ARTS AT BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

BRYN MAWR READING SERIES

2019–20

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CELEBRATING LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS WHO EXAMINE THEIR FOREBEARS IN GLOBAL ARTS AND POLITICS TO GIVE CONTEMPORARY FORM TO ENDURING MOVEMENTS AND MESSAGES.

BALLETX
SAT, FEB 8, 8PM
MCPHERSON AUDITORIUM, GOODHART HALL

BalletX, Philadelphia's premier contemporary ballet company, whose dancers were named "among America's best" by The New York Times, commissions choreographers from around the world to expand the vocabulary of dance for all audiences, forging new works of athleticism, emotion and grace. This mixed-rep program features Nicolo Fonte's ballet Steep Drop, Euphoric, which gained critical acclaim in The Philadelphia Inquirer and The Boston Globe when it premiered in the spring of 2019.

ALSARAH & THE NUBATONES
SAT, NOV 23, 8PM
MCPHERSON AUDITORIUM, GOODHART HALL

Arriving in the U.S. in the mid-1990s after conflict engulfed her native Sudan, Alsarah turned to music as a living link to her homeland, both as an ethnomusicologist and as a singer with a spellbinding voice and socially conscious lyrics. With percussionist Rami El-Aasser, bassist Mawuena Kodjovi, oud player Brandon Terzic, and background vocalist Nahid, Alsarah blends East African tunes with Arabic sounds and traditions for a one-of-a-kind style she describes as “East African retro-pop.”

BAKER & TARPAGA DANCE PROJECT
WHEN BIRDS REFUSED TO FLY
FRI-SAT, OCT 4-5, 8PM
HEPBURN TEACHING THEATER, GOODHART HALL

Set to the music of Orchestre Super Volta and performed by an ensemble of African artists, When Birds Refused to Fly is a contemporary dance theater project exploring generational transformations, both cultural and geographic. Choreographer Olivier Tarpaga draws on the 1960s-70s—the post-independence fevers raging across sub-Saharan Africa and the African American fight for civil rights—to examine what it is to build up and break down in the name of change.

SISTER SYLVESTER
BRECHT FORENSICS: GENETICALLY MODIFIED THEATER
FRI-SAT, JAN 31-FEB 1, 8PM
HEPBURN TEACHING THEATER, GOODHART HALL

Based in New York and Istanbul, Sister Sylvester makes essayistic performances by using first-hand research and bringing together digital technology with non-human, living performers. Brecht Forensics is a performance lecture based on DNA extracted from a hat that was a costume for Brecht's Berliner Ensemble. The performance features drinks made from the DNA found on the hat and genetically modified actors that are part human, part jellyfish, part bacteria.

PRISM QUARTET
MENDING WALL WORLD PREMIERE
SAT, MAR 21, 8PM & SUN, MAR 22, 3PM
MCPHERSON AUDITORIUM, GOODHART HALL

Something there is that doesn't love a wall – Robert Frost

Soprano Tony Arnold and pianist Arturo O'Farrill join the PRISM Quartet in a fully-staged concert exploring the meaning of walls in our world. Four visionary composers—Martin Bresnick, George E. Lewis, Juri Seo and O'Farrill—take inspiration from poetry by Robert Frost, Keorapetse Kgotsitsile, Waly Salomão, and Guillermo Gómez-Peña to give musical form to questions about identity, community, division, and freedom. Directed by Jorinde Keesmaat with lighting design by Aaron Copp.
BRYN MAWR READING SERIES

LADAN OSMAN
WED, OCT 2, 7:30PM
GOODHART MUSIC ROOM
Poet Ladan Osman’s first collection, The Kitchen-Dweller’s Testimony, was the winner of the Sillerman First Book Prize for African Poetry. Born in Somalia, she has received fellowships from the Fine Arts Work Center, Cave Canem, and the Michener Center. Osman’s poems have appeared in Narrative Magazine, The Normal School, Prairie Schooner, and Waxwing. Writing of her new book of poems, Exiles of Eden, Somali novelist Nuruddin Farah says, “Osman has an abundance of talent, and she is one of a kind.”

