

*The University of Alberta Department of Music presents:*

# MUSIC AT WINSPEAR



## **World Music Showcase**

Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 8:00 pm

Winspear Centre for the Arts



DEPARTMENT OF  
**MUSIC**  
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## Program

### World Music Showcase Featuring Ghanaian Art Music Ensemble, West African Music Ensemble, Indian Music Ensemble, and Middle Eastern & North African Music Ensemble

*Midi Yesu Kristo* Kenn Kafui

*M'Asomdwee Ndi Hene*

*Mida Akpe Na Mawu*

*Dark Sunset: Kwadzo the Deviant*

Wisdom Komabu

Performed by the Ghanaian Art Music Ensemble

*Sovu*

*Gahu*

*Gota*

Performed by the West African Music Ensemble

Modern rendition of the *Indian National Anthem*

*Prabhujī*

*Raga Maarū Bihag*

*Raga Malkauns*

*Vande Mātaram*

Performed by the Indian Music Ensemble

#### -Intermission-

*Assis Wara (Snip Paper)*

A. Rahbani & M. Rahbani  
(1923-1986) (1925-2009)

*Taqsim*

*Ya Mahla al-Fusha (What a Beautiful Walk by the Seaside)*

*Mugham Bayati Shiraz*

poetry by S. Ezim Shirvani  
(1836-1888)

*Getme Getme Gel (Don't Leave, Don't Leave, Come)*

S. Rustamov (1907-1983)

*Shoore Asheghaneh (Passion of Love)*

M. NeyDavood

(1900-1990)

F. Moshiri

(1926-2001)

A. Nini (b. 1969)

*Mizmor Laila (Night Song)*

*Taqsim*

*Hibbina (Love us)*

F. al-Atrash (1917-1974)

*Longa Kurdili Hijaz Kar*

G. Baktagir

Performed by the Middle Eastern & North African Music Ensemble

## *Program Notes*

**Ghanaian art music** composers draw musical inspiration from an array of musical resources in Ghana and around the world. Composers in modern Ghanaian universities follow in the footsteps of the earliest Ghanaian art music composers such as Ephraim Amu and Kwabena Nketia while drawing musical inspiration from indigenous traditions and other composers including Beethoven, Handel and Stockhausen. Church choirs and instrumental ensembles such as the Ghana National Symphony Orchestra regularly perform art music in Ghana today.

**Kenn Kafui** is currently a lecturer in music at the University of Ghana where he completed his studies in musical composition. A composer of many styles of instrumental and choral music, Kafui often incorporates indigenous rhythms, melodies and instruments into his works along with twentieth century techniques such as serialism. Kafui is the musical director at a number of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches in the Accra area. Choral works such as the three presented here are well known throughout Ghana today.

A recent graduate of the University of Cape Coast, **Wisdom Komabu** grew up in Tegbi in the Volta Region of Ghana. Komabu had no formal music training prior to taking music and composition courses in Cape Coast but began studies in keyboard and organ playing at the age of 17 through his church choir. *Dark Sunset: Kwadzo the Deviant* incorporates rhythms and pentatonic scales typical of the Ewe people and is one of his few instrumental compositions. Komabu explains that *Dark Sunset* is about a man “who goes contrary to the norms of the society and does not heed advice until he eventually kicks the bucket.”

- program notes by Patrick Smith

## *Ghanaian Art Music Performers*

Amanda Alstad	Violin
Arlan Vriens	Violin
Darrell Soetaert	Viola
Patrick Smith	Cello
Jessica McMillan	Flute
Christa Eriksson	Oboe
Christopher Mann	Clarinet
Silken Conradi	Kagan
Roy Wang	Axatse
Yodit Tesfamicael	Slap stick
Matt Peters	Gankogui
Satomi Tozawa	Piano
Tendai Muparuts	Drums

Vocalists: Irene Apanovitch, Andrea Vogel, Matthew Knight, Ben Doleac, James Frobb

