time and knowledge in connecting others.

He has achieved some of the highest recognitions in our field, including the 2016 Chamber Music America Richard J. Bogomolny National Service Award, the 2011 Association of Performing Arts Presenters Fan Taylor Distinguished Service Award, and UMS's recognition as a 2014 National Medal of Arts recipient. From the Vienna Philharmonic concerts led by Leonard Bernstein in 1988, to the first Royal Shakespeare Company residency in 2001, through the remounting of *Einstein on the Beach* in 2012, Ken has held true to his lifelong motto: "Everybody In, Nobody Out."

Ken, we wish you all of the best in the final few months of your tenure. Thank you for all that you've done for our community!

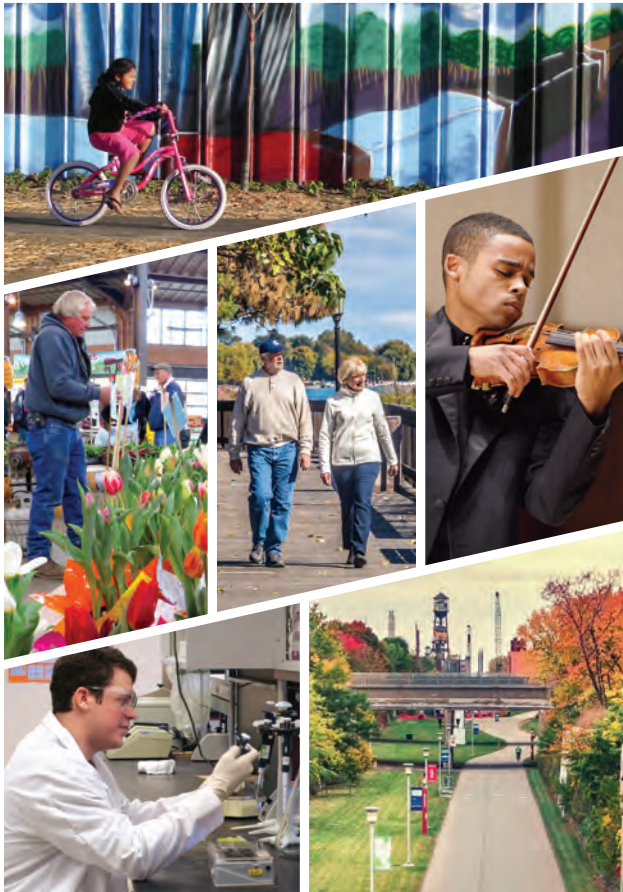
## The UMS Family

# Community Foundation

## FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

Thanks to thousands of generous individuals, families and businesses, the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan is a permanent source of community capital, dedicated to creating lasting positive benefit in our region. Through grantmaking, education and leadership on community issues, we help improve the quality of life for all residents of Southeast Michigan.

[cfsem.org](http://cfsem.org). 1-888-WeEndow





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AD INDEX

Druid



Bruckner Orchester Linz  
with Angélique Kidjo

Sarah Chang



Batsheva Dance Company

Snarky Puppy





# Winter 2017 Season

## January

- 1/7-8** Batsheva Dance Company
- 1/12-14** Igor and Moreno  
*Idiot-Syncrasy*
- 1/15** NT Live: Harold Pinter's  
*No Man's Land*
- 1/19** Prague Philharmonia with  
Sarah Chang, violin  
Andrew Von Oeyen, piano
- 1/20** Meredith Monk &  
Vocal Ensemble  
*On Behalf of Nature*
- 1/21-22** Takács Quartet  
Beethoven String Quartet  
Cycle, Concerts 3 & 4
- 1/22** NT Live: *The Audience*
- 1/29** Inon Barnatan, piano  
Anthony McGill, clarinet  
Alisa Weilerstein, cello

## February

- 2/2** Bruckner Orchester Linz  
with Angélique Kidjo
- 2/3** Estonian Philharmonic  
Chamber Choir
- 2/5** M-Prize Winner:  
Calidore String Quartet
- 2/10** Budapest Festival Orchestra  
with Richard Goode, piano
- 2/18** Ping Chong + Company  
*Beyond Sacred: Voices of  
Muslim Identity*
- 2/19** *Jelly and George*  
Aaron Diehl and  
Cécile McLorin Salvant

