A COMPOSER’S MASTERCLASS

JOHN STEINMETZ

BASSOON

KATZIN CONCERT HALL
Saturday, November 1, 2003 • 7:30 p.m.
A Composer's Masterclass

John Steinmetz is a freelance bassoonist in Los Angeles. He is the principal for Los Angeles Opera and the Los Angeles Master Chorale, a member of the chamber groups XTET and Camerata Pacifica, and he contributes bassoon and contrabassoon sound to movie soundtracks. In summertime he plays at the Oregon Bach Festival and the Skaneateles Festival (upstate New York) and teaches at the Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music (New Hampshire). He has made three tours of Spain with the Bill Douglas Group.

John’s composition One and Many was commissioned for the Apple Hill Chamber Players to perform with children and guest instrumentalists; since its New York premiere, the piece has traveled to Harlem, Providence, Boston, Keene (NH), Los Angeles, and London, and it was a focal point of the Chamber Players’ annual “Playing for Peace” tour of Middle East countries. His most recent compositions are Simple Pleasures, commissioned for the 40th anniversary of the South Bay Chamber Series, and Concerto for bassoon and orchestra, commissioned by the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the Keene Chamber Orchestra, and the Santa Rosa Symphony.

John has helped to design new concert formats for the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, XTET, the Oregon Back Festival, and Pacific Classical Winds. As an education consultant to computer and record companies, he has written about old and new technologies for learning and expression. “What are These Things Good For Anyway? (Computers in Elementary School)” was used in national policy discussions. “Change and Creativity,” co-authored with fellow researchers at Apple Computer's Learning Concepts Group, considers a new approach to learning. His article “Resuscitating Art Music,” about the predicament of concert music in America, has been widely reprinted. Naxos records recently published his booklet “How to Enjoy a Live Concert.”

John has been a keynote speaker at the National Conference on Piano Pedagogy and the annual conference of Americans for the Arts, and a featured speaker at Chamber Music America’s national conference. Graduate students at the University of Oklahoma instigated his weeklong residency titled “Enlivening Live Music,” and at Miami University of Ohio he spoke on “Music and Peacemaking.”

He is a board member of the Chamber Music America and the Pasadena Waldorf School. John lives at El Ranchito de Nuestra Señora, Reina de Los Altos Gastos, in Altadena, California, with his violinist wife, Kazi Pitelka, and their two children.

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In respect for the performers and those audience members around you, please turn all beepers, cell phones, watches to their silent mode. Thank you.
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