



Cultural Crossroads: Dvořák in America

What people are saying...

PATRONS

"Wow, wow, wow, and wow! It was uplifting and enchanting while informative at the same time."

Henry Barry

"I was on the verge of tears. It was so moving for me."

Paul Bettelheim

"It was so timely of our political and cultural happenings... you created a sense of unity of the world and cultures."

Yana Reznik

"This was one of the absolute best performances I have ever seen."

Andrea A. Lunsford, Kronos Quartet Board Immediate Past Chair and
former Director of Writing and Rhetoric at Stanford University

PRESENTER

"I thought Dvorak in America was brilliant. It has an important story to tell and is quite effective in performance. The playing and singing was beautiful. I feel that the form of narrated plus musical playing has a future. The recontextualizing of the American Quintet, R. Carlos Nakai's music, and three spirituals was quite effective. So rich!"

-Steve Jaffe, Mary and James H. Semans Professor of Music Composition at Duke University

"We saw many new faces in the hall last night who came specifically for last night's concert."

-Catherine Hughes Executive Director: Brooks Center for the Performing Arts

Beaches Fine Arts just had an emotional and thrilling concert experience with Cultural Crossroads: Dvořák in America. Its creator, Pamela Freund-Stripen, spent years creating this performance so that it was perfect, both musically and thematically. It was definitely a highlight of our 53rd season, with a full house of enthusiastic and enraptured audience members. The music was gorgeous and moving. The story is compelling, and I feel so privileged that we were able to bring this beautifully created piece to our series. I loved the sensitivity with which the individuals involved in the creation and performance of the concert worked together to make the evening stunning. All of them were stellar, including Freund-Stripen's viola playing when she joined forces with Duke's wonderful Ciompi String Quartet. Added to this were the ethereal flute of R. Carlos Nakai and percussion of Will Clipman, to the spectacular bass voice of Kenneth Kellogg, all woven together into a truly high point of our season. There were times during the performance when I noticed people wiping their eyes, overcome by the beauty of the music as well as the message it conveyed. I sincerely hope that many others are so lucky to experience the beauty of this concert.

-Kathy Wallis, Executive Director, Beaches Fine Arts Series

"I only wish there were more concerts that have this kind of powerful archetypal story to share. We are living at a time where this is needed. The response from my community was overwhelming. Almost to the person, people came up to me after the performance to share their gratitude for bringing this 'timely', 'historical', and incredibly powerful musical production to them.

An experience that few of us will ever forget." Susan Martin, presenter [Gualala Arts Center](#)

ARTISTS

"I don't think we've ever accomplished anything as far reaching or enduring, or engaging as the Cultural Crossroads presentation... there's an access point for everybody...the reveal is so persuasive it's just a privilege to perform it...because of the integrity and quality of the research that has gone into it..."

[Sandy Walsh-Wilson](#), Alexander String Quartet, founder and cellist

"There is an astonishing diversity to the legacy of American music. And up until the creation of Cultural Crossroads, I had never been part of a project that captured the breadth and complexity of that legacy with such thoughtfulness."

[Michele Kennedy](#), soprano

"Cultural Crossroads brings to life an important American story and adding my instrumental voice is a rare and worthwhile endeavor."

[R. Carlos Nakai](#), Native flute

STUDENTS

Learning About Dvorák:

Dvorak's life was incredibly interesting, and I did not know (there was) so much to know about him. Often the New World Symphony and other themes are cited as being composed based on Native American themes, but I didn't know how much of a close connection he had with so many Native Americans and his life in America.

-Arthur, 8th grade

Amazing Grace:

I have heard Amazing Grace played many times before, but I never really understood it and when it was played on the Native American flute it was like a whole other song and it was much deeper than the original version. Thank you

-Amaliya, 8th grade

I didn't know...that there would be slave owners like John Newton to openly talk about how he regretted what he did.

-Daphne, 7th grade

For bookings please contact:

Marian Liebowitz

marian@marianliebowitz.com

619-988-0751 (c)