The **West African Music Ensemble** studies the polyphonic and polyrhythmic music of West Africa with particular focus on the Music of Ewe people of Ghana, Togo and Benin. This music combines song, dance, and percussion. As each component is crucial to the experience of Ewe music, all members participate as dancers, singers, and drummers. Founded in the fall of 1999 by Michael Frishkopf, the West African Music Ensemble is regularly featured in the Centre for Ethnomusicology's “World Music Sampler” and the University of Alberta International Week as well as occasional special events. The Ensemble is fortunate to own a complete set of authentic West African instruments for use by registered members of the group.

**Robert Kpogo, Instructor**

**Dr. Wisdom Agorde, Instructor**

**Tendai Muparutsa, Teaching Assistant**

**Ananda Doram, Volunteer Assistant**

**Chakanaka Zimyemba, Volunteer Assistant**

### ***West African Music Ensemble Performers***

Sharon Brakwah	Janelle Hookenson
Silken Conradi	Jiaying (Yoyo) You
Matt Peters	Zhuojian (Roy) Wang
Ching (Daniel) Lin	Elsa Robinson
Yodit Tesfamichael	

### ***West African Music Ensemble Dances***

Sovu was originally a dynamic music of spiritual consecration used to clear away material distractions in preparation for worship and possession. Several episodes were combined from this style into a consecutive suite of dances segments to make an exciting performance piece.

Gahu/agahu was created by the Egun speaking people of Benin. Its popularity spread to the Badagry area of Nigeria where Ewe fishermen encountered it and shared it, with their people upon return to Ghana. In the language of the creators, Gahu/agahu means "airplane," in reference to an event that occurred during its inaugural performance. As the Gahu/Agahu spread, it has collected song texts in many languages including, Egun, Yoruba, Ewe, French, and English.

Gota was originally a dance for medicine men of the ancient kingdom of Dahomey, now Benin, in West Africa. Today, Gota is performed for social entertainment. The synchronized stops and starts of the drums and dancers lend the dance an air of suspense and excitement.

- program notes by Robert Kpogo

### ***Indian Music Ensemble***

Modern rendition of the ***Indian National Anthem*** Composed by Oscar Award winner A.R. Rehman to celebrate 50 years of the Indian Republic. It is a melodic and mesmerizing creation.

***Prabhujī*** A Soulful bhajan by Ravi Shankar and George Harrison. A beautiful composition in hindi which says: Divine being, have mercy on me. Come, reside in my heart. Without you, I feel an emptiness. Fill up my hollow entity with love. I don't know the rituals, chants, and prayers. I just know that I believe in you. I searched the whole world for you. Now, please come, take my hand and lead me.

***Raga Maarū Bihag*** "Maru-Bihag" is an evening raga which evokes a mood of tenderness of a suppressed longing of a lover. It is serene, with dignity and yet throbbing with deep emotion.

***Raga Malkauns*** A famous composition of Shehenai Mastro Bismillah Khan. Malkauns is a majestic raga in a pentatonic scale. The raga is also believed to have supernatural powers.

***Vande Mataram*** A modern dance on A.R. Rahman's version of Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's "Vande Mataram" composition.

### ***Indian Music Ensemble***

**Directed by Sharmila Mathur**

The Indian Music Ensemble studies the rich tradition of classical Indian music through group instruction and performance. Members learn the basics of raga (melody) and tala (rhythm) through instruction in singing, tabla (drums), or sitar (plucked lute). Members of the ensemble have the opportunity to attend many workshops with internationally renowned guest artists. The Indian Music Ensemble is regularly featured in the Centre for Ethnomusicology's "World Music Sampler" and the University of Alberta International Week, as well as occasional special events. Rental instruments are available to registered students.

