



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 19, 2004

**Master Classes at Cornish College of the Arts**

Monday, April 5, noon - 1:30 pm, **Guitarist John Stowell and Vibraphonist Steve Hobbs, Performance/Workshop**

Friday, April 9, noon - 1:30 pm, **Guitarist Mimi Fox Performance/Workshop**

Friday, April 9, 3-5 pm, **Master Class: Classical Piano with Peter Mack**

Friday, April 16, 2:30- 5:30 pm, **Master Class: Violin with Marjorie Talvi-Kransberg**

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PONCHO Concert Hall, Cornish College Capitol Hill Campus, 710 East Roy Street, Seattle  
For information and reservations, please call 206.726.5030. Admission is free.

SEATTLE, WA – Cornish College is proud to present a series of master classes during the month of April, with noted musicians: **Guitarist John Stowell, Vibraphonist Steve Hobbs, Guitarist Mimi Fox, Pianist Peter Mack and Violinist Marjorie Talvi-Kransberg.**

Monday, April 5, noon - 1:30 pm, **Guitarist John Stowell and Vibraphonist Steve Hobbs, Performance/Workshop**

**John Stowell** began his successful career with guitar lessons in his native Connecticut from guitarist Linc Chamberlind, and from John Mehegan, pianist and respected jazz educator at the Julliard School of Music and Yale University. Several years later he met noted bassist David Friesen in NYC and launched a critically acclaimed touring (Itinerary) and recording association that lasted 7 years, included 6 albums, (Discography) and performances in Europe, Canada, the US and Australia. During that time, John also moved to Oregon. Paul Horn, John, David Friesen and Robin Horn were invited to perform in the Soviet Union. It was the first time in 40 years that American jazz musicians had been invited to play public performances in Russia, paving the way for many others to follow. With bassist, David Friesen, Stowell is featured on the soundtracks of two animated short films nominated for Academy Awards. John Stowell is in demand as a teacher and clinician of jazz guitar. He has taught at the country's most prestigious music schools, and is frequently invited to present "Artist in Residence" series.

One of the more talented vibraphonists to come up in the late '80s, **Steve Hobbs'** style is bop-based but fairly original. He studied at Berklee, the University of Miami, and the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, and freelanced in Denver for six years with such players as Tom Harrell, Joe Bonner, Spike Robinson, and Stix Hooper. Hobbs eventually moved back to Raleigh, where he works as an educator but keeps up an active performance schedule. He has recorded as a leader for Cexton, Timeless, and Candid.

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Friday, April 9, noon - 1:30 pm, **Guitarist Mimi Fox, Performance/Workshop**

**Mimi Fox** is one of the very few established female jazz guitarists (along with Emily Remler and Mary Osborne); her passion and technical excellence grace the albums and performances of Darol Anger, Rhiannon, and Terry Garthwaite. Primarily self-taught, Fox focused early on folk styles until she heard John Coltrane's seminal *Giant Steps* at age 14. Fox's early influences — Aretha Franklin, Dixieland, and traditional jazz — emerge in her evocative interpretations of jazz with swing stylings, blues, Latin, and her forte, bebop. *Against the Grain*, Fox's debut release, demonstrates her playful mastery of standards and inspired insight through medleys, convincing established jazz aficionados, awing younger fans, and even winning some pop listeners. *Mimi Fox: Live*, Fox's next release, shows the explosive power of an improvisational approach by a confident artist surrounded by empathic players.

Friday, April 9, 3-5 pm, **Master Class: Classical Piano with Peter Mack**

Irish pianist **Peter Mack** has been thrilling audiences in Seattle since he settled here in 1985. He has also performed throughout the United States and Europe, as well as in Australia and the former Soviet Union. He is the winner of the New Orleans, Young Keyboard Artists and Pacific International Piano Competitions. His prize in the Sherman-Clay competition included a Steinway grand piano. Peter Mack is well known for his extensive repertoire, having performed twenty-five concertos with orchestras. A choral scholar at Trinity College Dublin, he went on to obtain a doctorate in piano performance from the University of Washington. His primary teachers were Frank Heneghan and Bela Siki. Dr. Mack is equally in demand as a performer, clinician and teacher. Pupils of Peter Mack are frequent winners of the Seattle Young Artists Concerto Competition, and for the last five years in a row his students have won the M.T.N.A. state competition in either Washington or Oregon. Peter Mack is Associate Professor of Piano Performance at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle. Peter Mack is a Steinway Artist.

Friday, April 16, 2:30-5:30 Pm, **Master Class: Violin with Marjorie Talvi-Kransberg** (member Saint Helens String Quartet, Lehmann Ensemble-in-Residence)

Violinist **Marjorie Kransberg-Talvi** is presently concertmaster and resident artistic director of Seattle's Northwest Chamber Orchestra. Ms. Kransberg-Talvi also serves as concertmaster and violin soloist for the Pacific Northwest Ballet, and has performed at City Center in New York City, Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., and at the Istanbul Music Festival in Turkey. Ms. Kransberg-Talvi has also been featured soloist with such esteemed ensembles as The Boston Symphony, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and The Oklahoma Symphony, and has appeared as a recitalist at the Gardner Museum in Boston, The Getty Museum in LA, Bargemusic in NY, and with her own beloved "Showcase Series" at Benaroya Hall, in Seattle. Ms. Kransberg-Talvi was a student of Dorothy DeLay at Julliard, Eric Freidman at the Manhattan School of Music, and Jascha Heifetz at the University of Southern California. She resides in Seattle with her husband, violinist and concertmaster of the Seattle Symphony, Ilka Talvi, and has two musical daughters, Anna and Sarah.

*Images available upon request.*

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**ABOUT CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS**

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Cornish College of the Arts is the premier, accredited arts college in the Northwest, inspiring the highest standards of artistic and academic excellence. Founded in 1914 by Nellie Cornish, Cornish College is the only private, accredited college in the region offering baccalaureate degrees in visual and performing arts. Cornish College offers a Bachelor of Music and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in art, dance, design, theater and performance production. Uniquely, Cornish College provides a rigorous educational environment for the cultivation of technical mastery, artistic integrity and practical knowledge. The faculty at Cornish is comprised of practicing master artists and professional educators, renowned in their respective fields. The college maintains a low student to faculty ratio, allowing for individualized teaching and mentoring. Cornish College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Over the years, Cornish has hosted a parade of important artists in the roles of students, teachers or as visiting artists-in-residence, including John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Ping Chong, Kenny Werner, Obo Addy, Mark Morris, Meredith Monk, Rinde Eckert, Bebe Miller, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, Robin Holcomb, Chet Huntley, Syvilla Fort, Ralph Towner, Thornton Wilder, Lou Harrison, Bill Frisell, Morris Graves, Jane Ira Bloom, Kraig Patterson, Musicians Accord, Bun Ching Lam, Brendan Fraser, Myra Melford, Sharon Isbin, Joanne Brackeen, Oliver Lake, California Ear Unit, Colorado Quartet, and Gary Peacock, among others.

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