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Tickets & Information: 212/854-7799; www.millertheatre.com

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“Columbia University’s Miller Theatre has become one of the city’s most popular venues for new music, offbeat ensembles, and adventurous concerts.” — Bloomberg.com

MILLER THEATRE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

closes two series—*Composer Portraits* and *Early Music*—in its 20th Anniversary Season:

Arlene Sierra (*Composer Portraits*)

ICE performs a world premiere by this intriguing young American living in London

Friday, March 13, 8:00PM

Music for Double Choir (*Early Music*)

Choral music stars The Tallis Scholars return with showpieces for double choir

Thursday, April 2, 8:00PM at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin

Composer Portraits

ARLENE SIERRA (b. 1970)

Friday, March 13, 8:00PM

Onstage discussion with Arlene Sierra

Arlene Sierra is an American composer living in London. Drawing from many sources such as Chinese battle tactics, the poetry of Pablo Neruda, birds, and stained glass windows, her music is full of punch and grit. She received a fellowship from The Academy of Arts & Letters, which describes her work as “by turns urgent, poetic, evocative, and witty.” Miller-favorite **International Contemporary Ensemble** and soprano **Susan Narucki** shed light on this young and intriguing composer in a program that includes a world premiere commission.

PROGRAM: *Colmena* (2008) (world premiere, Miller Theatre commission)

Cicada Shell (2006)

Ballistae (2000)

Surrounded Ground (2008)

Neruda Settings (2002-2005)

ARTISTS: **Susan Narucki**, soprano
International Contemporary Ensemble
Jayce Ogren, conductor

BIOS: **ARLENE SIERRA** began piano studies at the age of five and took her first composition class at Oberlin College-Conservatory. After completing graduate studies at Yale School of Music and the University of Michigan, she settled in London with fellowships at Dartington. 2001 saw the introduction of Sierra’s music to the world stage: her work for large chamber ensemble, *Ballistae*, was featured in the London Sinfonietta’s State of the Nation weekend at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, and an Otto Eckstein fellowship at Tanglewood led to several United States and world premieres. Her first orchestral work, *Aquilo*, won the 2001 Takemitsu Prize and was performed by the Tokyo Philharmonic; Sierra was the first woman to win this competition. Sierra has received commissions from international performers and ensembles; recent orchestral premieres have been given by the Albany Symphony, the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, the New Music Players, and the Schubert Ensemble. The recipient of a Charles Ives Fellowship from the Academy of Arts & Letters in 2007, she taught composition at Cambridge University before her appointment as lecturer in composition at Cardiff University School of Music.

SUSAN NARUCKI has enjoyed extraordinary collaborations in a wide range of repertoire and has earned recognition as one of today's leading interpreters of contemporary music. She has been a soloist with the Cleveland Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, New York Philharmonic, and Residentie Orchestra of the Hague. She has appeared as a soloist on the modern chamber works series of the New York Philharmonic and Chicago Symphony, on the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Green Umbrella Series, and at Carnegie Hall's Making Music series. Narucki's broad range of repertoire includes cantatas of J. S. Bach, song cycles of Schumann and Ravel, works of the second Viennese School, and Russian composers Stravinsky and Mussorgsky. Narucki earned both Grammy and Cannes awards for her recording of the works of George Crumb and a 2002 Grammy nomination in best classical vocal performance for Elliott Carter's *Tempo e Tempi*.

INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ENSEMBLE (ICE) is a uniquely structured chamber ensemble comprised of emerging performers and composers who are dedicated to advancing the music of our time. Through innovative programming, multimedia collaborations, commissions by young composers, and performances in nontraditional venues, ICE brings together new music and new audiences. ICE was founded in 2001 and has rapidly established itself as one of the leading new-music ensembles of its generation, winning first prize in the 2005 CMA/ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming and performing over 40 concerts a year in the United States and abroad. A champion of music by emerging composers, ICE has given over 200 world premieres to date and has performed the music of young composers from 15 different countries.

