

# Handel, but not only

*A Multicultural Concert on the  
Occasion of World Water Day*

**March 22, 2012 at 8PM**  
*Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center*

**PRAGUE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA &  
NEW YORK VIRTUOSI STRING QUARTET**

*Organized by Melody for Dialogue  
among Civilizations Association*



**Melody for Dialogue  
Among Civilizations**



*in partnership with*



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



**Northeastern University**  
College of Arts, Media and Design

# ***“Melody for Dialogue among Civilizations”***

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# Handel, but not only... Music for Water

On the occasion of the World Water Day

Conductor: Emmanuel Siffert,  
Prague Philharmonic Orchestra  
New York Virtuosi String Quartet

## 1. George Frideric Handel

Water Music Suite No. 2 in D

Ouverture (Allegro)  
Alla Hornpipe  
Minuet  
Lentement  
Bourrée

Water Music Suite No. 3 in F

Sarabande  
Rigaudon  
Minuet  
Gigue

## 2. Antonio Vivaldi

Op. 8, No. 5  
(4 March 1678-1741)

Violin Concerto in E-flat Major,

**“La Tempesta di Mare”**

- Presto  
- Largo

Guo Gan, erhu

-Presto

Wolfgang David, violin and

## 3. Tan Dun

(b. 15 August 1957)

**Ghost Opera**

Bach, Monks, and Shakespeare  
Meet in Water  
Earth Dance  
Dialogue with “Little Cabbage”  
Metal and Stone

Liu Fang, pipa

Song of Paper

Liuh-Wen Tin, viola and Maureen Hynes, cello  
Dale Stukenbruck and Orlando Wells, violin;

## 4. Antony F. di Rities

(b.1968)

**“Shui.Life.” for Erhu**

# Programme





### ***Emmanuel Siffert (conductor)***

Swiss born Emmanuel Siffert has been Principal Conductor of the European Chamber Opera, London; Swiss Chamber Orchestra, Aosta Symphony Orchestra, Italy and the National Symphony Orchestra of Ecuador and is appointed as Principal Guest conductor, starting in 2012, for the Welsh Concert Orchestra.

Emmanuel has a wide discography; has released several recordings with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Volgograd Philharmonic Orchestra, Swiss Chamber Orchestra, and Aosta Symphony. His radio recordings include Rundfunksinfonieorchester Saarbrücken (live), Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana (live and studio recordings) and the Swiss Chamber Orchestra (live).

Emmanuel Siffert was assistant conductor at the St. Gallen Opera under John Neschling until 1997; in 1995 he acted in this capacity at the Opera Festival Avenches; in 1998 at the Grand Théâtre de Genève under Armin Jordan; in 2001 at the Teatro Lirico Di Cagliari under Rafael Frübeck de Burgos; and in 2001-2002 under Gerard Korsten. He was also assistant for "The Merry Widow" at the Lyon Opera house. Further opera work included work with "Opera Valle" in Italy since 2002, as well as the Nuremberg Opera, the Moldavian Opera in Chisinau.

He conducted two seasons for the English National Ballet (2003/4 and 2004/5). He also started working from 2011 with the Royal Ballet Covent Garden.

Gives seminars in Europe and Latin America and classes in opera scenes for singers in various summer academies. He is a winner of the conducting prize at the "Schweizerischen Tonkünstlerverein" in 1993 and in 1995.

### ***Wolfgang David (Violin)***

The Washington Post wrote that Wolfgang David «scaled the heights of musicmaking» and The Strad described his playing "as emotionally wide-ranging as one could hope for".

On the space of a few short years, Wolfgang has created an important presence on the international stage, both as a recitalist, and as a guest soloist with many leading orchestras such as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra, etc.

At the age of eight he was admitted to the University for Music in Vienna where he studied for many years with Rainer Küchl, the concertmaster of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. Later he continued his studies at the Musikhochschule in Cologne with Igor Ozim and with Yfrah Neaman at the Guildhall School of Music in London.

