

Spring 2004

- I. Ford Amphitheatre Summer Season Opens May 29
 - Big!World!Fun! family series features “Adventures” theme
 - Evenings rooted in traditional cultures of Asia are part of a record 17 dance performances slated for Ford stage
 - Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra makes Ford debut in “Just Jazz” series
 - The piano featured in classical series
- II. The Ford in your e-mailbox
- III. Latino Audience Initiative spurs audience growth at the Ford
 - Latino offerings expanded in Ford’s 2004 theatre lineup
- IV. Artists Town Hall and Arts Tune Up set for June 19
- V. It’s Better with a Band: the Arts Commission expands its Musicians Roster
- VI. Free concerts in June
- VII. Holiday Celebration 2004 applications due August 11
- VIII. Los Angeles County Arts Interns explore L.A.

FORD AMPHITHEATRE SUMMER SEASON OPENS MAY 29

The historic open air Ford Amphitheatre, operated by the Arts Commission, hosts an impressive range of premier local and international performing arts, film and family events that will appeal to the urban adventurer and diverse Los Angeles audiences this 2004 season. The line-up features performances rooted in cultures from Korea to Peru, from Los Angeles to Ireland, from Appalachia to the Middle East, and spotlights major talent in both U.S. and world premieres.

The season, which runs from May 29 to October 31, encompasses 87 performances of 76 different events over 22 weeks. This season’s opening event is “Brazil, Women Sing For Life” (May 29), a powerful music benefit for battered women in Brazil featuring, directly from Brazil, electrifying diva **Elba Ramalho**, influential leader of Brazil’s Northeastern music. Also on the bill: Grammy Nominee **Flora Purim**, **Katia Moraes**, **Sonia Santos**, **Ana Gazzola**, Flora’s daughter **Diana** and special guests **Krishna Booker** and percussionist **Airto Moreira**. (Complete event information <http://www.fordamphitheatre.org/en/info/Brazwomenrel.asp>)

Complete 2004 season information and tickets are available at the bilingual (English/Spanish) Ford web site, www.fordamphitheatre.org or the Ford box office, **323 GO 1-FORD** (461-3673).

Big!World!Fun! family series features “Adventures” theme

A whole summer’s worth of family arts adventures begins at the Ford Amphitheatre June 5. Each of the 12 events on the Big!World!Fun! Adventures Series represents an exploratory expedition to a different place, culture and/or time in history. When children and parents arrive at the Ford Amphitheatre they will receive their very own **Adventure Club Books** to track their adventures and win prizes. The series’ finale is the Ford’s first family film night on Friday, September 3 featuring a rare opportunity to see the **Oscar-winning film of 1956**,

Around the World in 80 Days, on the big screen and participate in a pre-screening treasure hunt on the Ford grounds.

Children are admitted FREE to Big!World!Fun! events. Accompanying adults pay \$5. Reservations are strongly recommended and can be made by calling the Ford Box Office, (323) GO 1- FORD (461-3673). Complete schedule:

<http://www.fordamphitheatre.org/en/performance/Family.asp>

Evenings rooted in traditional cultures of Asia are part of a record 17 dance performances slated for Ford stage

The Ford's first evening programs based on cultures of India, Japan and Korea are featured on the dance series. **Rangoli Foundation for Art & Culture** presents the world premiere of "Planting a Sequoia" (September 11), a piece influenced by traditional Indian dance choreographed by Malathi Iyengar and based on a poem by Dana Gioia. **Rei Aoo's Dance Planet** and the taiko drum group **Satori Daiko** collaborate in the U.S. premiere of Aoo's "Origins" (August 28). **Kim, Eung Hwa Korean Dance Academy** is joined by the internationally renowned drum group **Samulnori** for a program of traditional Korean dance and drumming (October 8).

