## MUSICIANS

Recognized as the world's premier pipa virtuoso and leading ambassador of Chinese music, Grammy Award–nominated musician **Wu Man** has carved out a career as a soloist, educator, and composer, giving her lute-like instrument—which has a history of over 2,000 years in China—a new role in both traditional and contemporary music. Through numerous concert tours, Wu Man has premiered hundreds of new works for the pipa, while spearheading multimedia projects to both preserve and create awareness of China's ancient musical traditions. Her adventurous spirit and virtuosity have led to collaborations across artistic disciplines, allowing her to reach wider audiences as she works to break through cultural and musical borders. Her efforts were recognized when she was named Musical America's 2013 instrumentalist of the year, the first time this prestigious award has been bestowed on a player of a non-western instrument.

Orchestral highlights of the 2014–15 season include a performance of Lou Harrison's Pipa Concerto with The Knights, as well as Zhao Jiping's Pipa Concerto No. 2 with the Canton Symphony Orchestra, Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg, and Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. In recital, Wu Man takes a new program, "Journey of Chinese Pipa," to London, Sydney, and Dortmund. This solo recital explores the history of pipa repertoire, ranging from traditional folksongs to her own original compositions. A collaborator with Kronos Quartet for over 20 years, she rejoins the ensemble at Cal Performances to perform Terry Riley's *The Cusp of Magic*, which was composed on the occasion of the composer's 70th birthday. A principal member of the Silk Road Ensemble, she will also perform with the eclectic group in a concert with the New York Philharmonic.

Born in Hangzhou, China, Wu Man studied with Lin Shicheng, Kuang Yuzhong, Chen Zemin, and Liu Dehai at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, where she became the first recipient of a master's degree in pipa. Accepted into the conservatory at age 13, her audition was covered by national newspapers and she was hailed as a child prodigy, becoming a nationally recognized role model for young pipa players. In 1985, she made her first visit to the United States as a member of the China Youth Arts Troupe. Wu Man moved to the U.S. in 1990 and resides with her husband and son in California. **CREW** Public Events Manager: Antonio Estrada Stage Crew: Brian Covarrubias, Chenyu Wang, Gigi Yip

Audience Services Manager: Chelsea Largoza Box Office Lead: Kimberly Vazquez Front of House Crew: Diego Gomes, Cindy Salmeron

Recording Engineer: Joshua Gomez

# KPBS evening edition

Weekdays at 6:30 p.m. on KPBS-TV



#### **CONTACT US** For information on upcoming concerts:

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May 26, 2015 7pm UC San Diego Conrad Prebys Concert Hall



Ojai Music Festival Preview with Steven Schick

JC SAN DIEGO

EPARTMENT OF MUSIC



# PROGRAM

### MUSICIANS

The *New York Times* calls **red fish blue fish** a "dynamic percussion ensemble from the University of California." Founded twenty years ago by Steven Schick, the ensemble performs, records, and premieres works from the last eighty-five years of western percussion's rich history. Frequent artists at the Ojai Music Festival, red fish blue fish collaborated with George Crumb, Dawn Upshaw, and Peter Sellars to premiere the staged version of *The Winds of Destiny*.

The group was also featured in 2012 and 2013 in music by John Luther Adams, John Cage, and Lou Harrison. Other recent projects include a world premiere of Roger Reynolds' *Sanctuary* and the American premiere of James Dillon's epic *Nine Rivers* cycle with the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE). Other recent collaborations were with eighth blackbird in performances of works by American icons such as John Cage and Steve Reich at the Park Avenue Armory in New York City. The *New York Times* called their "riveting" performance of John Cage the "highlight" of the program. Recordings of the percussion chamber music of Iannis Xenakis and Roger Reynolds on Mode Records have been praised by critics around the world. red fish blue fish recently released, to great critical acclaim, the *Early Percussion Music of Karlheinz Stockhausen* on DVD and CD with Mode Records.

**Renga** is an ensemble of friends and colleagues from UC San Diego, the San Diego Symphony and beyond. Led by Artistic Directors Kate Hatmaker and Steven Schick, Renga unites the most recent and provocative contemporary music with established classical repertoire in settings ranging from solos and small ensembles to full chamber orchestra. The 2014-2015 season includes several premieres and collaborations with ICE and Wu Man, as well as performances at the Carlsbad Music Festival, TEDx San Diego, UCSD, and the Ojai Music Festival. Taking its name from a thousand-year-old Japanese tradition of "shared writing," Renga seeks to create a progressive forum of shared artistic vision, community outreach, and reflection on the impact of art on our lives.

Percussionist, conductor and author **Steven Schick** has commissioned more than 150 works, many of which are standard repertoire for percussionists. Schick founded the percussion group red fish blue fish – now celebrating its 20th anniversary – and was the original percussionist of the Bang on a Can All-Stars. He is currently music director of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus and artistic director of the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players. Steven Schick is Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of California, San Diego. He lives in La Jolla with his wife Brenda.

# Renga

Violins Kate Hatmaker Wes Precourt Bridget Dolkas Batya MacAdam-Somer Hanah Stuart Pierre Joubert Pei-Chun Tsai Igor Pandurski Tricia Chen Yvonne Shay Isaac Allen **Violas** Travis Maril Michael Molnau Angela Choong

**Cellos** Judith Hamann Abe Liebhaber Elizabeth Brown

#### **Basses** Jory Herman

Matthew Kline

Six Japanese Gardens (1995)	
Tenju-an Garden of Nanzen-ji Tem	ıple
Many Pleasures (Garden of the Kin	nkaku-ji)
Dry Mountain Stream	
Rock Garden of Ryoan-ji	
Moss Garden of the Saiho-ji	

Steven Schick, percussion soloist

Foccata for Percussion Instruments	(1942)	Carlos Chavez
Allegro, sempre giusto		
Largo		
Allegro un poco marziale		

### red fish blue fish

Christopher Clarino, Fiona Digney, Dustin Donahue, Jason Ginter, Jonathan Hepfer, Steven Schick

intermission

Four Marys (1991)

Rebonds (1989)

Stone Bridges

Julia Wolfe

Iannis Xenakis

Kaija Saariaho

Concerto for Pipa with String Orchestra (1997) Lou Harrison

Wu Man, pipa Steven Schick, conductor Renga

Audience members are reminded to please silence all phones and noise-generating devices before the performance. As a matter of courtesy and copyright law, no unauthorized recording or photographing is allowed in the hall. The Conrad Prebys Music Center is a non-smoking facility.