The winner of many competitions and prizes, David has performed in major halls such as Konzerthaus and Musikverein Hall in Vienna, Carnegie Hall in New York, Cerritos Center in Los Angeles, the Wigmore Hall in London, Victoria Hall in Geneva, and Philharmonie in Cologne.

Highlights of his career included concerts at the Great Assembly Hall of the United Nations in New York and a concert in Bangkok for the Queen of Thailand.

Wolfgang David performs on a violin built in 1715 by Carlo Bergonzi, Cremona, on exclusive loan to him from the Austrian National Bank.

Wolfgang David has recorded a number of albums with Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.





## **Anthony Paul De Ritis**

Composer Anthony Paul De Ritis is Professor and Chair of the Music Department and jointly appointed in the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Group within the College of Business at Northeastern University in Boston. His music has been called “groundbreaking”, “ultra-exotic,” and “really cool,” and has received performances nationally and internationally, including at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center, Harvard’s Sanders Theatre, Yale’s Woolsey Hall, Taipei’s Zhong Shan Hall, Beijing’s Yugong Yishan, Seoul’s KT Art Hall, and UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

De Ritis’ *Devolution*, a Concerto for DJ and Symphony Orchestra, featuring Paul D. Miller aka DJ Spooky That Subliminal Kid as soloist, will be released on CD by the 5-time Grammy nominated Boston Modern Orchestra Project in early 2012. He also works frequently with Chinese traditional instruments, in particular, the Chinese pipa and with Min Xiao-Fen and Wu Man. In Fall 2011 he was as Fulbright Senior Research Scholar at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, China, and was invited to be a Master of Beijing’s DeTao (Masters Academy in music and the creative industries).

De Ritis completed his Ph.D. in Music Composition at the University of California, Berkeley, his M.M. in Electronic Music Composition from Ohio University. He earned screen credits while studying composition at the University of Southern California; and completed courses in film music, recording technology and the music business at New York University. De Ritis also holds an M.B.A. with an emphasis in High-Tech from Northeastern University. In 2006 he was named the Alumnus of the Year for the College of Fine Arts at Ohio University.



## **Liu Fang- (Pipa)**

Liu Fang is referred to as «the empress of pipa» (*L’actualité*, 2001), “divine mediator” (*World*, 2006), “the greatest ambassadress of the art of the pipa” (*La presse*, 2002). As a child prodigy in her native China, now a resident of Canada, Liu Fang has been regarded as one of the most eminent pipa soloists. She has performed numerous concerts throughout world, including solo recitals of Chinese traditional and classical music as well as contemporary music with orchestras, string quartets and ensembles. She has made frequent appearances in

national and international media. Liu Fang is highly acclaimed for her “Silk and Steel projects” in which she has collaborated with world class musicians from various traditions, and has released 9 solo and collaborative albums. Her most recent recording ‘Silk Sound’, under the French Label Accords Croisés, won the prestigious Académie Charles Cros Award. In 2001, Liu Fang was one of the three young artists under 30, to receive the prestigious ‘Future Generation Millennium Prize’ from the “Canada Council for the Arts”.

Liu Fang has been a denoted artist in many international concerts organized by Melody for Dialogues Association around the world.



### ***Guo Gan (Erhu)***

**G**uo Gan Yi-zhen was born in 1968 in China and was attracted early to playing “Erhu or a two string Chinese violin”. At the same time he started to learn other musical instruments such as violin, violoncelle and he studied in the Shenyang Conservatory of Music and in 1991 he obtained the first prize in erhu. In 1992, he gained the title of master of Erhu. Soon after he moved to Paris and registered in the l'École nationale de musique de France where he studied percussions and jazz.



In 2002, he was invited by Gabriel Yared to participate in the musical performances of a film « L'idole » and to the 55th opening session of the Cannes Film Festival as a Soloist.