This reading was made possible with the support of the Jane Flanders Fund and the Marianne Moore Fund for the Study of Poetry.

SAM LIPSYTE
WED, NOV 13, 7:30 PM
ELY ROOM, WYNDHAM
Fiction writer Sam Lipsyte is the author of two iconic story collections—the cult classic Venus Drive and The Fun Parts—and four novels, most recently Hark. His work has appeared in The New Yorker, Paris Review, Harper’s, and many other major magazines. He is the recipient of the Believer Book Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship, and he is one of the most beloved and emulated writers working today. Lipsyte teaches in the MFA program at Columbia University.

AKHIL SHARMA
WED, FEB 19, 7:30PM
GOODHART MUSIC ROOM
Akhil Sharma is the author of two novels and a collection of short stories, A Life of Adventure and Delight. His first novel, An Obedient Father, was the winner of the prestigious PEN/Hemingway Prize. His second novel, Family Life, was the winner of the Folio Prize, the International Dublin Literary Award, and was named one of The New York Times Book Review’s Ten Best Books of 2014. Sharma’s short stories regularly appear in The New Yorker. He teaches at Rutgers University-Newark.

DANEZ SMITH
WED, MAR 25, 7:30PM
ELY ROOM, WYNDHAM
Danez Smith is one of the most dynamic poets writing in America today. They are the author of three full-length poetry collections, including Don’t Call Us Dead, a finalist for the National Book Award. Smith has been the winner of numerous awards, including the Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellowship, the Kate Tufts Discovery Award, and the Lambda Literary Award. Their poems have appeared in Poetry magazine and Ploughshares, among many other publications. Smith's third collection, Homie, will be published by Graywolf in Spring 2020.

This reading was made possible with the support of the Jane Flanders Fund and the Marianne Moore Fund for the Study of Poetry.

SIGRID NUNEZ
WED, APR 1, 7:30PM
ELY ROOM, WYNDHAM
Sigrid Nunez’s novel The Friend was the winner of the 2018 National Book Award for Fiction. She is the author of seven novels and a book of nonfiction, Sempre Susan: A Memoir of Susan Sontag. One of the most lauded novelists in the U.S., Nunez has been the winner of a Whiting Award, the Rome Prize, and the American Academy’s Rosenthal Foundation Award, and her work has been included in The Best American Short Stories series. She teaches in the MFA program at Boston University.

AND A SPECIAL GUEST TO BE ANNOUNCED!

NATALIE DIAZ
WED, APR 22, 7:30PM
ELY ROOM, WYNDHAM
Natalie Diaz is the author of two collections of poetry: When My Brother Was An Aztec and Post Colonial Love Poem. A winner of the MacArthur Foundation Genius Grant and Narrative Prize, Diaz’s poems have appeared in The New York Times, Poetry, The Iowa Review, and many other publications. In the New York Times Book Review, Eric McHenry writes, “Diaz grew up on the Fort Mojave Indian Reservation, where she now works with the last four fluent speakers of Mojave to save their fading language. On evidence in this beautiful book... her skill with metaphor owes much to her being a good listener.”

This reading was made possible with the support of the Jane Flanders Fund and the Marianne Moore Fund for the Study of Poetry.
PERFORMANCES BY STUDENTS AND FACULTY

BRYN MAWR / HAVENFORD
HEIDI JACOB AND NATHAN ZULLINGER
A wide variety of concerts is presented in McPherson Auditorium (McP), Great Hall (GH) and the Music Room (MR) at Bryn Mawr College, and in Founders Hall (FH), Marshall Auditorium (MA), and the Marian E. Koshland Integrated Natural Sciences Center (KINS) at Haverford College.

