

# Sari Dienes Foundation and Gamelan of Lion

present

## GONGing Ceremony

and other works by DAVID SIMONS and ensemble members

at Fellowship of Reconciliation, Nyack, NY

Sunday June 7th, 2009

### Part One

#### Balaganjur Parade

David Simons / Lisa Karrer

Inspired by the traditional Balinese processional music. First heard in an arrangement by Simons, followed by an original Balaganjur by Karrer from her multimedia piece "Woman's Song: The Story of Roro Mendut" (2003).

Mask Dance by Tjokorda Gde Arsa Artha

#### Abweja

Skip LaPlante

The name, like the music, is a composite of world music sources: **Abwe** for Zimbabwe, whose marimba instruments are here represented by homemade cardboard tubes, and **Ja** for Java, home of gamelan instruments.

#### The Unraveling

David Simons

Features the knobbed gong family of instruments. Melody is in the lowest instrument. Slendro and pelog tunings combine. The image: guided by the hand to a sacrificial ceremony.

#### Tetabeuhan Sungut (Onomatopoeia)

Slamet Sjukur

Javanese composer Sjukur uses a vocal technique combining the sounds of the drums, gongs, and chanting to create a spoken gamelan

### Part Two

#### GONGing Ceremony

David Simons

Commissioned by the Community Arts Grant program of ACOR, this premier features all of the gamelan's great knobbed gongs. See details on next page.

#### Piece for Peace in the Middle East

Laura Liben

Tuned rattles called *angklung* combine and contrast seven rhythmic modes of Arabic music

#### Hemiola Goes East

David Demnitz

Borrowing on a melodic idea from popular Egyptian composer Mohamed Abdel Wahab, (1907-1991) based on his composition Mudnaka, set in hemiola: three against two.



Barbara Benary, David Demnitz, Daniel Goode, Lisa Karrer, Jody Kruskal, Skip LaPlante, Laura Liben, John Morton, David Simons

This project is made possible, in part, with funds from the Community Arts Grants program of the Arts Council of Rockland, the Decentralization Program of the New York State Council on the Arts and a generous grant secured by Assemblywoman Ellen Jaffe.

Gamelan Son of Lion's appearance is also made possible in part by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.



NYSCA  
New York State Council on the Arts

## **Gamelan Son of Lion at F.O.R.**

### **DAVID SIMONS**

David Simons composes music for theater, dance, film, installations, and concert ensembles. His unusual collection of sounds from self-built and non-European instruments combines with digital sampling technologies to create a unique pan-cultural music. He has devised his own method of using the Theremin as a Midi controller. A graduate of the California Institute of the Arts, he studied composition with Earle Brown, Morton Subotnick, James Tenney, Harold Budd; percussion teachers include John Bergamo (Cal Arts), Paul Price (Manhattan School Of Music), and **Alan Dawson** (Berklee). David has researched and performed music from many of the world's cultures, and furthered his music studies in Bali, Bangkok and Seoul. He has toured internationally many times. For many years he has been a member of Gamelan Son of Lion and Music for Homemade Instruments in New York, and compositions of his appear on a number of the CDs of both ensembles. Mr. Simons is a resident of Chestnut Ridge, NY.

Website: [www.simons-karrer.com](http://www.simons-karrer.com)

GONGing Ceremony was conceived as an outdoor event centering on the use of a great many of the gamelan's knobbed gongs from Java, plus a selection of other gamelan instruments. The gongs play repeated fragments in a unique fashion involving damping some of the notes with the legs. This is the premier performance. The work is in development and will later include dance, costumes and kites.

### **TJOKORDA GDE ARSA ARTHA**

Our guest dancer was born in Ubud, Bali and has been a Rockland County creative presence for over a dozen years. In addition to his dance performance and work as a visual artist and master pumpkin carver, Gde is Director of the Pomona Cultural Center, and teaches Balinese dance and theatrical arts at Bard College.

### **SARI DIENES FOUNDATION**

Founded to preserve and promote the art work of Sari Dienes, the Sari Dienes Foundation facilitates the work of living artists, including those in fine arts, dance theatre and music, by awarding grants from the Foundation's earnings generated from the sale of Sari Dienes artwork and contributions, and by serving a conduit for grants going to the artists.

### **GAMELAN SON OF LION**

is a new music repertory ensemble and composers' collective based in downtown New York City and in Rockland, specializing in contemporary pieces written for the instruments of the Javanese gamelan percussion orchestra. Our instruments are built in Indonesian village style using steel keys, cans, hubcaps, etc. along with traditional drums and gongs, and are tuned in the traditional slendro and pelog scales. Gamelan Son of Lion has been performing and presenting new music in the greater New York area since 1976

To hear or to order more music by Gamelan Son of Lion, visit our website:

**[www.gamelan.org/sonoflion](http://www.gamelan.org/sonoflion)**

*Sari Dienes Foundation presents*

# **GAMELAN SON OF LION** **GONGGING CEREMONY**



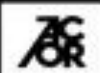
*and other works by*

**DAVID SIMONS**  
*and members of*  
**Gamelan Son of Lion**

*Sunday June 7*  
*3 - 5pm*

*Suggested donation: \$10*

**Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) outdoors**  
**521 North Broadway, Nyack, NY**



*Funded in part by Arts Council of Rockland; This event is made possible  
with funding from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency*

