

## Hearing Things

The Newsletter of Composer Judith Shatin

Fall 2008

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### JUDITH SHATIN'S BUSY SEASON PART I – ACTIVE FALL AHEAD



As it has a habit of doing, the Summer zoomed by, with fascinating travel in Italy, and a terrific performance by the New Juilliard Ensemble of Judith's *Clave*

(flute, clarinet, sax, violin, viola, cello, piano and percussion) at the Summergarden series at New York's Museum of Modern Art. It brought back memories of composing the piece at the Rockefeller Center in Bellagio, Italy, where the composer studio is cut into a hill high above Lake Como!

Judith's Fall season is filled with performances and projects. First up is a performance



of her piano quartet, *Run*, at the beautiful Deering Estate in Miami, where she is composer-in-residence for the Living Artist Series. She has been awarded a MetLife Creative Connections grant for her participation, and will be engaged in numerous outreach activities, including a composer talk at Florida International University on 10/10. She will return to Miami for the performance of her *Chai Variations on Eliahu HaNavi*, also at the Deering Estate, on 11/19; and for noted violist Laura Wilcox's performance of *Penelope's Song*, for amplified viola and

DVD, on 11/22 at the Harold Golen Gallery in Miami's new arts district.

She is also participating in, and especially excited about, the TechnoSonics Tour, celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Virginia Center for Computer Music, which she founded at the University of Virginia. The tour will include her *Penelope's Song* in three versions: for amplified clarinet and DVD; for amplified cello and electronics; and for soprano sax and DVD, with video by Kathy Aoki and Marco Marquez.

In addition to writing numerous successful grants to continue support of the center, she authored a successful Academic Excellence proposal that brought \$60,000 to the center over a three-year period. It is the only such grant ever received by the University's Department of Music. And, six years ago, the department established a PhD program in Composition and Computing Technologies, so that graduate students can benefit from the program that has been built around the center. It also reflects a sense of flow among all kinds of music, whether acoustic, digital, or some exciting new hybrid!

To get the Fall off to a good start, compositionally speaking, Judith has recently finished her *Tower of the Eight*



*Winds*, a McKim Commission from the Library of Congress, and looks forward to its premiere on 12/11 by

violinist Lina Bahn and pianist Lura Johnson, both members of the Verge Ensemble.

Judith also continues to enjoy her teaching. This semester she teaches an undergraduate course with a composition focus called ***Introduction to Computers and Music***, as well as a graduate seminar, ***Parsing Electroacoustic Music***. In addition, she works with graduate students in her composition studio.

### JUDITH SHATIN'S BUSY SEASON PART II – FALL CONCERTS



Here's a bit more detail about Fall 2008 concert performances of Judith's music.

\* means the performance is part of the 20th Anniversary TechnoSonics Tour

10/10/08, 8:00 pm  
***Run*** for piano quartet  
The Deering Estate Living Artist Series;  
Miami, FL

10/29/08, 8:00 pm  
**\**Penelope's Song***  
Clarinetist Marianne Gythfeldt; Gore Recital Hall, University of Delaware; Newark, DE  
**World Premiere of this version**

10/30/08, 8:00 pm  
**\**Penelope's Song***  
Clarinetist Marianne Gythfeldt; Delaware Center for Creative Arts  
Wilmington, DE

10/31/08, 8:00 pm  
**\**Penelope's Song***  
Cellist Victoria Bass  
Symphony Space; NY

11/13/08 8:00 p.m.  
***Fantasy on St. Cecilia***  
Pianist Gayle Martin Henry  
Presented by the Liszt Society  
Yamaha Piano Salon  
689 5th Avenue, New York, NY

11/14/08, 8:00 pm  
**\**Penelope's Song***  
Saxophonist Susan Fancher at Live Arts,  
Charlottesville, VA

11/19/08, 8:00 pm  
***Chai Variations on Eliahu HaNavi***  
Pianist José Lopez  
The Deering Estate Living Artist Series

11/22/08, 8:00 pm  
***Penelope's Song***  
Violist Laura Wilcox at the Harold Golen  
Gallery; Miami, FL

12/11/08, 8:00 pm  
***Tower of the Eight Winds***  
Verge Ensemble, Library of Congress,  
Coolidge Auditorium, Washington D.C.

### JUDITH IN THE NEWS



Judith was recently featured in ***Playing the Shofar: An Ancient Sound Finds a New Voice***, an article in The Jewish Daily Forward.

The piece talks about the shofar, one of the earliest instruments in history, its "deeply evocative pitch" and how Judith has used the instrument in several of her compositions, notably, ***Elijah's Chariot***, commissioned by the Kronos Quartet and ***Teruah*** for shofar, 3 horns, 2 trumpets, 2 trombones and timpani, jointly commissioned by the Pittsburgh and Los Angeles Jewish Music Festivals. Read the article at

<http://www.forward.com/articles/14206/>.

### JUDITH SHATIN ON THE WEB

For more information, visit <http://www.judithshatin.com> or contact Jeffrey James Arts Consulting at 516-586-3433 or [jamesarts@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jamesarts@worldnet.att.net).