



Crowden

MUSIC · CENTER

1475 Rose Street • Berkeley, CA 94702 • 510.559.6910 • www.crowden.org

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CROWDEN
MUSIC · CENTER
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS · 1983-2008

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CROWDEN MARCH EVENTS OFFER PREVIEW OF TOMORROW'S SOUNDS AND STARS

John Adams Young Composers Program Faculty Concert:
*Natalie Cox, Alice Lenaghan, and Katrina Wreede perform world premieres by
John Adams Young Composers Program faculty on March 20, 7:00pm*

Sundays @ Four Chamber Music Series:
*Emerging violinist and Crowden alum Nathan Olson reunites with pianist Arkadi
Serper on March 21, 4:00pm*

John Adams Young Composers Program Guest Lecture:
*SF Switchboard Festival co-founder and composer Ryan Brown gives a free public
workshop on March 23, 4:30pm*

Berkeley, CA—Crowden Music Center shines a spotlight on exciting new music and emerging artists from the Bay Area this March, presenting a Crowden alumnus *Sundays @ Four* concert and two John Adams Young Composers Program events over the course of just four days, all featuring Crowden's special blend of outstanding classical music in an intimate, neighborly atmosphere.

March 20: John Adams Young Composers Program Faculty Concert

On **March 20, 7:00pm**, Oakland East Bay Symphony principals **Natalie Cox** and **Alice Lenaghan** will join Crowden's own **Katrina Wreede** to perform world premieres of works by Young Composers Program faculty past and present: **Alexis Alrich, Molly Axtmann, Allan Crossman, Dean Curtis, John King, Arkadi Serper, Clark Suprynowicz, and Katrina Wreede**. The concert, themed "In Debussy's Footsteps," features the colorful combination of harp, flute, and viola. Young Composers Program director Alexis Alrich explains, "Debussy's Sonata for this ensemble is famous for its exquisite use of the instruments and its elegiac tone,

The Crowden Music Center is a nonprofit organization serving as a vibrant musical hub for the Bay Area community. We provide the highest quality of music education for people of all ages, and reach out to children for whom music education would otherwise be unavailable.

since it was one of his last pieces. We are inspired by this masterpiece to contribute our works to this genre.”

John Adams Young Composers faculty drew inspiration from not only Debussy, but also from the program’s creative community. “There is a special rapport among these composers borne of teaching gifted students in the John Adams Young Composers Program,” Alrich says. “The faculty concert is the embodiment of this rapport—it is our message to one another and to our students, in our common “native language,” musical notes.”

General admission tickets will be available for \$15 at the door only, and as always at Crowden, children 18 and under attend free.

March 21: *Sundays @ Four* with Nathan Olson, violin, and Arkadi Serper, piano

On **March 21, 4:00pm**, Crowden alumnus **Nathan Olson** returns home for a joyous musical reunion with Crowden’s **Arkadi Serper** for the *Sundays @ Four* chamber music series. Born and raised in Berkeley, Olson is emerging as an important new talent after his graduation from Cleveland Institute of Music’s prestigious Concertmaster Academy, where he studied with Cleveland Orchestra Concertmaster William Preucil (other teachers include Itzhak Perlman and Crowden founder Anne Crowden). Also a dedicated chamber musician, Olson won the silver medal at the 2005 Fischhoff International Chamber Music Competition as a member of the Kashii String Quartet with fellow Crowden alums Aaron and David Requiro. Olson will reunite with his former teacher at The Crowden School, pianist and composer Arkadi Serper, to perform a program of Stravinsky, Prokofiev, and Grieg.

Crowden’s *Sundays @ Four* chamber music series presents internationally-respected artists in casual and intimate concerts. Artists speak about each work and composer, revealing their personal inspirations and insights, and mingle with the audience in free receptions following the concerts. General admission tickets will be available for \$15 at the door only, and as always at Crowden, children 18 and under attend free.