En 2005, he accepted the invitation of Yvan Cassar in the production of poème symphonique « l'Encre de Chine » with l'Orchestre de l'Opéra de Paris. In 2010 Guo Gan appeared with Lang Lang in a successful concert at the Carnegie Hall (New York). He was also the guest soloist at the French Pavilion in Expo – Shanghai in 2010. Guo Gan is a celebrated artist of the Association Mélody for Dialogues and has travelled with the organizers to many parts of the world where the Association organized internationally acclaimed concerts. This included the opening session of 16th Asian Games in Guangzhou (Nov 2010). His appearances in the theme related concerts organized by the Association at UNESCO –Paris have earned him a great praise from the diplomatic communities.



### ***Liuh-Wen Ting***

**A** multi faceted performer, who enjoys collaborating with artists from diverse genres and mediums. As an advocate of the contemporary music, she has premiered and recorded numerous solo and chamber music works, and has been praised by The Czech Music 2001 for her performance with the Janacek Symphony Orchestra as “an extraordinary experience”, she has also performed at international festivals such as the Prague SMF, the Warsaw AM F, Etnafest, and the Ostrava New Music Days. In addition to

advocating the contemporary music, she has toured with the Rumi ensemble, performing with Persian vocalist Shahram Nazeri to sold-out audience. In 2009, she co-founded the Ensemble Meme, which debuted in Zankel Hall to critical acclaim. She has recorded chamber and solo works for Mode, Capstone, Albany, Tzadik, Pogus and Naxos labels.





### **Maureen Hynes (cello)**

As a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral player and teacher, Maureen performs regularly with the American Ballet Theater, the American Symphony Orchestra, the Opera Orchestra of New York, American Composers Orchestra, the Bard Festival Orchestra, New York Virtuosi, the Westchester Philharmonic and others. She has also appeared with the Royal Ballet, the San Francisco Ballet, at the Spoleto and Aspen Festivals and at the Lake George Opera Festival. Her solo and chamber music appearances have included

Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Alice Tully Hall, the Kennedy Center and others. In May 2011, she conducted the C. W. Post String Ensemble on its first European concert tour in Italy. She is an Adjunct Professor of Cello and Director of Orchestral and String Studies at the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island Music Program. In 2009, she received the Adjunct Faculty Recognition Award from Long Island University/C. W, and she is listed in the Marquis "Who's Who of American Women and a winner of the Concert Artist Guild Award

### **DALE STUCKENBRUCK (violin)**

As a soloist, concertmaster, chamber musician and teacher, he has performed with Philharmonia Virtuosi, New York Virtuosi, New York String Ensemble, Tchaikovsky Chamber Orchestra, Taipei City Symphony Orchestra, Dance Theater of Harlem, Long Island Philharmonic, and others. He has recorded for countless commercial labels, and over one hundred films. He has received international acclaim with Steve Margoshes, "Sawing to New Heights," and acclaim for his performances of the "Divination by Mirrors" by Michael Levine with the New Century Chamber Orchestra and the New York Virtuosi. His performance of «Ancient Voices of Children» by George Crumb with the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society led to the recording of this work for Bridge Records, nominated for a Grammy. As mandolinist he has appeared at the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, ABT, the Metropolitan Museum, and in a recording with the Charleston Symphony. He has been featured in many magazines and newspapers including Newsday, and the New York Times. Since 1975 he has performed with Heawon Kim, his wife, in recitals in Asia, Europe and South America. He wrote and recorded the soundtrack for "Shadows" by Ed Lachman and Slater Bradley which was recently shown at the Whitney Museum for five months.





### **ORLANDO WELLS (violin)**



**H**e attended the State University of New York at Purchase as a double major on violin and viola where his primary teachers were Yuval Waldman, and Emmanuel Vardi. He continued his studies at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers in New Jersey in the studio of Michael Tree. Orlando played with the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, St. Luke's Chamber Orchestra, Radio City Christmas Spectacular orchestra, Knickerbocker Chamber Orchestra, Bronx Opera (concertmaster), Orchestra of the Bronx (concertmaster), Antara Chamber orchestra (principal viola), and the Ritz Chamber Players in Jacksonville, Florida. He has appeared as soloist with Manhattan Virtuosi, the Harlem Symphony, and Antara Chamber Orchestra. Mr. Wells has performed and recorded with great artists such as Mariah Carey, John Legend, Rihanna, Harry Connick Jr., Dionne Warwick, Elvis Costello, and many others. Currently, he is the violist of the critically acclaimed Sweet Plantain String Quartet, and assistant concertmaster of the Broadway revival of Porgy and Bess.



