



Concrete Timbre, Inc.



presents

A/K/A Benjamin

(Franklin's Women)



The Old Stone House

Washington Park
336 3rd St. (between 4th & 5th Avenues)
Brooklyn, NY

part of the 240th commemoration of the
Battle of Brooklyn

August 23, 2016

August 25, 2016

8:00 pm

Welcome!

Thank you for coming to see the Concrete Timbre production of ***A/K/A Benjamin (Franklin's Women)***. Tonight's concert features original contemporary music compositions that explore Benjamin Franklin's female identities, satires, and hoaxes that were used to critique love, gender stereotypes, witch hunts, and the slavery of his era (and a peek at his art and science).

The *Old Stone House* was an early Dutch farmstead, built in 1699 by the Vechte family. In 1776, it was the culminating site of the Battle of Brooklyn, the first, and largest conflict of the American Revolution, and engulfed areas that are now familiar to all Brooklynites.

On August 22, 1776, British troops disembarked along Gravesend Bay and the American War for Independence began in earnest. The British overran the Americans' outer defenses, leaving the Continental Army on the brink of defeat. In a feat of sheer heroism, General William Alexander organized several companies of Maryland and Delaware soldiers and attacked the British positions at the Old Stone House. This provided a brief window for the Americans caught behind enemy lines to escape across the Gowanus Creek to the safety of the American fortifications on Brooklyn Heights. Two nights later, under the cover of darkness and fog, General Washington effected his legendary retreat across the East River, saving his army to fight another day. In the late 1800s, the *Old Stone House* was the clubhouse for the Brooklyn Dodgers. And in the 1930s, it was the centerpiece of *Washington Park*, rebuilt by Robert Moses.

Concrete Timbre, Inc. is proud to be in such a historic setting, fulfilling our mission to create and produce events that intertwine fascinating stories, movement, visuals, and media with our live contemporary music.

Tonight, you'll see and hear genres ranging from jazz to classical to poetry to dance to video by professional creative artists working in imaginative ways and combining and enhancing the artistic disciplines. This is a largely collaborative effort that brings together disparate voices and concepts that involves the artistry of some very remarkable people—some who have worked with us on past productions, and some working with us for the first time. We are honored to present our work to you.

Concrete Timbre's artist leaders want to thank the 14 remarkable professional artists involved. Two of our key beliefs are that artists need to provide opportunities for other artists, and that our creative skills can be applied to development and production. We are proud of the artistic community that we have created and strive to inspire composers of all types to work outside their comfort zones in a safe environment to explore and create without boundaries.

We want to thank our audiences for your continued support. And to keep up to date, please sign up for our mailing list to get more info. So again, welcome to ***A/K/A Benjamin (Franklin's Women)***. We're proud of what you are about to hear and see. We hope you enjoy the show.

Allan Markowitz, Robert Morton, Ann Warren
Directors, Concrete Timbre, Inc.

A/K/A Benjamin (Franklin's Women)

Scenes

Vice vs Virtue

January 13, 1736

The Drinker's Dictionary by Poor Richard

Printed in The Pennsylvania Gazette

Nothing More Like a Fool than a Drunken Man

Composed by **Ann Warren & Joe Tucker**

Choreographed by **Johari Mayfield**

Joe Tucker - Piano & Percussion

Johari Mayfield - Dancer, **Alejandra Venancio** - Narrator

Freedom (of speech)

July 9, 1722

Letter to the *New England Courant* by Silence Dogood

Printed in The New-England Courant

Prelude & Song of the Waterfall

Composed by **Manuela Lechler**

Adam von Housen - Violin, **Manuela Lechler** - Alto Sax,

John-Paul Norporth - Bass, **Kyoko Oyobe** - Piano

Alejandra Venancio - Narrator

Witch Hunts

October 22, 1730

A Witch Trial at Mount Holly by Anonymous

Printed in The Pennsylvania Gazette

Alejandra Venancio - Narrator

A Secret Passion

Composed by **Kyoko Oyobe**

Hugh Ash - Trumpet, **Manuela Lechler** - Alto Sax, **Joe Tucker** - Drums,

John-Paul Norporth - Bass, **Kyoko Oyobe** - Piano,

Adultery (and unequal treatment of women)

