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## **BRECKENRIDGE CREATIVE ARTS PRESENTS**

REVOLUTION MUSIC SERIES CO-PRESENTED WITH THE NATIONAL REPERTORY ORCHESTRA

LED BY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR + CONDUCTOR STEVEN SCHICK

BRECKENRIDGE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS
AUGUST 10, 12, 17 + 19, 2022
RIVERWALK CENTER
MORE INFO AT BRECKCREATE.ORG



WHAT: Revolution Music Series WHEN: August 10, 12, 17 + 19, 2022

WHERE: Riverwalk Center

PRICE: \$25/\$35/\$40 for the August 10th preview performance | FREE with registration for

August 12, 17 + 19 performances

**LEARN MORE**: <u>Aug 10</u> | <u>Aug 12</u> | <u>Aug 17</u> | <u>Aug 19</u>

**Breckenridge, CO – July 28, 2022:** BreckCreate is thrilled to announce the Revolution Music Series (RMS), co-presented with the National Repertory Orchestra (NRO), performing during the Breckenridge International Festival of Arts (BIFA) on August 10th, 12th, 17th and 19th. Tickets for the August 10th performance are on sale now, and registration is open for the free August 12th, 17th and 19th performances at <a href="mailto:breckcreate.org/bifa">breckcreate.org/bifa</a>.

The Revolution Music Series brings the partnership between BreckCreate and the NRO to new heights. This co-presented series combines the expertise of both organizations to bring residents and visitors the highest quality artists and performances the world has to offer, while cultivating emerging talent and providing a place for expression in the heart of Breckenridge.

"The NRO is incredibly excited to work with an artist like Steven Schick," says Dave DePeters, chief executive officer of the NRO. "We are thrilled to have the opportunity for our fellows to extend their learning and work with one of today's greatest new music experts. BIFA uniquely ties together great music with art, film and dance, and is sure to treat audiences to truly unique and spectacular experiences."

Classical and orchestral concerts at the Riverwalk Center have been a source of pride for the Breckenridge community for more than four decades and continue to shape an authentic Breckenridge experience. The reimagined relationship between the NRO and BCA not only increases operational efficiency, but also seeks to serve the needs of the community by ensuring a diverse and complementary slate of arts offerings to animate Breckenridge's extraordinary cultural facilities.

This season the NRO emerges as the community's singular provider of orchestral music. The NRO is responsible for producing all the classical music offerings during BIFA as conceived by Artistic Director and Conductor Steven Schick and BreckCreate. A model for a new era, both organizations work in tandem to forward BIFA's goal to build an awareness of the arts as a force for change, as a tool for exploration, and as the language for living in the 21st century.

The August 10th performance serves as a BIFA preview and will be held in honor of Jack and Pat Thomas, who were staples in many of the not-for-profit organizations in Summit County. The Thomas' loved music. They were both singers and avid concertgoers. Through the evolution of both the NRO and BMF, the couple not only supported both, but worked diligently to bridge the gap between the organizations and their donors and supporters.

With time, support, and Jack's never-ending belief that the music is paramount, the NRO and BreckCreate have entered a new relationship, one that is non-competitive and that supports all the arts and education throughout Breckenridge and Summit County. The NRO and BreckCreate

are proud to be working together throughout the summer on several collaborative projects that engage Breckenridge residents as well as visitors.

The RMS as led by Schick, not only feature an ensemble of 12 professional musicians drawn from the former Breckenridge Music Festival (BMF) and select NRO fellows, but also multidisciplinary and genre-defying guest artists and composers. Each concert is a sensory adventure: programs pair contemporary music with multi-media art, dance, storytelling and traditional classical compositions. The 2022 "Revolution Series" features the Pilobolus Dance Company—celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary—the kinetic sculptor Daniel Rozin, the charismatic early music violinist Aisslinn Nosky, the Israeli-American composer Tamar Muskal and video artist Jonathan Gilmer to create multi-sensory experiences in contemporary music, dance, storytelling and traditional classical compositions.