## March

- 3/4** Jazz at Lincoln Center  
Orchestra with  
Wynton Marsalis
- 3/9-11** Druid  
*The Beauty Queen of  
Leenane*
- 3/11** Beethoven's  
*Missa Solemnis*
- 3/16** Snarky Puppy
- 3/17-18** Kidd Pivot and  
Electric Company Theatre  
*Betroffenheit*
- 3/18** Steve Reich @ 80  
*Music for 18 Musicians*
- 3/24** Mitsuko Uchida, piano
- 3/25-26** Takács Quartet  
Beethoven String Quartet  
Cycle, Concerts 5 & 6
- 3/29** DakhaBrakha
- 3/30-4/1** Complicite  
*The Encounter*

## April

- 4/1** Michael Fabiano, tenor  
Martin Katz, piano
- 4/12** A Far Cry with  
Roomful of Teeth
- 4/15** Sanam Marvi
- 4/21** King Sunny Adé
- 4/22** Yo-Yo Ma, Edgar Meyer &  
Chris Thile
- 4/25** Handel's *Ariodante*:  
Opera in Concert

## May

- 5/21** NT Live: Ibsen's  
*Hedda Gabler*



*Ann Arbor, we're*  
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Chris Ballard  
Christine Phillips  
Tom Forster

Not pictured:  
Rick Manczak  
Jack Panitch

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# Education & Community Engagement

Educational experiences for everyone.



Berliner Philharmoniker principal flutist Emmanuel Pahud leads a master class at the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance; photo: Peter Smith/UMS.

At UMS, our mission goes beyond performance. We want you to create, to explore, and to experience extraordinary new things. That is why we offer a fascinating lineup of artist Q&As, conversations, workshops, and interactive experiences, each designed to bring you closer to performance and creation, and to expand your comfort zone. If you want to experience something new, different, highly engaging, and eye-opening, we invite you to participate in events inside and outside of the theater.



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SEASON

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PIANO MASTERS  
& RISING STARS

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[thegilmore.org](http://thegilmore.org)

## SUPPORTING THE ARTS

As longtime patrons of the arts,  
Honigman and its Ann Arbor attorneys  
are proud to support UMS.

For more information, please contact David Parsigian  
at 734.418.4250 or [DParsigian@honigman.com](mailto:DParsigian@honigman.com).

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[WWW.HONIGMAN.COM](http://WWW.HONIGMAN.COM)

## EDUCATION

## Pre-Concert Lecture Series: Exploring Beethoven's String Quartets

**Saturday, January 21 // 7 pm**

Rackham Amphitheatre  
915 E. Washington St.  
Fourth Floor

Join Beethoven scholar and U-M professor of musicology Steven Whiting for a series of lectures in conjunction with the Takács String Quartet's complete Beethoven cycle.

**Saturday, March 25 // 7 pm**

Michigan League  
Koessler Room  
911 N. University Ave.  
Third Floor

*In collaboration with the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance.*



## EDUCATION

## You Can Dance

Ever wonder what it's like to be a dancer? Join dancers from each company on the UMS season for beginner movement workshops exploring each of the company's movement styles. No dance training or experience necessary, and all levels, ages 13 and up, are welcome. Free, but first come, first served until studio reaches capacity. Sign-up begins at the Y 45 minutes prior to the start of class.

*Educational events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.*

### **Batsheva Dance Company**

Saturday, January 7 // 12 noon–1:30 pm  
Ann Arbor Y  
400 W. Washington St.

### **Igor and Moreno**

Saturday, January 14 // 2-3:30 pm  
Ann Arbor Y  
400 W. Washington St.

### **Meredith Monk & Vocal Ensemble**

Saturday, January 21 // 2-3:30 pm  
Ann Arbor Y  
400 W. Washington St.

### **Kidd Pivot**

Saturday, March 18 // 2-3:30 pm  
Ann Arbor Y  
400 W. Washington St.



