

the CenterStage



The Chemistry of Lime Trees

**Saturday
November 19, 2011**

8:00 p.m.

2011-2012
Professional Touring Artist Series



Enriching Lives. Building Community®

The Chemistry of Lime Trees

Saturday, November 19, 2011

Conceived by Daniel Burkholder



SHE ARRIVED, ALONE

"A handsome, clear-eyed Russian girl of about twenty years, the daughter of a farmer, comes in and sits down before us. She nervously clasps and unclasps her hands. 'That girl over there,' says the officer, 'is an interesting case. Her father is a farmer in moderate circumstances. A young man with whom she grew up came here two years ago, and last year wrote to her father that if the girl would come over he would marry her. So she came, alone. He lives somewhere in New Jersey and last week he appeared and looked her over. Finally he said he wasn't sure whether he wanted to marry her or not. So everything is at a standstill. I can't let her land. I don't know what to do. I'll write to that fellow again and tell him he's a fool. He'll never have such a chance again.'"

-Commissioner William Williams, March 1910 (edited)

THE CHEMISTRY OF LIME TREES

"Once upon a time, when they were 16, Bosko Brkic and Admira Ismic kissed at a party. 1984 was a magical time to be in Sarajevo. The city was hosting the winter Olympic Games and Bosko and Admira saw the world come to their home. That year, a Muslim girl and a Serbian boy fell in love for the first time in their lives. Historically, Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia-Herzegovina, was a cosmopolitan place, a melting pot where Muslims, Serbs, Croats, Jews and other nationalities had lived together for more than 500 years. On April 5, 1992, the streets of Sarajevo were filled with Bosnian Muslims, Serbs and Croats. Suddenly, shots rang out. The siege of Sarajevo was about to begin."

- excerpt from PBS' *Frontline* (edited)

CHARACTERS

Bosko Brkic
Admira Ismic
Narrator

Daniel Burkholder
Stephanie Yezek
Susan Oetgen

Directed by Daniel Burkholder
Created and performed by Daniel Burkholder and Kathryn Harris Banks
Traditional Russian folk dance choreographed by Katya Denisova
Music by Jonathan Matis
Traditional Russian lullaby sung by Kathryn Harris Banks
Costumes by Daniel Burkholder, Kathryn Harris Banks and Keira Hart Mendoza

Directed by Daniel Burkholder and Susan Oetgen
Created by Stefanie Quinones Bass, Daniel Burkholder, Susan Oetgen and Stephanie Yezek
Performed by Daniel Burkholder, Susan Oetgen and Stephanie Yezek
Music by Susan Oetgen and Tony Melone
Text by Daniel Burkholder and Susan Oetgen

GROUP BIO - DANIEL BURKHOLDER / THE PLAYGROUND

A movement-based performance group engaging audiences on multiple levels through dynamic work combining the formalism of choreography with the spontaneity of improvisation. By layering movement ranging from highly athletic to subtle gestures with text, live music and video, the company considers multiple perspectives as it presents accessible, yet complex, performances. The company presents work throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Washington D.C. region at venues as varied as The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Dance Place, The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Transformer, Carter Barron Amphitheater, on the sidewalk in front of the Martin Luther King Library, Bladensburg Waterfront Park along the Anacostia River, The H Street Playhouse and Warehouse Theater as well as performances in New York City and San Francisco. In 2005 Daniel Burkholder/The PlayGround was awarded a Local Dance Commissioning Project from The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and in 2006 was awarded a Metro D.C. Dance Award for "Outstanding Performance by a Group in a Dance Production." Recent projects include: *Scenic Route*, a three-hour hike interspersed with site-specific performances along the Potomac River; *Primary/Scale*, an all day performance installation at the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival; and, *The Chemistry of Lime Trees*, an evening length theatrical work using historical stories to explore how borders, real or perceived, separate people. In January 2011 Daniel Burkholder/The PlayGround became the dance company in residence at Georgetown University Hospital offering dance and movement sessions to patients, nurses, doctors, administrative staff and support personal. Daniel Burkholder/The PlayGround is a project of Improv Arts, Inc.

KATHRYN HARRIS BANKS (Collaborator/Performer)

Kathryn moved to D.C. from New York City where she danced with Laura Peterson Choreography and Kate Weare Company, as well as various other projects and collaborations. Katie holds a B.F.A. in Dance and Choreography from Virginia Commonwealth University, and danced with Starr Foster Dance Project for six years in Richmond, Virginia. Katie has taught and performed up and down the east coast, including at James Madison University and Rowan University, and is currently teaching yoga and dance in D.C.