"Being back in Breckenridge is always exciting, in and of itself," Schick says. "But it's nothing short of thrilling to bring together an eclectic mix of the finest artists around, from dance, video, sculpture and, of course, music."

Schick goes on to say how gratifying it's been to witness the dynamic energy among the various artists and their respective disciplines. The synergy embodies the excitement behind the RMS: artistic expression fusing together to make "singular and powerful statements."

Five years ago, Schick and his wife created a family commissioning program, The Brenda and Steven Schick Commission, for an annual work in support of "social and environmental optimism." This year, the program commissioned *When Echoes Speak* with Leon Joseph Littlebird, a regionally and internationally acclaimed musician, performer, recording artist and composer, and Max Wolpert, Denver-based composer. The piece will be performed with internationally-renowned movement company Pilobolus on Friday, August 19th (more information below).

Pilobolus had been scheduled to perform at BIFA in 2020. The festival was canceled due to COVID, and Pilobolus was invited to be the resident company for this year's BIFA. BreckCreate wanted a piece that featured movement with live music. Pilobolus artistic directors shared a recent Pilobolus piece, *The Ballad*, with Schick, and it inspired *When Echoes Speak*.

To create *The Ballad*, Pilobolus worked with Darlene Kascak, education coordinator and traditional Native American storyteller, Schaghticoke Tribal Nation (STN), for The Institute of American Indian Studies. The piece weaves together the folklore of the mythical Wendigo, the tragic consequences of American Indian boarding schools as well as Kascak's own personal experience of being removed from her family and placed in an orphanage at a young age.

Upon seeing *The Ballad*, Schick was moved to arrange a previous work he created with Littlebird, who is a third generation native of Colorado with ancestral roots in both pioneer and Native American cultures. In 2019, BreckCreate commissioned Wolpert to arrange Littlebird's storytelling and original music into a chamber work that was presented in 2019 as part of the

BMF. The piece then was scored for orchestra and conducted by Schick with the La Jolla Symphony. In 2022, it has been arranged a third time for the RMS to play as a backdrop to original choreography by Pilobolus during BIFA.

"Leon Joseph Littlebird embodies the spirit of Colorado and Summit County—his great grandfather was one of the original settlers in Blackhawk, Colo., and his great-uncle was a classical composer and performer in Silver Plume and Georgetown," says Tamara Nuzzaci Park, president and CEO of BreckCreate. "His connection to the rich history of Colorado transcends his music. A prolific songwriter, storyteller and performer, his unique style tells tales of Colorado and the people of the West."

The New York Times recently profiled Schick in advance of his latest release: Weather Systems on the Islandia Music Records label. The first part of the multi-album project, "A Hard Rain," is out now, and "is a meditative two hours of music, with the dark resonance of a cave," according to the Times profile.

Below is a list of this season's Revolution Music Series performances. All performances are at the Riverwalk Center at 6 p.m. All performances co-presented with the NRO.

<u>Wednesday, August 10 BIFA Preview: Stravinsky + Ravel</u> – <u>More Info + Buy Tickets</u> Steven Schick, conductor Hamza Able, timpani

Stravinsky: Symphonies of Wind Instruments

Kraft: Timpani Concerto No. 1

Dessner: Lachrymae

Ravel: Mother Goose, Suite

<u>Friday, August 12 Reflections by Moonlight, Bach: Concerto for Violin and Oboe – More Info + Register</u>

Reflections by Moonlight

Bach: Concerto for Violin and Oboe (BVW 1060r)

Featuring violinist and early music specialist, Aisslinn Nosky

Esmail: *The Light is the Same* for Wind Quintet Kapuscinksi: *Over* for String Quartet + Video

Muskal: Facing the Automaton

Featuring art installation Wooden Mirror by Daniel Rozin

Updating the idea of the concerto, the performance will begin with a classic—Bach's elegant *Concerto for Violin and Oboe*, featuring guest artist and early music Roshi, Aisslinn Nosky. Reena Esmail's *The Light is the Same* for Woodwind Quintet and Jareslav Kapuscinksi's *Over* for string quartet and video draw inspiration from the natural world. Concluding the evening is another provocative double concerto—this time for percussionist and mechanical mirror. Looking in the mirror will never be the same after you have seen Daniel Rozin's extraordinary

wooden mirror in duo conversation with percussion soloist Schick and the NRO's nine-person chamber ensemble.