## WELCOME TO GRADUATE ANN ARBOR—

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ANN ARBOR | 48104  
M I

# Tradition Builds the Future



In our 138th season, we continue to showcase traditional performances alongside contemporary artists for an offering that is unlike anything available in the Midwest. UMS grew from a group of local members of the University and townspeople in the 1870s who gathered together for the study of Handel's *Messiah*. Led by Professor Henry Simmons Frieze and conducted by Professor Calvin Cady, the group assumed the name The Choral Union. Many Choral Union members were also affiliated with the University, and the University Musical Society was established soon after in December 1880.

Since that first season, UMS has expanded greatly and now presents the very best from a wide spectrum of the performing arts: internationally renowned recitalists and orchestras, dance and chamber ensembles, jazz and global music performers, and contemporary stagework and classical theater. Through educational programming, the commissioning of new works, youth programs, artist residencies, and collaborative projects, we continue to strengthen our reputation for artistic distinction and innovation.

# Leadership Donors

*We recognize the donors who have made multi-year campaign commitments of \$100,000 or more during the last year.*



**BERTRAM ASKWITH (1911-2015)  
PATTI ASKWITH KENNER**

“The arts made a significant difference in my father’s life and in my life, too. My father wanted every U-M student to have the opportunity to experience the impact of the performing arts at UMS. This is why I am continuing to offer every first- and second-year student one free ticket — Bert’s Ticket — to introduce them to a cultural experience at Michigan and keep my father’s passion for the arts alive.”



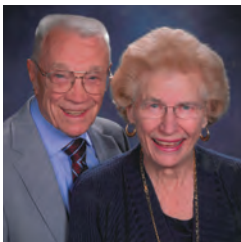
**MAURICE AND LINDA BINKOW**

“Our love of opera and the human voice, rivaled only by our affection for the Brooklyn Dodgers and Jackie Robinson, began nearly 70 years ago as teenagers in New York City. That’s why we are so pleased to create an endowment that will bring song recitals to UMS audiences for generations to come.”



**STEVE AND ROS FORREST**

“As students, we benefited from low-cost student tickets, fostering a lifelong love of the performing arts. Our donation will help to ensure that affordable tickets will be available to today’s students.”



**ILENE FORSYTH AND KARL HAUSER**

“An endowment is a gift which keeps on giving forever, so it is rewarding to know — while we are yet living — that our gift will still be giving when we’re not here.”





### MAXINE AND STUART FRANKEL

“We are delighted to partner with UMS for the sixth year of Renegade. Supporting Renegade programming allows UMS to provide experiences for the curious, adventurous, and experimental audience member — allowing us to challenge our existing beliefs and push our own boundaries.”



### EUGENE AND EMILY GRANT

“We are proud to support UMS and the many programs they offer University students. It is great to know that students will have access to the greatest performing artists from around the world. The arts are an important part of a Michigan education.”



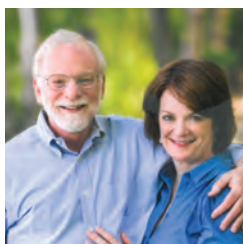
### DAVID LEICHTMAN AND LAURA MCGINN

“UMS is an inspiration — from the Big House of the Arts to the master classes taught to University students. This organization contributes significantly to the culture of Ann Arbor and to the University we love. We are pleased to support its mission.”



### STUART AND LINDA NELSON

“Our connection to the University of Michigan is through our grandson’s incredible experience as a student. We are dazzled by the array of cultural events available to everyone on campus and beyond. At the heart of this phenomenon is UMS, where Ken Fischer’s legacy will continue its magic long after his retirement. We feel privileged to participate in the UMS Endowment Fund in his honor.”



### MAX WICHA AND SHEILA CROWLEY

“We are delighted and proud to support UMS and the rich, diverse programs they offer each season. The arts play a vital role in enhancing the quality of life in our community, while bringing beauty and meaning to everyday life. UMS is a gem we treasure and will continue to do so, for many years to come.”

# Corporate Champions

We thank the following businesses for their commitments of \$5,000 or more for the 2016–17 season.



**ALICIA M. TORRES**

*Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, Altarum Institute*

“The arts stimulate the mind and inspire creativity. Hence, we at Altarum are thrilled to support UMS and provide inspiring and enjoyable cultural opportunities for our team and our community. Altarum Institute serves the public good by solving complex systems problems to improve human health through objective research, technology, analysis, and consulting leadership skills.”