The Indian Music Ensemble is a course available for University credits.  
For more information please contact Sharmila Mathur at  
sharmila.mathur@ualbeta.ca

**Instructors:**

**Nikhil Rao, Tabla**  
**Sabita Chaudhry, Voice**  
**Sharmila Mathur, Sitar**  
**Karim Gillani, Teaching Assistant**

***Indian Music Ensemble Performers***

Chohan, Parneet	Sitar, Dance
Atluri, Annapoorna	Sitar, Voice
Jordan, Mardhika	Sitar, Voice
Malhotra, Harina Lucky	Sitar, Dance, Voice
Sokil, Allison	Voice, Dance
Song, Hui	Voice, Dance
Nasim, Khalida	Sitar
Shostak, Nicholas Kirk	Tabla, Voice
Sparkes, Julie-Anne Maureen	Voice, Dance
Karathra, Jacqueline	Dance
Nagarajan, Shivangi	Dance
Sen, Debjyoti	Piano, Keyboard
Patel, Jeevan	Sitar, Voice
Venkatsubbaiah, Malavika	Dance
Joshi, Ojas	Tabla
Karim Gillani	Voice
Chaudhry, Sabita	Voice
Rao, Nikhil	Tabla
Mathur, Sharmila	Sitar
Keller, Garry	Guitar

***Middle Eastern and North African Music Ensemble***

***Assiss Wara (Snip Paper)***, in Maqam Hijaz. Composed by Assi Rahbani (1923-1986) and Mansur Rahbani (1925-2009), arr. Ziad Rahbani (b. 1956), all Lebanese. This Arabic song is drawn from the Rahbani brothers' musical play Nass Men Warak (People of Paper), featuring Lebanese diva Fairouz (b. 1935). The musical is one of many collaborations between the brothers and Fairouz. Assi Rahbani married Fairouz; their son Ziad Rahbani, who has also composed extensively for his mother, works at the vanguard of the Arab contemporary music scene today. (A maqam is a musical mode, providing scalar as well as melodic material to the musical creator, whether composer or improviser. Known as makam in Turkey, dastgah in Iran, mugham in Azerbaijan, and tab' in North Africa, the maqam phenomenon is widespread throughout the Middle East and North African region.)

***Taqsim*** Maqam Hijaz to Nahawand. Violin solos by Nadir Bellahmer and Ari Flevaris Mastoras, kamanja (violin). A taqsim is a modal improvisation, the musical form best suited to expressing the subtle essence of the maqam. This interstitial taqsim connects two modes, Hijaz, and Nahawand, by starting on the former and ending on the latter, thus providing a tonal link between the two songs on either side.

***Ya Mabla al-Fusha (what a beautiful walk by the seaside)*** Maqam Nahawand and Nawa Athar. This folksong, revived by George Fahd in the 1970s, represents traditional Syrian folklore from the coastal city of Latakia. Our arrangement derives from a performance by Syrian singer Lena Chamamyan, of Damascus, who revives Syrian folklore in a modern, jazz-inflected style. Featuring Rana El Kadi (voice) and instrumental solos from Ross Campbell, Lauren Kascak, Ari Flevaris Mastoras, Nadir Bellahmer, Patrick Smith, Mary Zhou, and Justin Watt.

***Mugham Bayati Shiraz*** Azerbaijani-style improvisation on the tar (long-necked lute) and voice, featuring a poem by Seyyed Ezim Shirvani (1836-1888). Mugham provides a means of spiritual expression, based on Erfan (gnosis), Sufism, and love. The singer sings a poem freely, normally accompanied normally by tar and kamancheh (bowed fiddle). Featuring Ali Hamraz (tar) and Farid Vaezi (vocals).

