

## **Merkin Concert Hall**

Saturday, February 4, 2012 at 7:30 pm

Kaufman Center

presents

# **Ecstatic Music Festival 2012**

**Jherek Bischoff and the**

**Wordless Music Orchestra**, Joshua Kohl, *conductor*

With Special Guests: David Byrne, Carla Bozulich, Jen Goma, Paris Hurley, Charlie Looker, Sam Mickens, Mirah, Zac Pennington, Steven Reker, Greg Saunier and Craig Wedren

**Songs By Jherek Bischoff**

**Defeat**

**Eyes**

with DAVID BYRNE, *voice*

**The Secret of the Machines**

with CHARLIE LOOKER, *voice* and GREG SAUNIER, *drums*

**The Nest**

with MIRAH, *voice* and PARIS HURLEY, *violin*

**Blossom**

with JHEREK BISCHOFF, *voice*

**Your Ghost**

with CRAIG WEDREN, *voice*

**Counting** (written by Bob Lind)

with CARLA BOZULICH, *voice*

**Young and Lovely**

with ZAC PENNINGTON and SAM MICKENS, *voice*

**Insomnia, Death and the Sea**

with STEVEN REKER and JEN GOMA, *voice*

*Intermission*

**Songs by Jherek's friends, Orchestrated by Jherek**

*Song order will be announced from the stage*

**Heaven Sent**

Composed by CRAIG WEDREN from his new record *Wand*

### **For All the Final Girls**

Composed by ZAC PENNINGTON from *Parenthetical Girls's EP Privilege, Part 3: "Mend and Make Do"*

### **The Country of the Future**

Composed by MIRAH ZEITLYN and LORI GOLDSTON from *(a) spera*

### **The Blue Room**

Composed by CARLA BOZULICH from Evangelista's record *Hello, Voyager*

### **Cascades Premiere**

Composed by DAVID BYRNE

## **About the Artists**

The **Wordless Music Orchestra** is the house band of New York City's Wordless Music series, which was founded by non-musician Ronen Givony in 2006 and has since presented dozens of concerts in churches, museums, nightclubs, and out of doors, pairing artists from the sound worlds of so-called classical, electronic and rock music. Comprising some of New York's most omnivorous young musicians and members of groups such as Ensemble Signal, Alarm Will Sound, ACME and Bang on a Can, the orchestra presented its first concerts over two sold-out nights in January 2008 under conductor Brad Lubman with the U.S. premiere of composer and Radiohead guitarist Jonny Greenwood's *Popcorn Superhet Receiver*, on a program with music of Gavin Bryars and John Adams. In 2009, four months after its world premiere by Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Arvo Pärt's *Symphony No. 4 ("Los Angeles")* had its New York/East Coast premiere by the Wordless Music Orchestra under conductor Jeffrey Milarsky in two sold-out concerts at which the orchestra also performed alongside the Japanese instrumental noise-rock band MONO. These performances with MONO were recorded and released by Brooklyn's Temporary Residence label as *Holy Ground: NYC Live with the Wordless Music Orchestra*, a limited-edition CD/DVD/LP set. Also in 2009, the orchestra recorded with former Battles multi-instrumentalist Tyondai Braxton for Central Market, the composer's solo debut on Warp Records. In 2010, the Wordless Music Orchestra performed alongside The Hilliard Ensemble and Latvian National Choir as part of Lincoln Center's White Light Festival, with world premiere compositions for orchestra and voices by Kjartan Sveinsson and Jónsi Birgisson of Sigur Rós with his partner, Alex Somers, again under the baton of Jeffrey Milarsky, and the following year at the Guggenheim Museum rotunda in a unique collaboration with visual artist Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster for Gavin Bryars' *The Sinking of the Titanic*. In March 2011, the orchestra embarked with Tyondai Braxton on its first-ever mini-tour—to Alice Tully Hall in New York, the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and Walker Art Center in Minneapolis—to perform new works and world premiere live arrangements from Braxton's Central Market in addition to music by John Adams, Louis Andriessen, and composer/conductor Caleb Burhans. For further information, please visit [wordlessmusic.org](http://wordlessmusic.org).