DANIEL BURKHOLDER (Director/Performer)

Daniel is the Director of The PlayGround and Co-Director of Improv Arts, Inc. His work has been seen at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington, D.C.), 92nd Street Y (New York City), 848 Community Space (San Francisco), Tribeca Performing Arts Center (New York City), Dance Place (Washington, D.C.), The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center (Maryland), and the Contemporary American Theater Festival (West Virginia), along with numerous indoor and outdoor spaces. He has served as a curator of the D.C. International Improvisation Festival and on the Steering Committee for the West Coast Contact Improvisation Festival. Daniel's work has been commissioned by CrossCurrents Dance Company, Montgomery College, Community College of Baltimore, Joy of Motion Dance Studios, Maryland Art Place, Dance Place, and Choreographers Collaboration Project. In the spring of 2003 Daniel was a Resident Artist in the Djerassi Artist Residency Program in California. He has taught at the West Coast Contact Improvisation Festival, the Wild Meadows Improvisation Intensive, the University of Maryland at College Park, American University, George Washington University, the University of Maryland at Baltimore, at numerous studios, and as a guest teacher for Cirque du Soleil. Daniel is currently an artist-in-residence at Lombardi Cancer Center/Georgetown University Hospital. Daniel is completing his M.F.A. in Dance at University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, previously graduating from Sarah Lawrence College (B.A.), American University (M.A.), Moving On Center/School for Participatory Arts and is a Guild Certified Feldenkrais Practitioner^{CM}.

JONATHAN MATIS (Composer)

Jonathan has been composing and performing many types of music professionally since 1993. He has performed in venues across the country; as diverse as the Kennedy Center and CBGB's. Jonathan leads the D.C. Improvisers Collective, a free jazz ensemble; the Low End String Quartet, a re-imagining of the classical standard; and Eigenvalues, a duo project exploring the possibilities of spoken-word and electronic processing.

TONY MELONE (Composer)

Tony collaborates with some of New York City's most interesting songwriters and musicians. He can be heard with Likeness to Lily, the Convertible Jennifers, his own jazz trio, and in The Gospel Hour duo with singer George Wright. He has composed music for several plays including the Boston premiere of *Our Lady of 121st Street* (2004), and *Canarsie Suite* (2009), and co-composed music for Likeness to Lily's opera *Command Voice* (2010).

SUSAN OETGEN (Collaborator/Composer/Performer)

Susan is a multidisciplinary performing artist, whose work has examined the complex relationship between art and war in a series of solo and collaborative music-theater projects about the US Marine Corps, including *Command Voice*, which premiered at the Tribeca Performing Arts Center in 2010; *Bazm-o-Razm*, commissioned by the Brooklyn Philharmonic for the Music Off the Walls series at the Brooklyn Museum in 2008; and *IED: Improvised Experimental Diva*, which premiered at the inaugural Capitol Fringe Fest in Washington, D.C. in 2006 and was hailed by *The Washington Post* as "a perfect fringe experience." Born and raised in Washington, D.C., Susan earned a Master of Music from Catholic University of America and a Graduate Certificate in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University. She studied composition with David Lang at the Atlantic Center for the Arts in 2008 and with Randy Woolf during her 2007-2008 fellowship with the Brooklyn Philharmonic. A recipient of a 2007 Jerome Foundation Travel and Study Grant and a 2010 Meet the Composer Creative Connections Grant, Susan has twice been artist-in-residence at Tribeca Performing Art Center.

STEPHANIE YEZEK (Collaborator/Performer)

Stephanie made the Washington metropolitan area the home of her professional dance career after graduating from Bucknell University in 2003 with a B.A. in English and a minor in dance. Stephanie has performed with Jane Franklin Dance Company, AirDance Bernasconi, Gesel Mason Performance Projects and BosmaDance. She toured internationally to Canada, India and Bangladesh with Dakshina, a contemporary Indian company and to Oxford, England with her own collaboration, BAREdance. Stephanie performed in the works of David Dorfman, Anna Sokolow, Darla Stanley, Florencia Lopez-Boo, Ofra Idel Lipshitz, Meisha Bosma, Gesel Mason, Samantha Speis, Er-Dong Hu, Danna Frangione, Kelly Knox and many other local dance artists.

STEFANIE QUINONES BASS (Collaborator)

Stefanie has been living and dancing in the D.C. area since 2001. After graduating with a B.A. in dance from James Madison University, Stefanie traveled with a touring dance company in West Virginia. Stefanie currently dances with Daniel Burkholder/The Playground (since 2004) and BosmaDance (since 2004). She was previously a long-time company member of Jane Franklin Dance, and has performed works locally by artists Alvin Mayes, Vincent Thomas, Katrina Toews, Ursula Payne, and Christine Stone Martin. In 2004, Stefanie produced, choreographed and performed in a concert of shared work with Jessica Marchant at Dance Place. In addition to dance, Stefanie received her Master's degree in social work (May 2008) from Virginia Commonwealth University, and is pursuing a career in social service.

The artists would like to thank Danceworks, Simone Ferro, Elizabeth Johnson, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee Dance Department, Joy of Motion Dance Centers, Tribeca Performing Arts Center, Damian Sinclair and Reston Community Center, our families and all the generous individuals who donate time and money to Daniel Burkholder/The Playground and Improv Arts, Inc.

Please visit Daniel Burkholder/The Playground's blog "act/re/act" and share your thoughts, impressions, reactions to tonight's performance at <http://act-re-act.blogspot.com/>

Join Daniel Burkholder/The Playground for their upcoming shows:
December 5 at The Kennedy Center, February 18 and 19 at Dance Place, and April 20 and 21 at Joe's Movement Emporium.
More information is available at <http://improvarts.alkem.org>

Next on Stage



Sierra Hull & Highway 111

Friday, December 2

8:00 p.m.

Tickets available online at:

www.restoncommunitycenter.com

\$15(Reston)/\$30(Non-Reston)

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