2004 is a record-setting year with 17 performances of 14 dance events including **seven world and U.S. premieres**. Two artists from Spain who were big hits on the 2003 Ford Amphitheatre season return with new works this year. Barcelona-based **Marta Carrasco** (lauded by the L.A. Times for "Firewater" last year at the Ford) performs the U.S. premiere of "Blanc D'Ombra/White in the Shadow" (June 25), a harrowing portrayal of sculptor Camille Claudel. **Domingo Ortega** (named "a percussive genius" by the L.A. Times) stages the world premiere of "Orfeo/Orpheus" (Oct 1-2), a flamenco version of the Orpheus legend. **Floricanto Dance Theatre** and Latin fusion band **Quetzal**, two of L.A.'s leading Latino artists, discover links between Chicano culture and African-influenced dance and music from Veracruz in the world premiere of "Fandango Without Borders" (June 11-12).

Complete dance schedule and selected video clips:

<http://www.fordamphitheatre.org/en/performance/Dance.asp>

Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra debuts at the Ford in "Just Jazz" series

The Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra (CHJO), which was the resident jazz orchestra for the Los Angeles Philharmonic from 1998 to 2001 and was named "Downbeat" magazine's best big band for 2003, will present three Sunday evening jazz concerts at the Ford Amphitheatre this summer. The concert series represents the Ford debut of the orchestra, headed by bassist **John Clayton**, reed player **Jeff Clayton** and drummer **Jeff Hamilton**. The first concert on June 27 features guest vocalists **Barbara Morrison** and **Ernie Andrews**. More jazz info:

<http://www.fordamphitheatre.org/en/performance/Jazz.asp>

The piano featured in classical series

For the first time, the Ford Amphitheatre Summer Season features a piano recital. The Ford Theatre Foundation presents Van Cliburn competition winner **Jon Nakamatsu** (August 27). In addition, two distinguished pianists appear on the Foundation's Chamber Music Under the Stars series: **Claude Frank** guests with the **Calder Quartet** (September 13) in the Schumann Piano

Quintet and **Bernadene Blaha** performs in works of Mozart, Smetana and Brahms with the **Blaha-Taylor-Leonard Piano Trio** (August 9).

Complete classical and pops schedule:

<http://www.fordamphitheatre.org/en/performance/Classical.asp>

THE FORD IN YOUR E-MAILBOX

The best way to keep abreast of Ford summer season events is to join its email list. Simply go the Ford's web site homepage – www.fordamphitheatre.org - and sign up. Email communications include previews of Ford events, updates on programming and special offers.

The web site itself is a treasure trove of information and it's open 24/7! The web site is much more than a schedule. Visit any time to get directions and parking information, sample performances via audio/video clips, peruse mouth-watering box dinner menus or learn more about Ford artists/events through press releases, recent press coverage and hot links.

LATINO AUDIENCE INITIATIVE SPURS AUDIENCE GROWTH AT THE FORD

In 2002 the Ford Theatre Foundation, the not-for-profit organization that works with the Arts Commission to support activities presented at the John Anson Ford Theatres, undertook a three-year Latino Arts Initiative (LAI) with major support from the James Irvine Foundation. An analysis completed at the end of the second year shows that there has been significant audience growth at the Ford. Among the report highlights:

A total of 41 performances and 5 play reading sessions featuring the work of Latino artists were presented at the Ford during the summer 2003 season attracting audiences of nearly 23,000. This represents a six-fold increase in activity from the summer 2001 season. It also represents 46% of the total summer event activity at the Ford and 41% of the Ford's total audience.

Summer 2003 box office revenues increased 50% from 2002. A large portion of the increase was directly attributable to a larger total number of events, the majority of which featured Latino artists who had been attracted to the Ford as a result of the Latino Audience Initiative efforts.

More information about the Latino Arts Initiative and a copy of a summary of the report are available at <http://www.fordamphitheatre.org/en/foundation/latino.asp>.

Latino offerings expanded in Ford's 2004 theatre lineup

The Ford Theatre Foundation has increased its Latino theatre offerings of both evening performances and afternoon playreadings/works-in-progress for the 2004 Ford Amphitheatre Summer Season.