**SCOTT DAWSON**

*Vice President of Engineering, Arbor Networks*

“Ann Arbor is a thriving hub for both the arts and technology. With the arts playing such a critical role fostering innovation and creativity, we are delighted to support UMS this season.”



**TIMOTHY G. MARSHALL**

*President and CEO, Bank of Ann Arbor*

“We take seriously our role as a community bank. While there have been sizable cuts in arts funding over the years by both the private and public sectors, Bank of Ann Arbor is delighted to continue to sponsor UMS year after year. We are firm believers that the arts are vital to the vibrancy of our cities, both culturally and economically.”



**ALMAZ LESSANEWORK**

*Owner, Blue Nile Restaurant*

“At the Blue Nile, we believe in giving back to the community that sustains our business. We are proud to support an organization that provides such an important service to Ann Arbor.”





### LARRY BRYANT

*Ann Arbor Region President, Comerica Bank*

“As a company with a long-standing commitment to diversity and our community, Comerica is proud to continue its support of UMS. We salute UMS on its efforts to enrich our community by showcasing the talents of performing artists from around the world. Congratulations to the leader and best in the performing arts.”



### CHRIS CONLIN

*President, Conlin Travel, Inc.*

“Conlin Travel has been a proud supporter of UMS for over 50 years. I will never forget attending one of my first UMS concerts in 1975, listening to Vladimir Horowitz perform Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Schumann, and others. UMS makes Ann Arbor the most vibrant cultural community in Michigan today.”



### FAYE ALEXANDER NELSON

*President, DTE Energy Foundation*

“The DTE Energy Foundation is pleased to support exemplary organizations like UMS that inspire the soul, instruct the mind, and enrich the community.”



### NANCY AND RANDALL FABER

*Founders, Faber Piano Institute*

“We are proud to support UMS in its tradition of program excellence and outreach that enriches our thoughts, our families, and our community.”



### JAMES G. VELLA

*President, Ford Motor Company Fund*

“Experiencing the world through music and the arts makes us better as individuals while bringing us together as a community. We are proud to support UMS and the important role it plays in enriching our lives.”



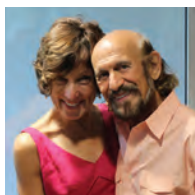
Ford Motor Company Fund



**DAVID N. PARSIGIAN**

*Ann Arbor Office Managing Partner, Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP*

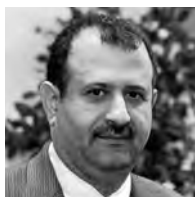
“In our firm’s tradition of supporting major cultural institutions, Honigman has been a long-time supporter of UMS. Our Ann Arbor office is proud to carry on that tradition on behalf of all of our attorneys, especially those who work and live in the Ann Arbor area. We all view the exceptional cultural experiences that UMS provides as key to the success of our community and our firm.”



**JOHN AND JACKIE FARAH**

*Owners, Imagine Fitness & Yoga*

“My wife Jackie and I share a deep devotion to our hometown of Ann Arbor and all the opportunities it presents. UMS is a huge part of this community. The programming that UMS offers is internationally recognized and Ann Arbor would not be the same without it. Imagine Fitness & Yoga is honored to support such a great organization and community.”



**MOHAMAD ISSA**

*Director, Issa Foundation*

“The Issa Foundation is sponsored by the Issa family, which has been established in Ann Arbor for the last 30 years, and is involved in local property management as well as area public schools. The Issa Foundation is devoted to the sharing and acceptance of culture in an effort to change stereotypes and promote peace. UMS has done an outstanding job bringing diverse and talented performers to Ann Arbor.”

ISSA FOUNDATION



**ROBIN WEBER POLLAK**

*President, Journeys International*

“Journeys International and UMS have a lot in common: we both provide opportunities for powerful and impactful experiences. Founded and based in Ann Arbor, Journeys has been crafting life-changing international travel adventures for nearly four decades. We are thrilled to support UMS and its programs that change people through the performing arts.”



**JAMES HOFFMAN**

*Michigan Market President, KeyBank*

“KeyBank remains a committed supporter of the performing arts in Ann Arbor and we commend UMS for bringing another season of great performances to the community. Thank you, UMS, for continuing the tradition.”





### MICHAEL CONLIN

*Director of Business Development, Level X Talent*

“Level X Talent enjoys supporting UMS and its ongoing success bringing world-class artistic talent to the community. Please join us in congratulating UMS. As with the arts, consistently finding and attracting exceptional talent in Advanced Technology can be difficult. Level X Talent partners with our clients to meet that challenge.”

LEVEL X TALENT

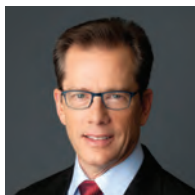


### DENNIS SERRAS

*Owner, Mainstreet Ventures, Inc.*

“As restaurant and catering service owners, we consider ourselves fortunate that our business provides so many opportunities for supporting UMS and its continuing success in bringing internationally acclaimed talent to the Ann Arbor community.”

MAIN STREET  
— DELICIES —  
DISTINGUISHED CATERING



### KEITH ALLMAN

*President and Chief Executive Officer, Masco*

“Masco is proud to support UMS and salutes its commitment to providing excellent and diverse programs that spark a lifelong passion for creativity. Thank you, UMS, for allowing all of us to experience the transformative power of the performing arts!”

MASCO



### THOMAS B. MCMULLEN

*President and CEO, McMullen Properties*

“A Michigan–Ohio State football ticket is still the best ticket in all of sport. However, a UMS ticket always provides the best in educational and artistic entertainment.”

MCMULLEN  
PROPERTIES  
FOUR GENERATIONS IN ANN ARBOR REAL ESTATE



### STEVE ARWOOD

*CEO, Michigan Economic Development Corporation*

“We are proud to support UMS, an outstanding organization bringing world-class artists to Michigan. By partnering with UMS to bring the Berlin Philharmonic to our state, we are showing once again the wide variety of offerings Michigan has that enhance our quality of life and help to make our state an amazing place to live, work, and do business.”

M E D C  
MICHIGAN ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
PURE MICHIGAN



**STEPHEN G. PALMS**

*Principal, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C.*

“Miller Canfield proudly supports UMS for enhancing our quality of life by bringing the unfiltered immediacy of live performing arts to our community.”



**TODD CLARK**

*Regional President, Old National Bank*

“At Old National Bank, we’re committed to community partnership. That’s why, last year alone, we funded over \$5 million in grants and sponsorships and our associates donated almost 100,000 volunteer hours. It’s also the reason we’re pleased to once again support UMS as a corporate sponsor for the 2016–17 season.”



**RICHARD L. DEVORE**

*Detroit and Southeast Michigan Regional President, PNC Bank*

“PNC Bank is proud to support the efforts of UMS and the Ann Arbor community.”



**TODD KEPHART**

*Managing Partner, Retirement Income Solutions*

“With strong roots in the community for more than 30 years, our team of investment advisors is proud to support UMS. We salute Ken Fischer on his marvelous stewardship and applaud his team’s ongoing commitment to presenting authentic, world-renowned artists to the Ann Arbor community.”



**SAVA LELCAJ**

*Chief Executive Officer, Savco: Hospitality*

“One of Ann Arbor’s greatest assets is UMS, which brings amazing, best-in-class performances to our city season after season. Savco Hospitality is honored to support UMS and its mission of engaging, educating, transforming, and connecting the arts to our community.”





### JOE SESI

*President, Sesi Lincoln Volvo Mazda*

“UMS is an important cultural asset for our community. The Sesi Lincoln Volvo Mazda team is delighted to sponsor such a fine organization.”



### JOHN FITZPATRICK

*President, StoryPoint*

“At StoryPoint we strive to inspire and enable seniors to shine every day. Our mission to create the absolute best experiences does not end within our buildings; we aim to enrich the communities we serve. Music is a language that every person — young and old — understands and enjoys. We are proud to support UMS, who inspires our community through artistic expression and talented performers.”

STORYPOINT  
Shine. Everyday.



### JOHN W. STOUT

*President, Stout Systems*

“Supporting UMS is really a labor of love — love of music and the performing arts and love of arts advocacy and education. Everyone at Stout Systems knows we cannot truly be successful without helping to make our community a better place. It is an honor to be part of the UMS family.”



### TOM THOMPSON

*Owner, Tom Thompson Flowers*

“Judy and I are enthusiastic participants in the UMS family. We appreciate how our lives have been elevated by this relationship.”