### **Prague Concert Philharmonic Orchestra L'Orchestre Philharmonique de Prague**

**T**he Prague Philharmonic Orchestra was established in 1995 by Czech musicians and quickly developed into one of the leading orchestras for CD-recording in Europe. The orchestra plays about 200 recording sessions every year. The Prague Philharmonic Orchestra works with labels such as Decca, EMI, Sony BMG and many international film studios. The New Year concerts of the Prague Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Friedemann Riehle are a highlight of the Prague music scene. Also the Prague Philharmonic Orchestra has taken part in Marco Witt's CD «Sinfonia del alma» in 2007.

The Prague Concert Philharmonic has achieved recognition throughout Europe and the world performing the great symphonic literature, opera, oratorios, and with internationally renowned solo artists.



# Melody for Dialogues among Civilizations Association (MDACA)

## Objective and background

MDACA was established in Paris, France in December 2004, incorporated as a non-profit organization in NY in March 2007 and in Geneva in 2009. The general objective of the Association is to promote multicultural dialogue through music as a new and innovative means of communication for the purpose of universal respect for cultural diversity and tolerance. Dialogues through melody could provide a major breakthrough in mutual understanding among people who share universal values and can help in creating a culture of peace among the global community.

To that end, the Association, since its inception, has chosen a practical approach to catalyzing peace and harmony by organizing major multi-cultural concerts. On major thematic issues these events have been followed by holding international forums and has produced written literature and recordings of its organized events to facilitate the global transmission of its messages worldwide. In the course of the past eight years, the Association has engaged close to 475 international artists from 76 countries. While each were a treasure in their own locality, they were restricted to share their talents and broaden their musical horizons.

The Association, by bringing these individuals together and exposing their rare and little known musical instruments to the world, has helped to create important bonds among humanity of all races, and provided a fertile ground for new learning.

In furthering its message of tolerance, respect for cultural diversity and peaceful coexistence through music, the Association has travelled to many continents and organized major concerts including the opening of the 16th Asian Games in Guangzhou, China (2010) and celebrating the 50th anniversary of manned space flight (on the occasion of the anniversary of Yuri Gagarin) in UNESCO, Paris in 2011. In 2012, in addition to present events organized to celebrate World Water Day, we will have the privilege of collaborating with Maestro Tan Dun in Hangzhou, China at the inaugural of Festival of Music and at Shenzhen's Musical Festival.

Since Dec 2004, the Association has enjoyed the patronage of UNESCO in all its undertakings and it is the recipient of 60th Anniversary Medal of this Organization in recognition of its efforts. Prior to this, in 2005 the Association was nominated as the winner of the International Marrakech Prize.

In 2010, the Association was honored by the Vice Mayor of Guangzhou (Secretary-General of the Asian Games) with a letter of recognition to bring harmony to the Games ([www.melodydialogue.org](http://www.melodydialogue.org)).

Our concerts intend to give rise to memorable multicultural exchanges and act as a building block for peace and cultural harmony.



## Special Thanks

New York University, Center for Global Affairs  
North Eastern University, College of Business  
North Eastern University, College of Arts, Media and Design  
Africa Leadership Forum  
United Nations HABITAT  
UNESCO IIP  
Blue Legacy

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Wolfgang David

Liu Fang

Guo Gan

Prague Philharmonic Orchestra and its Director Boris Jedlika

New York Virtuosi String Quartet

Dale STUCKENBRUCK

Liuh-Wen Ting

Maureen HynesDO WELLS

Anthony Paul Di Ritis

Melody Water Ambassador: Ara Aralola Olamiyiwa

Melody staff and Associates: Anoush d'Orville (Vice-President), Marisa Benson, Chakameh Bozorgmehr, Maureen Tan, NYU/CGA students

&

ALL SPEAKERS and Panelists AT THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM