



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2006

CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS AND *SOUNDBRIDGE* PRESENTS A STUDENT VOCAL DUO RECITAL

SEATTLE, WA – Cornish College of the Arts presents Vanessa Ament and Tai Shan in concert at *Soundbridge* Seattle Symphony Music Discovery Center on Sunday, October 8th. Ament and Shan, both students in the music department, will feature original compositions at the performance.

Sunday, October 8th

2 pm - 3 pm

Benaroya Hall (located at 2nd and Union in downtown Seattle)

Tickets: Concert is free with admission to *Soundbridge* (\$7 general; \$5 children under 12).

The annual *Soundbridge*/Cornish College of the Arts Recital Series was formed in cooperation between the Cornish College Music Department and the Seattle Symphony to showcase the broad range of music created out of Cornish's invigorating arts environment, while creating deeper ties within the music community.

Biographies

Vanessa Ament, classical voice major at Cornish, began her professional singing and dancing career 10 years ago. In 2004, she was honored by Seattle's Soul Fest Gospel Idol Competition where she won first place for her rendition of "Amazing Grace." In 2005, she joined the prestigious Esoterics, directed by Eric Banks and performed in Helsinki, Finland for the Harold Anderson Chamber Competition with the group this past Fall.

Tai Shan, singer and songwriter studying at Cornish, arrived in Seattle just 2 years ago from the San Francisco Bay area. Having established herself as a notable Bay area musician, she's been featured on local radio and TV shows, and also performed for Festivals of 100's. 2006 Latin Grammy nominee for Best Latin Jazz album, Jovino Santos Neto calls her a work a "profound listening experience."

About Cornish College of the Arts

Cornish College of the Arts provides aspiring artists with the educational opportunities to become professionals in their fields. The College offers Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Art, Dance, Design, Performance Production and Theater, and a Bachelor of Music degree. It is one of three private colleges in the United States focusing on both the performing and visual arts, and the only college of its kind in the Northwest. The College is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and has a national reputation for its faculty, curriculum, and student performance and exhibition opportunities.

Since its founding by Nellie Cornish in 1914, Cornish College of the Arts has contributed to the nation's cultural and intellectual heritage through its alumni and faculty. Historically, these figures include choreographers and dancers Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Syvilla Fort and Bonnie Bird; composer John Cage; painters Mark Tobey, William Cumming, and William Ivey;

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photographer Imogen Cunningham; educator Calvin B. Cady and broadcaster Chet Huntley, to name just a few. More recently these figures are joined by Brendan Fraser (film actor), Patrick Haskett (painter), Steve Jensen (sculptor), Paul Owen Lewis (illustrator), Lois Rathvon McCarter (dancer/choreographer), Eyvind Kang (violinist), Jarrad Powell and Joshua Kohl (composers). And, the College continues to represent the Northwest's largest concentration of professional artists dedicated to instruction.

About the Seattle Symphony and *Soundbridge*

Seattle Symphony, under the direction of Music Director Gerard Schwarz, is the one of the oldest and largest cultural institutions in the Pacific Northwest. Recognized for its adventurous programming and tradition of performing music by contemporary composers, the Symphony, founded in 1903, is one of the world's most recorded orchestras, represented on more than 75 compact discs. From September through July, the Seattle Symphony is heard live by more than 300,000 people annually.

The Seattle Symphony opened *Soundbridge* Seattle Symphony Music Discovery Center in Benaroya Hall in April 2001. This interactive learning center features hands-on exhibits, orchestral instruments, and a workshop/performance space. *Soundbridge* is part exhibit, utilizing educational resources and Microsoft® technology, and it is part classroom for people of all ages and levels of musical experience. Its mission is to inspire and nurture a love of symphonic music through active participation and exploration.

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