### OSAMU “SIMON” NAGATA

*President, Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc.*

“Toyota Technical Center is proud to support UMS, an organization with a long and rich history of serving diverse audiences through a wide variety of arts programming.”





### **TIFFANY FORD**

*President and CEO, University of Michigan Credit Union*

“The University of Michigan Credit Union is excited to launch ‘Arts Adventures’ with UMS and UMMA! With this endowment, we promote the celebration of the arts through amazing experiences and exceptional learning opportunities for the entire community.”

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
CREDIT UNION



### **MARK SCHLISSSEL**

*President, University of Michigan*

“The University of Michigan is proud to support UMS as a natural extension of our academic enterprise. UMS’s outstanding performances and educational programs add tremendous value for our students, faculty, alumni, and regional community.”



### **MARSCHALL RUNGE**

*Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs, University of Michigan, and CEO, University of Michigan Health System*

“We are proud to partner with UMS for its 2016–17 season. Music improves the quality of life for all of us, and, increasingly, is recognized as an important ingredient for better health.”

**M** | HEALTH SYSTEM  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN





# Sanam Marvi

Sanam Marvi / *Vocals*

Kashif Ali / *Tabla*

Imran Ali / *Harmonium*

Shahid Ali / *Sitar*

Noor Bux / *Dholak*

Arieb Azhar / *Guitar and Vocals*

Saturday Evening, April 15, 2017 at 8:00

Rackham Auditorium

Ann Arbor

Special thanks to Farina Mir for her participation in events surrounding this evening's performance.

This presentation of Sanam Marvi is part of Center Stage, a public diplomacy initiative of the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts in cooperation with the US Regional Arts Organizations, with support from the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art. Center Stage Pakistan is made possible by the US Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, and the Henry Luce Foundation.

Sanam Marvi appears by arrangement with Lisa Booth Management, Inc.

In consideration of the artists and the audience, please refrain from the use of electronic devices during the performance.

The photography, sound recording, or videotaping of this performance is prohibited.

## **PROGRAM**

*This evening's program will be announced from the stage by the artists and will be performed without intermission. Please refer to page 5 for texts of a few of the songs that may be performed in no particular order as an entry point into the performance.*

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Sanam Marvi, hailing from the province of Sindh, is one of the leading exponents of Sufi music in Pakistan. Sufism is often described as the mystical or esoteric side of Islam, but Sufis themselves would say that Sufism is the essence of all religion that focuses on connection with the Divine positive life force and service to all humanity regardless of religion, creed, class, or color. To establish this connection, Sufis of several orders often feature music and dance in their ceremonies which are considered to have a healing effect on all listeners, even those who are not familiar with the meaning or cultural context of the poetry.

Pakistan has a long tradition of Sufi poet-saints, many of whom have also been musicians and music innovators in their own right. Their poetry preaches the message of love, faith, and devotion to humanity, can be found in all the indigenous languages of the country, and has always been at odds with the rigid exclusive interpretation of religion by the clerical class.

The message of these poet-saints has been kept alive and invigorated over centuries by the musician bards found throughout South Asia, who pay homage to the poet-saints by performing at their shrines. Besides memorizing and internalizing the poetry itself, musicians are also expected to have an in-depth knowledge of North Indian-Pakistani classical music theory. Indeed, all North Indian and Pakistani classical music traces its origin to Hazrat Amir Khusrau (1253–1325), a great

musician, music innovator, and poet, who was the disciple and successor of Hazrat Nizam uddin Auliya (1238–April 3, 1325), the head of the Chishti order of Dervishes.

## POETRY AND TRANSLATIONS

### **Chhaap Tilak Sab Chheeni**

*Poetry by Hazrat Amir Khusrau*

In praise of Saint Hazrat Nizam uddin Auliya

You took away my looks, my identity, with just a glance  
By making me drink the wine of love's furnace  
You intoxicated me with just a glance  
My fair delicate wrists with green bangles  
Are held tightly by you with just a glance  
I am being colored by you, Oh my cloth-dyer  
And sewed to yourself with just a glance  
Khusrau gives his life to Nizam  
You made me your bride with just a glance

### **Man Kunto Maula**

*Poetry by Hazrat Amir Khusrau*

In praise of Hazrat Ali, the most exalted spiritual successor to the prophet Muhammad (Blessed be his Name) according to the tradition of most Sufi orders. The song form, called *tarana*, is a play of sounds with words such as "heart," "I and you," and "Ali the most exalted."