***Getme Getme Gel (Don't leave, Don't leave, Come)*** Lyrics from Azerbaijani folklore; music by Said Rustamov, an Azerbaijani composer who was born in Erivan-Azerbaijan (formerly part of Azerbaijan, now located in Armenia), in 1907, and died in Baku (Azerbaijan) in 1983. Rustamov studied with the most well-known Azerbaijani music and opera composer, Uzeyir Hajibeyov. The song, likely composed in the 1960s, has been performed by three famous singers: Shovkat Alakbarova (1922-1993), from Baku, Rubaba Muradova (1930-1983), from Ardabil, and Alim Qasimov (1957- ), from a small town close to Baku. In 2009 Qasimov, recipient of the 1999 IMC-UNESCO music prize, performed this song with his daughter, Ferghana Qasimova, and the Kronos Quartet. The song depicts a lover beseeching his beloved not to leave him. Featuring Farid Vaezi.

***Shoore Asheghaneh (Passion of Love)*** Dastgah Bayât Esfahân. Melody by Morteza NeyDavood (1900-1990); poetry by Freydoon Moshiri (1926-2001). This tasnif, or Persian metric song, says "I'm drunk on the memory of you, O heavenly friend..." Featuring Kioumars Pourhaydari (voice) and Shabnam Vatanpour (tonbak).

***Mizmor Laila (Night Song)*** Composed in 1993 by Achinoam Nini (born 1969, Israel); Hebrew lyrics by Leah Goldberg, 1911-1970 (Russia/Israel). In this song the darkness of the desert night, followed by the brightness of the morning, provides emotional healing for a person's heart. The composition is influenced by the heritage of Achinoam Nini, who was born in Israel to Yemeni parents, then moved to New York City early in her childhood. Featuring Ben Ragosin (vocals and guitar), with drum solos by Shabnam Vatanpour and Steven Byrne.

***Taqsim*** in maqam Hijaz, performed by Abdelhadi Ouajdouni on the oud (fretless lute)

***Hibbina (Love us)***, in maqam Hijaz. This song was composed and performed by one of the great stars of 20th century Arab music, the Syrian-Egyptian Farid al-Atrash (1917 – 1974), who spent much of his life in Cairo. Farid was not only a singer and composer, but a prodigiously accomplished oud player—known as “king of the oud”—as well, and an actor who starred in over 30 musical films. The song says: “Love us! Love us! We loved you, so love us! If we had not loved your eyes, we wouldn't have suffered, and we would not have come.” Featuring Tony Abinader (vocals) and Chris Schneider (dance).

***Longa Kurdili Hijaz Kar***, in maqam Kurdili Hijaz Kar. The longa is a standard instrumental form of Ottoman music, usually based in a rapid duple meter. This particular longa was composed in 1966 by Goksel Baktagir, who also composed over 140 songs. Baktagir is also one of Turkey's best kanun (plucked zither) players. Featuring Mary Zhou on clarinet.

- program notes by Michael Frishkopf

### ***Middle Eastern & North African Music Ensemble:***

**Michael Frishkopf, Director**

**Ben Doleac, Teaching Assistant**

Abinader, Tony	Voice	Piwowarczyk, Magda	Percussion
Azari, Hossein	Voice	Poorhaydari, Kioumars	Tombak,
Bellahmer, Nadir	Violin		Daf, Voice
Brocks, Dion	Bass guitar	Ragosin, Ben	Guitar
Byrne, Steven	Percussion	Saidane, Nariman	Voice
Campbell, Ross	Violin	Sapsuwan, Peewara	Violin
Cansev, Saki	Nay	Schneider, Chris	Percussion,
Cobb, Caitlin	Percussion		Dance
Darichuk, Karrie	Voice	Shaban, Nada	Voice
Doleac, Ben	Guitar, Voice	Shostak, Nick	Electric
El Kadi, Rana	Voice		Guitar
Flevaris Mastoras, Ari	Violin	Shubeita, Mona	Voice
Frishkopf, Michael	Org	Smith, Patrick	Cello
Hamraz, Ali	Tar	Sokil, Allison	Voice
Jorati, Amin	Voice	Steenstrup, Martha	Percussion
Kascak, Lauren	Violin, Sax	Subeh, Ibrahim	Voice
Knight, Matthew	Mandolin	Vaezi, Farid	Voice
Mattar, Raek (Rick)	Tabla	Vatanpour, Shabnam	Tombak
McVea, Mahshid	Tombak	Waissi, Hoshyar	Daff,
McVea, Rojine	Percussion		Voice
Nassar, Usama	Bongos	Watt, Justina	Trumpet
Nassif, Rawane	Voice, Daff	Zhou, Mary	Clarinet
Nizar, Ali	Tabla		
Ouajdouni, Abdelhadi	Oud		

