

# Calendar for Jan. 21 to Jan. 28

For a full listing of events, visit <http://www.usc.edu/calendar>

## New Year's New Music

A 20-year tradition continues on Friday, Jan. 25, as Donald Crockett directs the "Thornton Symphony: New Music for Orchestra" concert featuring compositions, most of them world premieres, by six Thornton School of Music students.

Being chosen from among a highly competitive field that exemplifies the next generation of American composers is an honor for these talented students.

"Reveries of a Solitary Walker," by senior Daniel Highman, was inspired by a collection of meditations written by Jean-Jacques Rousseau two years before his death in 1778. Highman, who began studying piano at age 9 and composing at 17, is deeply influenced by jazz and spent the past two summers as a faculty member at the Stanford jazz workshop.

Ludek Drizhal's grandmother was a nanny working for a Jewish family during World War II. The risks she took then and the pain she still feels today moved him to compose "Two Voices From Terezin." Drizhal was born in Czechoslovakia and



Student composers, from left, Allen Menton, Vincent Chee-Yung Ho and Ludek Drizhal with Thornton School professor Frank Ticheli, at music stand.

was an award-winning violinist in Prague. He also spent many years in Texas as a rock 'n' roll studio guitarist and touring as a singer-songwriter before arriving at USC to pursue a master's degree in composition.

Edward Hopper's painting

"Nighthawks" and its depiction of the isolation and despair of city life inspired,



From left, composers Bear McCreary, James Norman and Daniel Highman watch a rehearsal.

and shares its name with, the second movement of Vincent Chee-Yung Ho's prize-winning Concerto for Violoncello and Orchestra. The concerto was written in 2000 as Ho's University of Toronto master's thesis. Ho, who began composing at 14, is pursuing a doctorate of musical arts at USC.

"Shape-Note Fantasy" by Allen W. Menton was inspired by hymns from the American colonial period. Menton began his music career as a pianist until a wrist injury led him to pursue degrees in English and comparative literature.

Senior James Norman's five-movement work for string orchestra, titled "Let Thy Wanderings Cease," is based on the music and text of the traditional Christmas hymn "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night."

Despite its brevity, "Sparks and Shadows" by undergrad Bear McCreary displays intense dynamics and energy. McCreary is active in the USC Film Scoring Program and has studied with Elmer Bernstein for several years.

Friday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., Thornton Symphony: New Music for Orchestra. Bovard Auditorium. Free. Call 213-740-2584 for information.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday, Jan. 24, 11:30 a.m. Interdisciplinary Faculty/Staff Discussion. The Phi Kappa Phi All-University Honor Society and the USC School of Social Work Human Rights Committee present this event, titled "The World Will Never Be the Same: Understanding the 9-11 Fallout." USC Faculty Center Banquet Room. \$10, reservation required. 213-821-1297

## LECTURES & SEMINARS

Tuesday, Jan. 22, 1 p.m. Principles of Teaching Series. "The Art of the Lecture," by Craig Stanford, USC Center for Excellence in Teaching faculty fellow and chair, anthropology department. Grace Ford Salvatori Hall, Rm. 329. Free. 213-740-9040

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 3 p.m. Albert L. Whiteman Memorial Mathematics Lecture Series. "Primes, Knots and Flows," by Christopher Deninger, Universitat Muenster. Deninger's work has ranged from algebraic and analytic number theory to dynamical systems and foliations. This lecture series will provide insight into much of this experience. Ethel Percy Andrus Gerontology Center, Davis Auditorium. Free. 213-740-8170

Thursday, Jan. 24, noon Cellular Homeostasis Lecture Series. "Genetic Dissection of Atherosclerosis," by Aldons Jake Lulis, professor of medicine (cardiology) and professor of microbiology and molecular genetics, UCLA Medical Center. Ambulatory Health Center Auditorium, Health Sciences Campus. Free. 323-442-3121

Thursday, Jan. 24, 1:15 p.m. Annenberg Colloquium. "Building a Mystery: Toward a New Theory of Communication and Identity," by Eric Eisenberg, University of Florida. Annenberg School, Rm. 207. Free. 213-740-5658

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2 p.m. Whiteman Memorial Mathematics Lecture. "Dynamical Systems on Foliated Spaces and Number Theory," by Christopher Deninger, Universitat Muenster. Denney Research Building, Rm. 140. Free. 213-740-8170

Thursday, Jan. 24, 3 p.m. USC Casden Institute Lecture. "Home Lands: Portraits of the New Jewish Diaspora," by Larry Tye, author and reporter, Boston Globe. A reception and book signing will follow. Leonard Davis Auditorium, Andrus Gerontology Center. Free. 213-740-3405

Friday, Jan. 25, 3 p.m.: Whiteman Memorial Mathematics Lecture. "Transverse Index Theory and Ordinary Elliptic Curves." (See information for the Jan. 24 lecture.)

## MUSIC

Tuesday, Jan. 22, noon Music in the Gallery. The Crossroads School Chamber Orchestra, led by James Forward,

performs. USC Fisher Gallery, Harris Hall. Free. 213-740-5537

Monday, Jan. 28, 8 p.m. Thornton Music Masters Series. Bassoonist



Judith Farmer is joined by prominent local musicians for a recital featuring Francois Devienne's Quartet for Bassoon and Strings and Beethoven's Septet for Violin, Viola, Horn, Clarinet, Bassoon, Violoncello and Bass. Newman Recital Hall. Free. 213-740-2584

## FILM & PERFORMING ARTS

Friday, Jan. 25, 4 p.m.: Teaching on the Screen Film Series. "Finding Forrester." Sean Connery stars as a reclusive author who helps a struggling student become a great writer in this 2000 film directed by Gus Van Sant. George Lucas Instructional Building, Rm. 108. Free. 213-740-9040

## EXHIBITS

Through March: Verna Lebow Norman: A Woman's Life in Art. The USC Hillel Center for Jewish Life presents a retrospective exhibition of sculpture and drawings by local artist Verna Lebow Norman. USC Hillel Gallery (3300 S. Hoover). Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. 213-747-9135

## SPORTS

Saturday, Jan. 26, 6 p.m.: Rugby Club Team. The USC team competes in the Southern California Rugby Association. Cromwell Field. Free. 213-740-5127

Ongoing USC Workout. The Lyon Center offers a variety of workout options including cardio-boxing, SCycling and yoga. Lyon Center. \$55 students, \$20 Lyon Center members per semester. 213-740-5127 ■

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Lee Lawlor  
KAP 249, MC 2538  
University Park Campus  
213-740-9344, fax 213-740-1746  
e-mail:nlawlor@usc.edu

The deadline for the Feb. 4 issue, which covers events through Feb. 12, is noon Wednesday, Jan. 23.