JAYCE OGREN is in his third season as assistant conductor of The Cleveland Orchestra and as music director of the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra. A native of Hoquiam, Washington, Ogren previously served as a conducting apprentice with the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra. Ogren recently completed a postgraduate diploma in orchestral conducting at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm, Sweden. In Sweden, he has conducted the orchestras of Gävle, Helsingborg, and Norrköping. In the United States, he has appeared with the New World Symphony, Boston's Callithumpian Consort, the Harvard Group for New Music, and the New England Conservatory Opera Theater. Jayce Ogren received a bachelor's degree in composition from St. Olaf College in 2001 and a master's degree in conducting from the New England Conservatory in 2003.

TICKETS: \$25; Students: \$15

Early Music

MUSIC FOR DOUBLE CHOIR

Thursday, April 2, 8:00PM

Church of St. Mary the Virgin (145 W. 46th St.)

Showcasing music for double choir, this exceptional program by **The Tallis Scholars** includes both antiphonal selections as well as works written for eight unique voice-parts. Showpieces including **Gibbons's *O clap your hands*** and **Palestrina's *Surge illuminare*** crown the program.

PROGRAM: G. P. da Palestrina	<i>Surge illuminare (part one)</i>
Peter Philips	<i>Ecce vicit Leo Ave Jesu Christe</i>
Orlande de Lassus	<i>Missa Bell'Amfitrit'altera</i>
Orlando Gibbons	<i>O clap your hands</i>
Dominique Phinot	<i>Lamentations</i>
Alonso Lobo	<i>Ave Maria</i>
Jean Mouton	<i>Nesciens mater</i>
Hieronymus Praetorius	<i>Magnificat IV</i>

ARTISTS: **The Tallis Scholars**
Peter Phillips, director

BIOS: **The Tallis Scholars** were founded by Peter Phillips in 1973. They perform in both sacred and secular venues. Previous locations include the Sistine Chapel to mark the final stage of the complete restoration of the Michelangelo frescoes; Ferrara, Italy (at the invitation of Claudio Abbado); and London for a unique 25th Anniversary concert in London's National Gallery. Other UK venues

include Symphony Hall, Bridgewater Hall, Wigmore Hall, London's South Bank Centre, and the Royal Albert Hall. They have also toured in Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, France, the United States, Japan, China, Australia, and Singapore. Festival appearances include the Salzburg Festival, Bath Festival, Milan Cathedral Festival, and at the BBC Proms in London. Much of The Tallis Scholars's reputation for pioneering work has come from their association with Gimell Records, set up by Peter Phillips and Steve Smith in 1981 solely to record them.

Peter Phillips founded The Tallis Scholars in 1973. Besides his work with Tallis, Phillips has for many years contributed a column to *The Spectator*. In 1995 he became the advisory editor of *The Musical Times*, the oldest continuously published music journal in Europe. His first book, *English Sacred Music 1549–1649*, is an account of the history of English-texted sacred music written during the golden period between the Reformation and the Commonwealth. In 1997 he visited Japan as the adjudicator of a choral festival in Tokyo, and he has worked in Italy and the United States with groups specializing in the polyphonic repertoire. Phillips has made numerous television and radio broadcasts. Besides those featuring The Tallis Scholars, he has appeared on *Music Weekly*, *BBC World Service*, *Today*, and on European, Canadian, and North American radio. Phillips is also the director of the Oakham International Summer School, a choral course set up to keep alive the English choral heritage and develop excellence in unaccompanied choral singing.

TICKETS: \$40; Students: \$24

Columbia University's Miller Theatre is located north of the Main Campus Gate at 116th St. & Broadway on the ground floor of Dodge Hall.

For tickets, the public should call the Miller Theatre Box Office at 212/854-7799, M–F, 12–6PM.
Tickets can also be purchased online at www.millertheatre.com.

For further information, press tickets, and to arrange interviews,
please contact Aleba Gartner Associates at 212/206-1450 or a@alebgartner.com.

For photos, please contact Lauren Bailey at 212/854-2382 or lrb2113@columbia.edu.

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The Reed Foundation, Inc., the Peter Jay Sharp Foundation, and the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust.

Major support for the Composer Portraits series is provided by the Francis Goelet Charitable Lead Trust. Additional support is provided by The Aaron Copland Fund for Music. The commission of Colmena is made possible by The Cheswaty Foundation.

Major support for Early Music is provided by The Reed Foundation, Inc. and The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation.

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