Whosoever accepts Me as Master  
Ali is his Master also

Dar dil dar dil dar dani  
Hum tum tanana nana  
Tana nana re  
Yalali yalali yala yalali  
Yalalalali yalalali yala yalali

## **Mahi Yaar Di Gharoli**

*Poetries by Sachal Sarmast, Bulleh Shah, and Shah Hussain*

The unity of existence is the founding philosophy of Sufi saint and language polymath Abdul Wahab (1739–1829), who adopted the name “Sachal Sarmast” (true ecstatic) for his poetry. The humanist philosophy of Bulleh Shah (1680–1757) is among the most well-known poetries of South Asia. Shah Hussain (1538–1599) is considered a pioneer of the Kafi form of Punjabi poetry. In Sufi symbology, the vulcanization of the clay pot in the fire is compared to the vulcanization of the human spirit in the tribulations of life.

I fill this earthen vessel with love for my Beloved  
I fill this earthen vessel with love for my Lord  
I fear only the wrath of Allah  
I fear only the wrath of my Lord

You are All, I am naught  
My heart flickers like an image  
Reflected off the well's surface  
Wherever I look I see only You  
Bulleh cannot see himself

I seek the perfect guide  
I seek the mentoring guide  
I am the founding vision  
Sachal, all is light Divine

I seek companionship with Ali and the saints  
I fill this earthen vessel with love for my Beloved  
I fill this earthen vessel with love for my Lord

May the spinning wheel keep turning  
May she who weaves live long  
She who discerns the fine thread from the coarse

## **Yaar Ko Hum Ne Jaa Baja Dekha**

*Poetry by Hazrat Shah Niyaz (1742–1834)*

I saw my beloved in everything  
At times revealed, at times hidden  
At times possibility, at times imperative  
At times ephemeral, at times eternal  
Inspired by the wish to see himself  
He made himself in every form  
He is the one who sees and hears  
I saw no other than him  
Laughing gleefully through blooming flowers  
Crooning in the nightingale's melodic songs  
He took the forms of both candle and moth  
And annihilated himself in his own flames  
At times claiming "I am the Truth"  
Witnessed his head raised on the stake  
O' Niyaz, he was beyond the bounds of "You" and "I"  
Yet I see him in every "You" and "I"  
At times behaving in unfamiliar ways  
At times recognizing his familiar face  
At times an emperor in his glory  
At times with a mendicant's begging bowl  
At times a devout worshipper  
At times a drunkard with tavern companions  
At times as a lover like Niyaz  
Beating his breast and heart aflame

## **Tere Ishq Nachaya**

*Poetry by Bulleh Shah*

There is a story that Bulleh Shah (1680–1757), the Punjabi poet, humanist, and philosopher, was once shunned by his teacher, Shah Inayat. To win back the heart of his teacher, Bulleh Shah learned the art of dance, of which he knew Shah Inayat to be fond. He then returned dressed in dancing robes and sang these verses to his teacher, who immediately took him back under his tutelage.

Your love makes me dance like mad  
Your love made its home inside me  
I filled the cup of poison and willfully drank  
Come my healer before I die  
Your love makes me dance like mad

The sun is hidden, only its glow persists  
I offer my life for a glimpse of you  
Forgive my forgetfulness when you called, beloved  
Your love makes me dance like mad.

The peacock calls in this grove of passion  
My beloved is my Qibla (direction) and Kaaba (holiest place)  
You made me lost and inquired not  
Your love makes me dance like mad

Bulleh Shah sits at Shah Inayat's door  
It's you who has dressed me in green and red  
Where I strike my heel I find thee, beloved  
Your love makes me dance like mad



## **Laal Meri Patt**

*Poet(s) unknown*

The most widely sung Sufi song from Pakistan, this ecstatic number is from the tradition of Qalandari Dhamaals, dancing songs in praise of Syed Muhammad Usman Marwandi (1177–1275), popularly known as Laal Shahbaz Qalandar (Red Eagle Dervish), and Mast Qalandar (the ecstatic dervish), whose own poetry was in praise of Hazrat Ali — the spiritual founder of three out of the four original Sufi orders.