Tonight's concert was sponsored by the **University of Alberta Department of Music**, and the **Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology**. The U of A World Music Ensembles are courses available for University credit. For more information, please contact Michael Frishkopf (michaelf@ualberta.ca), or visit [www.music.ualberta.ca](http://www.music.ualberta.ca).

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## DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

PLEASE VISIT [WWW.MUSIC.UALBERTA.CA](http://WWW.MUSIC.UALBERTA.CA) FOR FURTHER DETAILS

The *Concert Choir* presents **Sacred and Profane**: a varied program ranging from sacred art works and Nordic masters to profane pieces by Australian, British and Canadian composers on **Friday, April 8 at 8pm in Convocation Hall**. Admission by donation.

Catch the *Concert Band* live in concert one last time during the 2010/11 year! **Sunday, April 10 at 2pm** in Convocation Hall. Admission by donation.

The *XiME* (experimental improv ensemble) partners with the *Jen Mesch Dance Conspiracy* on **Monday April 11, at 8pm in Studio 27**, Fine Arts Building, University campus. Free and open to the public!

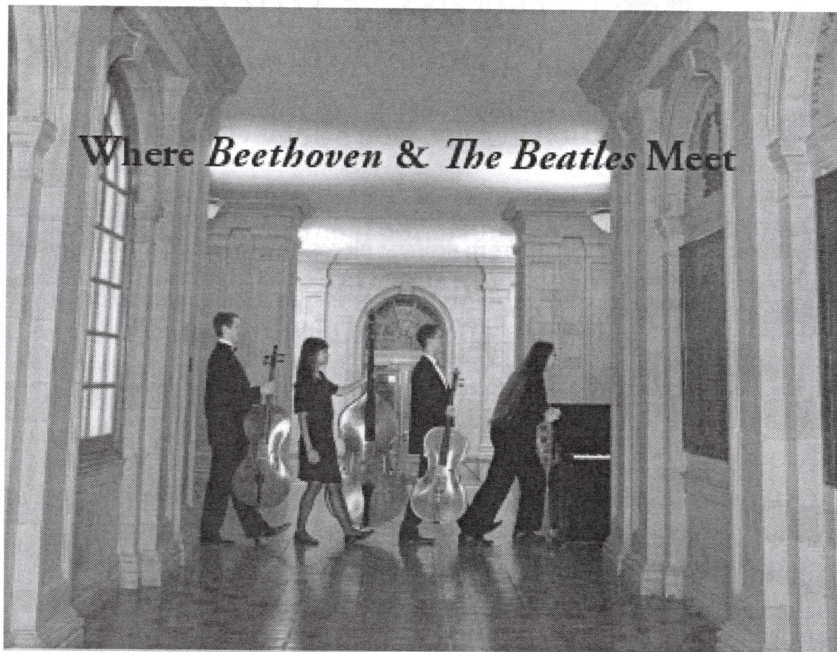
The students of Music 445 present their final *electroacoustic concert* of the season. **Tuesday, April 12 at 12pm** in Studio 27, Fine Arts Building, University campus. Free and open to the public!

The students of Music 260 present their final *composition concert* of the season. **Wednesday, April 13 at 12pm** in Studio 27, Fine Arts Building, University campus. Free and open to the public!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE  
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THE 2010/11 SEASON.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU  
AGAIN NEXT YEAR!