For the first time the Foundation has partnered with the International Latino Theatre Festival of L.A. (FITLA) to present two of Latin America's most provocative theatre companies in the Ford's 87-seat indoor theatre, [Inside] the Ford: **Yuyachkani Company of Peru** presents the West Coast premiere of "Antigona/ Antigone," an adaptation of the Greek tragedy seen through contemporary Peruvian eyes (October 21-24). **Malayerba Company of Ecuador** offers the West Coast premiere of "*De Como Moria Y Resu-citaba Lazaro, El Lazarillo*" / *Of the Deaths & Resurrections of Lazarus, The Lazarillo*, the story of a child's cruel journey, (October 28-31).

The Yuyachkani company's run also marks the opening of FITLA's annual festival. Both productions are presented in Spanish with projected English titles.

The Foundation expands its FREE playreading/works-in-progress from 5 events in 2003 to 11 in 2004. That schedule includes readings of new works by L.A.'s established and emerging playwrights (Saturdays, June 5 – August 7) and "They Shoot Mexicans, Don't They?" (August 14 & 21), a workshop production that explores the encounter between early Hollywood and L.A./Southwest Latino cultures by **About Productions**.

Complete theatre schedule: <http://www.fordamphitheatre.org/en/performance/Theatre.asp>

ARTISTS TOWN HALL AND ARTS TUNE UP SET FOR JUNE 19

A FREE Artists Town Hall and Arts Tune Up, to be held on Saturday, June 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Noguchi Plaza and in the Japan America Theatre in downtown Los Angeles by the Center for Cultural Innovation, will be a veritable bazaar of arts information and services.

Arts advocates and service providers will offer an update on the current state of the arts in Los Angeles, including current information from the Cultural Affairs Department and Leveraging Investments in Creativity, an initiative to support the work of individual artists. Participants can learn how organizations can get involved with the National Arts Marketing Program, which is establishing a program here in L.A., about affordable business training, coaching and counseling, grants and loans for artists, and about a new program that provides collateral for bridge loans for artists and arts organizations.

Information will also be available on membership programs that provide Benefit Opportunities for Artists, including affordable health and dental insurance and health care savings networks, credit unions, and a full menu of other benefits and discounts from partners such as AT&T Wireless, Budget Rent A Car, American Airlines, and Pennywise Office Products.

Arts Tune Up participants will be able to learn more about the status of grants for local arts organizations, public art programs, marketing, gallery opportunities, and arts education programs. Information about the Executive Service Corps' *Art Reach* program, the Center for Non Profit Management's Loan Collateral Pool, and the Center for Cultural Innovation's free and low-cost entrepreneurial training workshops will also be available.

Reservations are appreciated before June 8, 2004. Walk-up clients are also welcome to attend. Reservations and additional information are available on-line at www.cci2002.org or by calling **310 815-8011**.

The event schedule is as follows: Registration 9:30 a.m.; Informational Program-10– 11 a.m.; Arts Tune Up and Arts Business / Health Fair 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The plaza and theatre are located at 244 South San Pedro Street in Little Tokyo.

The Arts Commission is one of the sponsors of this event.

IT'S BETTER WITH A BAND: THE ARTS COMMISSION EXPANDS ITS MUSICIANS ROSTER

Trying to find quality music for a wedding, bar mitzvah, anniversary or other special occasion? Simply log on to http://www.lacountyarts.org/musicians_roster.html. This online directory of Los Angeles County-based musicians was recently expanded. The 100 groups on the roster were selected by a panel of experienced and respected professionals in the music and/or presenting fields. The roster is searchable by music style and name of artist and features audio clips. Photos, background and contact information are also provided. The roster was established for presenters of the Arts Commission's Free Concerts in Public Sites to select ensembles for their events, but anyone can discover the impressive musical resources of the County by using the directory.

Log onto the Musicians Roster to hear sound clips of any of the groups performing free concerts on the list below.