<u>Wednesday, August 17 Soldiers' Tales, Stravinsky: Suite from L'Histoire du Soldat – More Info + Register</u>

Soldiers' Tales

Stravinsky: Suite from L'Histoire du Soldat

Featuring text created by Steven Schick and interpolated with music by Satie, Dowland, Barber and Messiaen

An update on Igor Stravinsky's classic work, *Histoire du Soldat*, which was composed during World War I on a text about a soldier who trades his soul to the devil. Themes of war, greed, and power are, regrettably, still timely today. By interspersing the movements of Stravinsky's piece with the music of wartime composers (Messiaen, Dowland and Satie among others) along with a new text by Schick that incorporates women's wartime poetry, we offer a beautiful and haunting collage of music and words in a new view of our oldest dilemma.

Friday, August 19 By Starlight, HIF Biber: Battaglia à 10 – More Info + Register

By Starlight

HIF Biber: Battaglia à 10

Higdon: Zaka

Littlebird/Wolpert: When Echoes Speak

Featuring Leon Joseph Littlebird and Pilobolus

Colorado Premiere Commissioned by Brenda + Steven Schick

Stravinsky: Le Sacre du Printemps (Chamber version)

Featuring Video by Jonathan Gilmer

After Aisslin Nosky leads us in Biber's muscular *Battaglia a 10* (Battle for 10) the group of NRO fellows offers Jennifer Higdon's high-octane Stravinskyian romp, *Zaka*, a word that means simultaneously zap and sprint. Pilobolus joins the musicians in a choreographed performance of *When Echoes Speak*, a celebration of Native story-telling and culture featuring our great friend Leon Joseph Littlebird. *When Echoes Speak* is the 2022 "Brenda and Steven Schick Commission" for a work rooted in social or environmental optimism. The concert concludes the Revolution concert series with the ultimate ballet, Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*, this time in chamber version for 12 players accompanied by a video from the visual artist Jonathan Gilmer.

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## ABOUT BRECKENRIDGE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS (BIFA), August 12th - 21st, 2022:

After a two-year hiatus BreckCreate is proud to present the return of the annual Breckenridge International Festival of Arts (BIFA), a celebration of adventure, creativity and play. From on-trail environmental art installations to the inspired emergence of the Revolution Music Series in partnership with the National Repertory Orchestra (NRO), BIFA offers an exhilarating program of extraordinary talent in spectacular spaces across Breckenridge, Colorado.

Inspired by themes of environment and mountain culture, the 10-day festival brings together a variety of performances, exhibitions, screenings, workshops, talks and surprise collaborations, with an eclectic mix of music, dance, film, visual arts and family entertainment. Dozens of scheduled events, indoors and outdoors, ticketed and free, are showcased at venues and sites throughout Breckenridge.

ABOUT BRECKENRIDGE CREATIVE ARTS: Breckenridge Creative Arts, a.k.a. BreckCreate, aims to build a dynamic, year-round creative community within Breckenridge. The organization's mission is to deliver inspiring creative experiences that enrich the quality of life for residents and quality of place for visitors via live performances, exhibitions, screenings, classes, workshops and other engagement opportunities throughout Breckenridge, Colorado. BreckCreate's core attractions are the Riverwalk Center and a lively Arts District campus of renovated historic structures that now function as studio spaces for classes and workshops as well as affordable rentals by local artists and visiting artist-in-residence participants. The Breckenridge Arts District is a certified district within the Colorado Creative Industries Creative District program. For more information regarding events and programming, please visit our website.