The shrine of Laal Shahbaz Qalandar, built in 1356 in the city of Sehwan in Sindh province, was bombed by criminal extremists on February 16, 2017. 88 people were killed in the blast; hundreds more were injured. At 3:30 the next morning, the custodian of the shrine took his designated place and rang the first bell of the day.

My beloved Laal, keep this connection strong  
My swaying dervish my generous dervish  
Who comes from Sehwan  
Who comes from Sindh  
Damadam Mast Qalandar  
Ali is in every breath

The four lamps (of your spiritual lineage) burn forever  
I will burn the fifth

O' my guide thy shrine is exalted  
Songs are played in rhythm with the clock

Ghanan Ghanan sounds your drum  
The clock strikes in beat

Damadam Mast Qalandar  
Ali is in every breath

*Lyric translations and contextual information written by Arieab Azhar.*



## ARTISTS

**Sanam Marvi** (*vocals*) was born in 1986 in the small city of Hyderabad in Sindh, Pakistan. By age seven, she began singing with her father, Faqir Ghulam Rasool, during festivals and ceremonies held at shrines throughout Pakistan's Sindh and Punjab provinces. She continued her studies under noted gurus, including Ustad Fateh Ali Khan at the Gwailor gharana (school). Her breakout performance on Pakistan's national television in 2009 made her a rising star and since then her persuasive and revelatory interpretations of the subcontinent's mystic and humanist poetries have crossed cultural borders and generations to offer solace in our uncertain and often troubled times. She has toured widely around the world, and has been featured many times on Pakistan's popular *Coke Studio*. She is the subject of *Marvi: The Mystic Muse*, a documentary by Tanya Panjwani (2016), which has been screened at festivals in Toronto and Pakistan. Follow Sanam Marvi at [www.facebook.com/sanamarviofficial](http://www.facebook.com/sanamarviofficial).

A musician, cultural catalyst, writer, activist, and advocate, **Arieb Azhar** will introduce Sanam Marvi's performances and participate in off-stage activities including panel discussions, master classes, and workshops. As a cultural translator of South Asia's poetries and music, Mr. Azhar's humanist, inclusive approach shares common ground with Ms. Marvi's. He says: "True music is the union between the individual and the universal; a release, rapture, celebration, quest, lament of the human spirit. If I am able to touch that in moments of my life, I consider myself fortunate!" Follow Arieb Azhar at [www.facebook.com/ariebazhar](http://www.facebook.com/ariebazhar).

**Center Stage** invites performing artists from select countries to the US to perform, meet, and share their experiences with communities around the country. Now in its third season, by the end of 2017, 24 ensembles from Algeria, Haiti, Morocco, Pakistan, Tanzania, and Vietnam will have made independent month-long tours from coast to coast, hosted by colleges and universities, festivals, music clubs, and cultural centers. Each tour includes residencies in large cities and small towns, and a range of activities from performances, workshops, and discussions, to artist-to-artist exchanges, master classes, and community gatherings. Center Stage artists engage with audiences onstage and online sharing their work with audiences in the US and friends and fans at home to build mutual understanding through shared cultures and values. Sanam Marvi's US tour in March and April 2017 includes engagements in Storrs, CT; Boston, MA; Houston, TX; Brooklyn, NY; Savannah, GA; Chapel Hill, NC; Ann Arbor, MI; and Washington, DC.

For more information, please visit [www.CenterStageUS.org](http://www.CenterStageUS.org), Facebook ([www.facebook.com/CenterStagePage](http://www.facebook.com/CenterStagePage)), and Twitter (@CenterStageUS).

*UMS welcomes Sanam Marvi as she makes her UMS debut this evening.*

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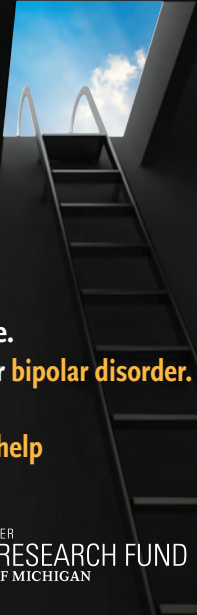


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