Composer, musician and producer **Jherek Bischoff** has, for the last several years, built a staggeringly prolific reputation both nationally and internationally as one of Seattle's most indispensable and talented musical artists. He has been a full-time member of The Dead Science since its inception, served a long tenure as bassist and composer for the experimental musician talent factory Degenerate Art Ensemble, recorded and toured in Xiu Xiu, Carla Bozulich's Evangelista, and consistently worked as player, producer and arranger for Parenthetical Girls, Casiotone for the Painfully Alone and Jason Webley.

His efforts have led to many unique and wildly varied opportunities in his musical life, including numerous grants and residencies, composing for orchestras, composing epic music for movies, video games and several dance companies, and embarking on countless tours across North America, Europe, Brazil and Australia. After years of aiding and abetting so many experimental music luminaries, Jherek has recently shifted greater focus towards his own music, with tours and releases both under his own name (*Under the Sour Trees*) and his solo moniker Ribbons (the European-only *Royals* album). Jherek's next

solo record: a massively ambitious, years-in-the-making album of meticulously arranged and multi-tracked orchestral music. Featuring an orchestra (as well as avant ringers like Deerhoof's Greg Saunier and Wilco's Nels Cline), the record spotlights different guest vocalists on each track—a staggering lineup that including the likes of David Byrne, Caetano Veloso, Mirah, Carla Bozulich (Evangelista, Geraldine Fibbers), Craig Wedren (Shudder To Think), Dawn McCarthy (Faun Fables), Zac Pennington (Parenthetical Girls), Soko and more.

Jherek Bischoff would like to thank:

The entire Bischoff family for the constant and unfaltering support and love. Mayumi Heider for giving me inspiration, encouragement, for believing in me and believing in our love. The wonderful musicians from Seattle who are here to play (without you, I would have never known I could be a composer). All of the singers/musicians who are a part of this show (I am forever in your debt I look up to each and every one of you.. thank you so much for being a part of my life and music). Joshua Kohl for conducting all of my shows, constantly encouraging me and always stepping in when my mind goes blank. The Ecstatic Music Festival for having me at their mind blowing festival and for pushing the boundaries. The Wordless Music Orchestra, for lending their insane talent and giving young composers a chance. Judd Greenstein and Ronen Givony for making this show happen and being incredible supporters of new music.

The Heiders, Alec Bemis, Tony Morley, Anthony Kibort, Michael Tracey, Julian Bowers, Katrina Dixon, Andreas Oberschelp, Christopher Ando, Robin Filler, Erica Hannickel, Taryn Webber, John Osebold, Esther Sugai, James Rickman, Samaki Dorsey, Carlton Farmer, Caitlin Rippey, Jordan Michael Iannucci, Tamara Weikel, Sierra Stinson, Adam Eye, Matt Dillon, Joanne Hopkins, Danny Kikuchi, Kirby Ferguson, Hiromi Heider, su olsen, Susan & Doug Smith, Nicholas Croft, Andy Eldridge, Jacqueline Dey, Robin Short, Carol Johnson, Ashlee Hunter, Rachel Jensen, Jun Heider, Michael Park, Aubbie Beal, Heather Smith, Alexandra McKay, Tom Bromley, Kate Good-Smith, Eidelyn Gonzales, Kyle Holloway, Steve Duncan, Joe LeBlanc, Jenny tsiakals, Debora Petrina, Meggan Lennon, Peter Abrahamsen, Michael Weaver, Emilie Skytta, Lauren Andrews, Keely Isaak Meehan, Steven Arntson, Mike Howisey, Keith Rivers, Lily Luv, Bobby Young, Stephanie Geniza, Soko, Maudie McCormick, Laurie Masterson, Stuart Watson, Bert & Marilyn Dayton, Justin Hamacher, Kenneth Horton, Kevin Raison, Amanda Palmer, ronald snetsinger, Olivia Taguinod, Debbi Lester, Lena Davidson, Leslie Phinney, Daniel Sanewski, Gregory Painter, Jon Green, Esme Freedman, Jim Revard, John Packer, Jeffrey ouch, Mark Boshnack, Annie Neilson, Jacob Lee, Andrew Ford, Kaisa Hyypä, Adelisa Galano