



For Immediate Release

Friday, July 11

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ARTSaha! FESTIVAL RETURNS FOR 5th ANNUAL SERIES OF NEW MUSIC CONCERTS

OMAHA, NEB., July 11, 2008 – Omaha's new music festival ARTSaha! announced its schedule for its 5th annual presentation of concerts and events dedicated to new music. ARTSaha! is produced by ANALOG *arts ensemble* in partnership with the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). Concerts will take place from Sept. 3 through 13.

This year's festival motto is "Set Sail for the Sun," the title of a piece by the late composer Karlheinz Stockhausen, known as the father of electronic music.

Utilizing the talent of many local performers throughout the festival, ARTSaha! will also feature three guest artists: Monument Piano Trio, composed of Baltimore Symphony musicians; a trumpet choir called 'dung'; and The Microscore Project, based out of Los Angeles and New Zealand.

Concerts will take place primarily on the UNO campus as well as in midtown Omaha. Several events are free and tickets to featured events are \$10. Festival passes guaranteeing admission to all events will be available for \$20 or two passes for \$25.

Highlights include:

- An 80th anniversary tribute to Stockhausen, including two U.S. premieres of his electronic music: "Friday's Greeting" (a prelude to "Friday" from the seven-opera cycle "Light") and his final electronic composition "Cosmic Pulses;"
- The return of Iron Composer Omaha, a daylong composition contest now expanded to a national competition, with emcee Rob McCartney from KETV and judge Bob Fischbach from the Omaha World-Herald;
- Dance Music, presented in partnership with the popular Organ Vesper Series and featuring Monument Piano Trio from Baltimore;
- And a performance by The Microscore Project, a collection of music pieces lasting no longer than 30 seconds each.

The festival website – www.artsaha.org – includes the complete event schedule, bios of composers and performers, plus additional information on Iron Composer and the Stockhausen celebration.

ARTSaha! is supported by the Nebraska Arts Council. Its sponsors include The Reader and the Organ Vesper Series.

ABOUT ANALOG ARTS ENSEMBLE: ANALOG arts ensemble is an arts collective dedicated to presenting music grounded in the classics but with a futurist sensibility. Composed of 30 artists located in five different states and three different countries, ANALOG stages concert experiences throughout the world, including ARTSaha!, an annual new music festival, in Omaha, Nebraska.

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ARTSaha! CONCERT SCHEDULE (As of 7/11/08)

SET SAIL FOR THE SUN: The ARTSaha! 2008 Commencement Concert

Wednesday, September 3, 7:00 p.m. (Early Start Time)

Strauss Performing Arts Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Tickets: FREE

Join us as we set sail for the sun in this ARTSaha! kickoff concert. The ANALOG musicians embark on the beginning of the festival journey with an eclectic program of contemporary flute music, led by Marcia Kamper of the Baltimore Symphony. The concert will conclude with the U.S. premiere of Stockhausen's "Friday's Greeting," a meditative, electronic piece.

IRON COMPOSER OMAHA: Concert and Reception

Thursday, September 4, 7:30 p.m.

Strauss Performing Arts Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Tickets: \$10; \$15 with reception (8:30 PM)

The smash hit Iron Composer Omaha returns for a second year and this time it's gone national! Five finalists, selected from nearly 50 applications, will debut compositions written just hours before based on a secret 'musical' ingredient. Following the live final performances, a panel of judges, led by the Omaha World-Herald's Bob Fishbach, will determine who is the Iron Composer. The concert will be emceed by KETV's Rob McCartney. Stay for the reception afterward to toast the winner and finalists; all reception proceeds will go to support ARTSaha!

THE WALLS COME TUMBLING DOWN: A Trumpet Choir Concert

Friday, September 5, 7:30 p.m.

Strauss Performing Arts Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Tickets: \$10

A concert not for the faint of ear, dung is a trumpet choir of local and national artists. Evoking the entire history of the trumpet, "dung" is the name of Tibetan ceremonial horns and also derives from the Indian word for conch shells. The program will feature music by Gustav Holst, Elliott Carter, Sofia Gubaidulina, Joan Tower, Prince, and special performances of Stockhausen's trumpet music, including his specially designed Trumpet Tent!

MUSIC FOR A HOUSE: A Choose-Your-Own Adventure Concert

Saturday, September 6, 7:30 p.m.

First Central Congregational Church, 421 S. 36th St., Omaha

Tickets: FREE

There will be a new concert around every corner in this night of simultaneous performances at the First Central Congregational Church. ARTSaha will fill the many rooms of the church's campus with an eclectic collection of musicians and programs – from a classical program with Monument Piano Trio to a meditation room with ambient pieces, interactive installations and more. The audience is invited to roam between the different rooms and create their own concert experience.

DANCE REVOLUTION! (An Organ Vesper Series Concert)

Sunday, September 7, 3:00 p.m.

Presbyterian Church of the Cross, 1517 S. 114th St., Omaha

Tickets: FREE

Omaha Symphony clarinetist John Klinghammer joins Baltimore's Monument Piano Trio for this program of classical music inspired by dance forms. Featuring music by composers like Bright Sheng and Paquito d'Rivera, the program includes everything from tango to Tibetan folk dances. Presented as part of Omaha's popular Organ Vesper Series.

THE MICROSCORE PROJECT: Music in 30 Seconds or Less!

Thursday, September 11, 7:30 p.m.

Strauss Performing Arts Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Tickets: \$10

New Zealander Johnny Chang (violin) and Californian Jessica Catron (cello) define a microscore as music that lasts less than 30 seconds. The Microscore Project will perform selections from the hundreds of pieces that have been written for the duo, including works by composers like Pauline Oliveros, Harold Budd and James Tenney. The concert will include world premiers of new music by Nebraska composers as well.

COSMIC PULSES: A Tribute Concert for Karlheinz Stockhausen

Friday, September 12, 7:00 p.m. (Early Start Time)

Strauss Performing Arts Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Tickets: \$10

ARTSaha! presents a night of Stockhausen including the U.S. premiere of “Cosmic Pulses,” the last piece of electronic music written by the man known as the ‘father of electronic music.’ As trained onsite at the Stockhausen Foundation in Germany, ANALOG will present this sonic roller coaster with waves of sound encircling each listener and some notes so low that humans cannot hear them so much as feel them. The rest of the program will include works from every era of his 50-year career.

IN A LARGE OPEN SPACE

Saturday, September 13, 7:30 p.m.

Strauss Performing Arts Center, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Tickets: FREE

ANALOG *arts ensemble* performs spatial music and collaborative compositions with advanced students of the University of Nebraska at Omaha. In addition to the piece by James Tenney which gives the concert its name, the collaborative ensemble will perform the results of a workshop with UNO students that ANALOG will run throughout the festival.

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