March 23: John Adams Young Composers Program Guest Lecture with Ryan Brown

Crowden’s John Adams Young Composers Program welcomes the broader community into the classroom for a free guest lecture by composer and electric

guitarist/bassist **Ryan Brown** on **March 23, 4:30pm**. Currently a graduate fellow at Princeton University and a fellow in Brooklyn Philharmonic's Composer Mentoring program, Brown has local roots as a graduate of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and co-founder of San Francisco's annual Switchboard Music Festival. He has received an Emerging Composer Award from the Gerbode and Hewlett Foundations, and his upcoming premieres and commissions include works for janus, the Paul Drescher Ensemble, and the Brooklyn Philharmonic.

Brown will play his own music, workshop John Adams Young Composers Program student scores, and give his audience a window into the world of new music from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. This special event is free to the general public at Crowden.

About the Crowden Music Center

The **Crowden Music Center** in North Berkeley serves as a vital community hub for classical music in the Bay Area, with more than 6,000 individuals attending music classes, private lessons, summer camps, workshops, rehearsals, concerts, and other events onsite each year. The Center provides rich musical learning experiences to the Bay Area through two educational divisions, **Crowden Center for Music in the Community** and **The Crowden School** for grades four through eight. Our mission is to combine music and education to nurture, develop, and inspire students of all ages, and to provide essential support for the musical life of the community.

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Editors Please Note:

- Artists and composers are available for interview! Please contact Jen Strauss at press@crowden.org or 415.297.8980 with inquiries.
- High res photos are available by request; please send requests to Jen Strauss at press@crowden.org or 415.297.8980.
- More information about Crowden's John Adams Young Composers Program may be found at:
 - http://crowden.org/CCMC/Programs/fall_spring.htm#YoungComposers
 - <http://crowden.org/About%20Us/PressReleases/Announcing%20the%20John%20Adams%20Young%20Composers%20Program.pdf>
- More information about Crowden's Sundays @ Four chamber music series may be found at:
 - <http://crowden.org/Events/sundays.htm>
- Nathan Olson bio: <http://crowden.org/Events/sundays.htm#nathan>
- Arkadi Serper bio: <http://www.arkadiserper.com/Biography>
- Ryan Brown bio: http://www.ryanbrownmusic.com/Ryan_Brown%3A_Bio.html

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Calendar Editors Please Note:

What: John Adams Young Composers Program Faculty Concert: "In Debussy's Footsteps"

When: March 20, 2010, 7:00 pm

Who: Harpist Natalie Cox, flutist Alice Lenaghan, and violist/composer Katrina Wreede perform works by Alexis Alrich, Molly Axtmann, Allan Crossman, Dean Curtis, John King, Arkadi Serper, Clark Suprynowicz, Yiorgos Vassilandonakis and Katrina Wreede.

Where: Crowden Music Center

1475 Rose Street (@ Sacramento)

Berkeley, CA 94702

Program: New works by Alexis Alrich, Molly Axtmann, Allan Crossman, Dean Curtis, John King, Arkadi Serper, Clark Suprynowicz, Yiorgos Vassilandonakis and Katrina Wreede.

Admission: \$15 general admission at the door; FREE for children 18 and under

Info: info@crowden.org; 510.559.6910; www.crowden.org

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What: Crowden Music Center's Sundays @ Four: Alumni Concert

When: March 21, 2010, 4:00 pm

Who: Nathan Olson, violin, and Arkadi Serper, piano

Where: Crowden Music Center

1475 Rose Street (@ Sacramento)

Berkeley, CA 94702S

Program: Stravinsky Suite Italienne; Ysaye Sonata No. 1 for Solo Violin, Op. 27, No. 1; Prokofiev Five Melodies for Violin and Piano, Op. 35bis; Grieg Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano in C minor, Op. 45

Admission: \$15 general admission tickets (at the door); FREE for children 18 and under

Info: info@crowden.org; 510.559.6910; www.crowden.org

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What: John Adams Young Composers Program Guest Lecture

When: March 23, 2010, 4:30–6:30pm

Who: Composer Ryan Brown

Where: Crowden Music Center

1475 Rose Street (@ Sacramento)

Berkeley, CA 94702

Program: Composer Ryan Brown will play his own music, workshop student scores, and give a window into the new music world.

Admission: FREE to the general public

Info: info@crowden.org; 510.559.6910; www.crowden.org

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