HAVENFORD FAMILY AND FRIENDS WEEKEND CONCERT
Fri, Nov 1, 8:30 pm MA

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE FAMILY WEEKEND CONCERT
Sat, Nov 2, 8:30 pm McP

BRYN MAWR / HAVENFORD ORCHESTRA
Fall Orchestra Concert
Fri, Nov 22, 8 pm MA
William Grant Still: Miniature Overture
William Grant Still: The Peaceful Land
Ulvi Cemal Erkin: Lively Dance
Edward Grieg: selections from Peer Gynt
Kindschneider Auditorium, Goodhart Hall
Students in works by faculty, guest artists and advanced student choralists.

DANCE AT BRYN MAWR
MADELINE CANTOR AND LELA AISHA JONES
From ballet to experimental, hip-hop and modern, explore the power and poetry of movement.
Information: 610-526-5208.

Spring Dance Concert
Fri-Sat, April 24-25, 7:30 pm
McPherson Auditorium, Goodhart Hall
Students in works by faculty, guest artists and advanced student choralists.

BRYN MAWR / HAVENFORD CHAMBER SINGERS
Chamber Singers’ Annual Winter Concert
Thurs, Dec 12, 8 pm, MA
Classic choral works by Joseph Haydn, Josef Rheinberger, Randall Thompson, and Johannes Brahms; contemporary works by Terik O’Regan, Abbie Betinis, Frank Ticheli, David Conte, Jonathan Dove, and Eleanor Daley
Chamber Singers’ Annual Rotaunda Concert
Thurs, Apr 30, 4:45 pm KINS
A preview of the Commencement Concert program
Chamber Singers’ Commencement Concert
Fri, May 15, 8:30 pm GH
Sacred works by Orlando di Lasso, Felix Mendelssohn, Alva Parker, and Arvo Part; secular works by Andrea Clearfield and Colin Britt, with Trios Chansons by Claude Debussy

BRYN MAWR / HAVENFORD CHAMBER MUSIC
Fall Chamber Music Concert
Mon, Dec 16, 7:30 pm MA,
Tues, Dec 17, 7:30 pm MR
Spring Chamber Music Concerts
Mon, May 4, 7:30 pm MA,
Tues, May 5, 7:30 pm MR

SEASON AT A GLANCE
2019–2020

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Other students $10
Children 12 and Under $5

*Tickets for PRISM Quartet are $10 for single, senior, and student tickets and $5 for children under 12.

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ORDER BY MAIL: Complete the form and return with payment to: Bryn Mawr College, Office for the Arts, 101 N. Merion Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010–2899
Tickets will be mailed to you or held at the door.

ORDER BY PHONE with a credit card (610) 526-5300
Single tickets, group sales, and information: reservations@brynmawr.edu or (610) 526-5300

Programs and dates subject to change. brynmawr.edu/arts or (610) 526-5300 to confirm.

Directions, maps, and accessibility information at brynmawr.edu/campus/visit.

Bryn Mawr College welcomes the full participation of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of campus life. Should you wish to request a disability-related accommodation, please call 610-526-5300. Requests should be made as early as possible.

PHOTOS PAGE 2:
—A—
Ladan Osman
—G—
Gabriel Bienczycki (right)

PHOTOS PAGE 3:
—V—
Kirsten Miccoli
—A—
Ladan Osman

PHOTOS PAGE 4:
BalletX

PHOTOS PAGE 5:
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Carlos Ramirez (left); Nousha Salimi (right)

PHOTOS PAGE 6:
Martha Hechler (left); Mark Lord (right)

PHOTOS PAGE 7:
—G—
/ Ladan Osman
—V—
—/ PRISM QUARTET—
/ PRISM Quartet
/ Baker & Tarpaga Dance Project
/ Baker & Tarpaga Dance Project

The 2019–2020 Bryn Mawr College Performing Arts Series receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage
Major support for Mending Walls has been provided to the PRISM Quartet by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, with additional support from The Presser Foundation, Chamber Music America, the National Endowment for the Arts, New Music USA, the Musical Fund Society of Philadelphia, and Conn-Selmer, Inc.

The presentation of Baker & Tarpaga Dance Project’s When Birds Refused to Fly was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts’ National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.