Where *Beethoven & The Beatles* Meet

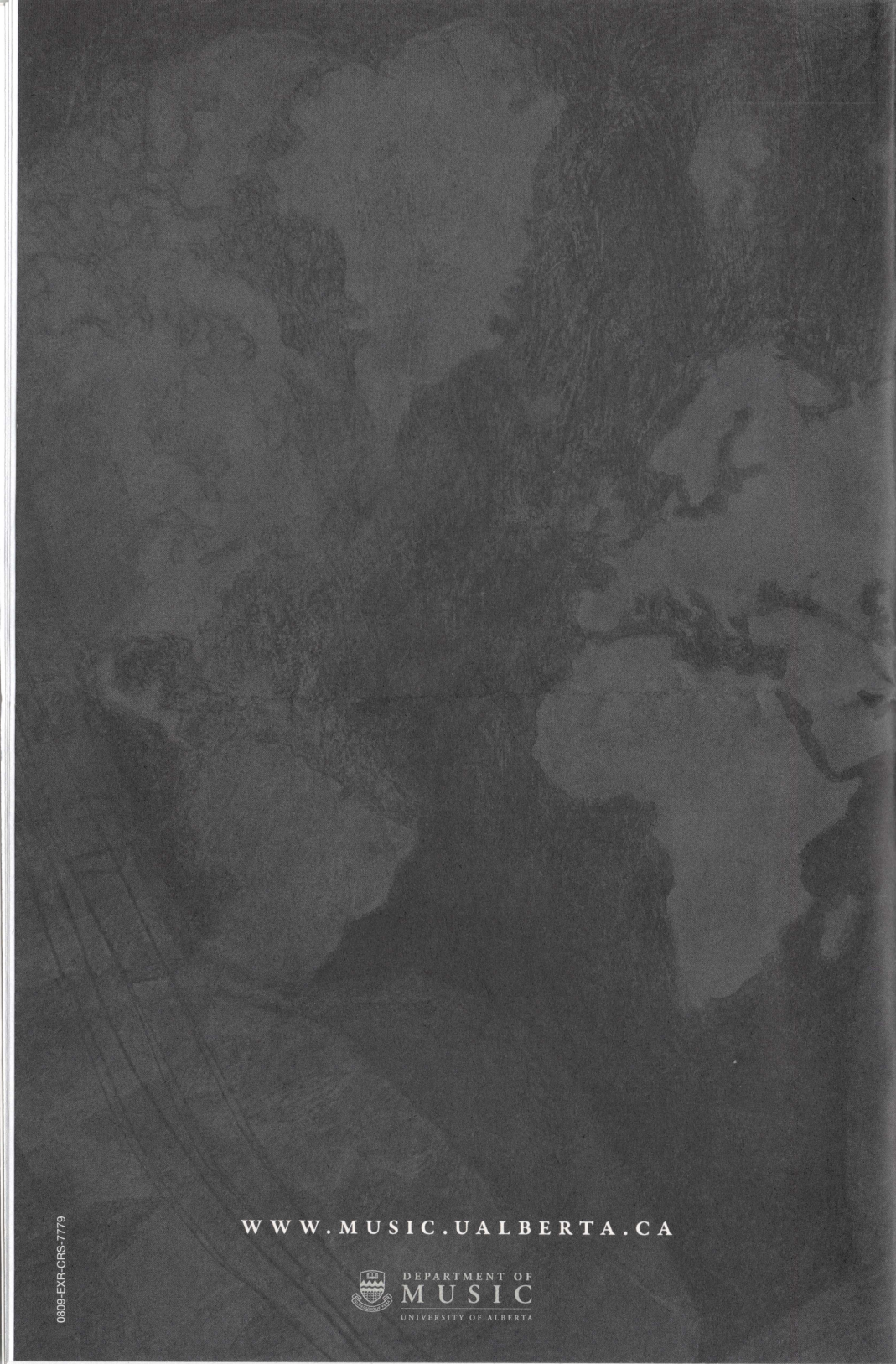


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