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#### 2020-21 Digital Programs

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# Celebrating resiliency and committing to justice: Colorado Music Magazine

By Jessie Bauters

Just in time for a virtual Homecoming, the College of Music released a special Centennial edition of Colorado Music Magazine this October. In addition to highlighting trailblazing alumni, legendary faculty, outstanding students and dedicated supporters, the college's annual publication shined a spotlight on two aspects of the past year that none of us can ignore: the COVID-19 pandemic and the movement for racial justice.

# The music of resiliency

As coronavirus upended plans all over the globe, the performing arts on the CU Boulder campus were no different. But as a college, our artists have dug deep to find a way to keep our educational mission alive against extraordinary odds.

Students and faculty used on-screen meetings to their unique advantage. The Trumpet and Horn studios produced virtual performances, along with the keyboard faculty and the bands. Distinguished Professor and Helen and Peter Weil Faculty Fellow David Korevaar challenged himself to record all of Beethoven's sonatas in single takes during the stay-athome period earlier this year. Finally, the college held a distanced commencement ceremony, with a group of alumni recording a tribute to the class of 2020.

As we look ahead, we're reminded that nothing can be taken for granted. But as the college has proven so far in 2020, these trials give us opportunity to grow, to be resilient and to show who we really are.

### A movement for change

As the world has come to grips with the COVID-19 pandemic, the other undeniable headline of 2020 has been the Black Lives Matter movement. The

College of Music stands as a community of artists and educators against racism and in support of inclusivity for all our students, faculty, staff, alumniand community members.

With that goal, new Diversity and Outreach Coordinator Alma Ramos joined the college this fall to resume the important work of bringing greater diversity to music study at CU Boulder. "Classical music is very much seen as a White industry, and when looking at the demographic, it is," says Ramos. "It is the responsibility of the college to acknowledge how it has played a part [in that], as well as discover methods and skills to create a more inclusive field and challenge the privileged norms of classical music."

Ramos recently completed a master's degree at the University of Colorado Denver. While there, she worked as a graduate assistant at the Peer Advocate Leaders (PAL) Program and at the Center for Identity and Inclusion under the Department of Diversity and Inclusion.

"I'm excited about this position because it combines my two passions: music and social justice," she says.

Read these stories in their entirety and check out all the coverage in the **2020 Colorado Music Magazine**.

# CU Boulder Balinese Music and Dance Ensemble

Gamelan Angklung "Genta Kencana" (Gold Shimmering Sound)

I Made Lasmawan, artistic director Ni Ketut Marni, guest dancer Ben Cefkin, assistant director 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020

#### Baleganjur

I Putu Tangkas Adi Hiranmayena (b. 1989)

#### Bebarongan

**Traditional** 

#### Tari Taman Sari ("Flowers in the Garden")

I Ketut Budiana Choreography by I Nyoman Rena

#### Angkat-angkatan ("Traveling")

I Made Lasmawan (b. 1958)

#### Kecak

Traditional

# Program notes

#### Baleganjur

Gamelan Baleganjur (marching gamelan) is a type of ensemble featuring cymbals, gongs, and drums playing fast, interlocking patterns. It is traditionally used for ceremonial processions and life cycle events to chase away evil spirits, and is now popular for competitions of musical speed and skill. This arrangement of the traditional *baleganjur* was created by I Putu Tangkas Adi Hiranmayena, a contemporary Balinese composer and the eldest son of our ensemble director.

#### Bebarongan

Barong, in Balinese cosmology, is the protector of villagers and king of the good spirits. In performance, the Barong is represented as a lion-like creature, the natural adversary of the witch-queen Rangda, bringer of pestilence and discord. During the Barong dance-drama, Barong and Rangda battle to restore cosmic balance to the world. The instrumental piece Bebarongan features musical patterns from the penglambar barong, the opening material of the Barong dance-drama.

#### Tari Taman Sari ("Flowers in the Garden")

Tari Taman Sari ("Flowers in the Garden") was composed in the 1990s by I Ketut Budiana with choreography by I Nyoman Rena. In this contemporary welcome dance, female dancers representing celestial maidens carry flowers to welcome guests, showering them with petals.

#### Angkat-angkatan ("Traveling")

Angkat-angkatan ("Traveling") is in the style of a closing piece that would traditionally be played at the end of a village ceremony, while attendees are exiting the temple. Angkat-angkatan was composed by our director, I Made Lasmawan, and features various types of kotekan, the interlocking patterns that are used to elaborate melodies in Balinese music.

#### Kecak

Kecak is a Balinese dance-drama with a polyrhythmic vocal accompaniment. Influenced by the sacred indigenous sanghyang vocal chanting, the kecak dance-drama tells the story of the ancient Sanskrit epic, the Ramayana. The kecak vocalists play various roles in the telling of the story, representing, for example, the forces of nature (the ocean, fire, and trees of the forest) as well as battling monkey and ogre armies.

### Personnel

#### I Made Lasmawan

Balinese drummer and composer I Made Lasmawan was born in the village of Bangah, Bali. He received a degree in traditional Indonesian music from the STSI (Indonesian College of the Arts) in Surakarta, Java, in 1983, with a focus in traditional Javanese music. "Pak" Lasmawan has since performed as a guest artist throughout the world, including Belgium, France, England, Singapore, Japan and Mexico. He is a prolific composer who taught Balinese music at STSI from 1983 until 1990, when he was invited to San Diego State University to teach Javanese and Balinese music.

He has lived in Colorado since 1993 where he is an artist-in-residence with Gamelan Tunas Mekar, a lecturer at Colorado College and director of Balinese gamelan ensembles at CU Boulder, MSU and CCCS. He regularly performs as a guest artist and director with university and college gamelans in Wyoming, Montana, Utah and South Dakota. Pak Lasmawan also plays a leading role in both Bali and the United States as the founder and director of Sanggar Manik Galih, developing community

arts groups for Balinese, diasporic Indonesians and American students.

#### Ni Ketut Marni

Ni Ketut Marni was born in the village of Kebon, Singapadu, on the island of Bali. Born into a family of traditional dancers and musicians, Ni Ketut has studied Balinese dance from a very young age. She graduated from SMKI, the Traditional School of Performing Arts in Denpasar, Bali and has performed for TVRI (Television of the Republic of Indonesia). Ni Ketut instructs the Colorado College Gamelan Tunjung Sari dance program and directs the Balinese dance program for Sanggar Manik Galih. She has performed Balinese and Javanese dance in Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan and the United States, and regularly performs and instructs Balinese dance as a guest artist in universities across the Rocky Mountain region.

#### **CU Balinese Gamelan Ensemble**

Hannah Brown

Maggie Friesen

I Nyoman Guyasa

Anna Hansil

Georgia Hastie

Sam C. Henderson

I Putu Tangkas Adi Hiranmayena

Emma Myers

Mack Rodgers

Cade Ryan

Shaun Stubblefield

I Made Wijaya

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