FREE CONCERTS IN JUNE

The Arts Commission sponsors free concerts at community venues throughout Los Angeles County to provide residents access to quality music programming. Free concerts in the month of June include:

Friday, 6.04.04, 8:00pm – 10:00pm

Great Notes Chamber Duo (Classical)

Sierra Madre Public Library, 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024, (626) 355.7186

Saturday, 6.05.04, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Orquesta Charangoa (Latin Charanga)

Watts Labor Community Action Committee, 10950 South Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90059, (323) 357.3534

Saturday, 6.05.04, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

West Hollywood Orchestra (Classical)

7th Annual Art & Design Walk, Melrose at San Vicente, West Hollywood, CA 90069, (310) 289.2534

Sunday, 6.06.04, 1:45pm – 3:15pm

Bobby Matos & his Afro Latin Jazz Band (Latin Jazz)

7th Annual SoRo Festival, Robertson Blvd between Beverlywood St. & Cattaraugus, Los Angeles, CA 90035.

Sunday, 6.13.04, 4:00pm – 6:00pm

Eric Vincent & The Diamond Cutters (Pop/Rock)

Richard Rioux Memorial Park, 26233 W. Faulkner Dr., Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381, (661) 222.9536

Saturday, 6.19.04, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Leslie Drayton Big Band (Jazz)

Annual Los Angeles Juneteenth Celebration, William Grant Still Arts Center, 2520 West View St., Los Angeles, CA 90016, (323) 734.1164

Wednesday, 6.23.04, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Kourosh Zolani (Persian santur)

West Covina Library, 1601 West Covina Parkway, West Covina, CA 91790, (626) 962.3541

Sunday, 6.27.04, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

INCA, the Peruvian Ensemble (Peruvian)

Los Angeles County Public Library, 23743 Valencia Blvd., Valencia, CA 91355, (661) 259.8942

The Arts Commission and the Recording Industries' Music Performance Trust Fund provide funds for the free concerts program. The July free concerts schedule will be available in mid-June at <http://www.lacountyarts.org/free.html>

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION 2004 APPLICATIONS DUE AUGUST 11

Community and professional choirs, music ensembles, and dance companies interested in performing at the Arts Commission's 45th Annual Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on Friday, December 24, 2004 should log on to www.lacountyarts.org/holiday.html starting May 26 for application guidelines and forms. All groups receive a fee for performing and the six-hour program is simulcast on KCET. An **application workshop** will be held **August 2**. Applications are due August 11.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARTS INTERNS EXPLORE L.A

As part of their experience, the 124 Los Angeles County Arts Interns working in 78 organizations throughout the County this summer take part in educational and arts networking activities designed to put their individual positions in the wider context of the arts in L.A.

During the July 6-16 period, every intern will take a field trip under the direction of a Discussion Group Leader. The group leaders are arts professionals representing a wide range of disciplines and backgrounds. Each leader designs a different field trip for his/her group of 10-11 interns.

The ArtBus Tour provides an annual rollicking good time for interns and intern supervisors alike as they explore an area of greater Los Angeles. The tour takes place on July 27 this year and its destination is Culver City. The walking tour itinerary to date includes the Museum of Jurassic Technology, the Center for Land Use Interpretation, the Kirk Douglas Theatre, visits with Mayor Steve Rose and City Historian Julie Lugo-Serra at City Hall and lunch at the Jazz Bakery featuring a performance of excerpts from "Groove" by the Jazz Tap Ensemble.

Together, the Arts Commission's internship program and the one in visual arts run by the Getty Trust form the largest arts internship program in the country. The educational and arts networking components are supported by the Getty Grant Program.

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities, and provides leadership and staffing to support the regional

blueprint for arts education, *Arts for All*. The Arts Commission, in addition to its grants program that funds more than 250 nonprofit arts organizations annually, funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Trust and programs the John Anson Ford Theatres. The Commission also produces free community programs, including the L.A. Holiday Celebration broadcast nationally and a year-round music program that funds more than 60 free concerts each year in public sites. The 2004-2005 President of the Arts Commission is Carlos Barrón.

Editor of ArtsWise: Linda Chiavaroli, Director of Communications, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, 323 871-4554, lchiavaroli@bos.co.la.ca.us

(subscribe – unsubscribe stuff goes here)