April 15, 1747

The Speech of Miss Polly Baker

Printed in London's *The General Advertiser*

A Statue Erected to My Memory

Choreographed by **Johari Mayfield**

Composed by **Ann Warren**

Adam von Housen - Violin, **John-Paul Norporth** - Bass

Johari Mayfield - Dancer

Alejandra Venancio - Narrator

Invention

1761

Benjamin Franklin invents the *Glass Armonica*

Love and Negotiation

Passy, July 27, 1778

Letter written to Anne-Louise Boivin d'Hardancourt Brillon de Jouy

Perhaps That is the Fault of My Spectacles (Treaty of Paris)

Composed by **Ann Warren**

Hugh Ash - Trumpet, **Adam von Housen** - Violin,
Alejandra Venancio - Narrator

Value

Passy, November 10, 1779

Letter to Madame Brillon

The Whistle

Composed by **Stephanie Greig**

Stephanie Greig - Guitar, **Kyoko Oyobe** - Piano,
John-Paul Norporth - Bass, **Adam von Housen** - Violin,
Alejandra Venancio - Narrator

Equality (for Women's Education)

1785 *Petition of the Left Hand* by The Left Hand

Petition of the Left Hand

Composed by **Stephanie Greig**

Stephanie Greig - Guitar, **Kyoko Oyobe** - Piano,
John-Paul Norporth - Bass, **Adam von Housen** - Violin,
Alejandra Venancio - Narrator

Slavery

March 23, 1790

Letter to the *Federal Gazette* by Sidi Mehmet Ibrahim
(a member of the Divan of Algiers)

Circumstance

Composed by **Whitney George**

Choreographed by **Johari Mayfield**

Hugh Ash - Trumpet, **Kyoko Oyobe** - Piano,
John-Paul Norporth - Bass, **Joe Tucker** - Percussion,
Adam von Housen - Violin, **Johari Mayfield** - Dancer
Alejandra Venancio - Narrator

Benjamin Franklin Composer

Benjamin Franklin Suite

Overture, Minuet, Caprice, Waltz, Siciliano

Composed by **Benjamin Franklin**

Arranged by **Ann Warren**

Hugh Ash - Trumpet, **Manuela Lechler** - Alto Sax,
Kyoko Oyobe - Piano, **John-Paul Norporth** - Bass,
Joe Tucker - Glockenspiel, **Adam von Housen** - Violin

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Presented by an Interesting Group of Professional Artists!

Read the full Artist Bios at

www.ConcreteTimbre.com

Hugh Ash has taken his trumpet around the globe, performing everything from contemporary classical to standard repertoire, jazz, rock, and world music.

Benjamin Franklin I found myself incorrigible with respect to Order; and now I am grown old, and my Memory bad, I feel very sensibly the want of it.

Whitney George is a composer & conductor who specializes in the use of mixed media to blur the distinctions between concert performance, installation art, and theater. Her affinity for the macabre, fantastic, and bizarre frequently gives rise to musical programs to evoke traditions of phantasmagoria and melodrama, challenging musicians to experiment liberally with stage personae, and audiences to widen the scope of their attention.

Stephanie Greig is a second-generation freelance bassist and member in good standing of the Church of the Living Swing.

Nancy Greening loves directing and writing plays. Her favorite work represents the notion that the inner life can transform the world, and the inner life can be shared.

Manuela Lechler loves to play and compose music since an early age. To share the fun with you, I hope you enjoy it too!

Allan Markowitz, I love the story of why the French say, "Merde" instead of "Break a leg." I never played any role (at all) on Law & Order. I do play *Malegüeña*, *Chopsticks*, and sometimes Bach's *Preludes*.

Johari Mayfield is a dancer, choreographer, and author. She does research on the therapeutic potential of creative movement training in treating victims of sex trafficking.

Robert Morton, I am a geek. There, I said it. I love to figure out the art of new programs and gadgets. I like the word obsession. I still yearn to discover the espresso ottimo, bend the perfect blues note, compose the Eiffel Tower imaginatively, capture the morning light, to see it with my own eyes!

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart My dear sister! I'm amazed to discover that you can compose so delightfully. You must compose more often.

John-Paul Norpoth enjoys extended dog walks with his wife. (Violinist and partner-in-crime Jannina Norpoth) Recently, he enjoys troubleshooting his various effects pedals, air-conditioning repair, and the odd and/or seldom televised competition for international artistic gymnastics.

Kyoko Oyobe, I am a piano player, composer, arranger, and band leader. I love cooking. I think that cooking food and composing music are very similar. And eating the food and playing the music are very similar... I love sharing them with people!

Richard Sage an avid supporter of artistic creation in best way to suit the situation.

Joe Tucker general music mercenary, likes hitting things with other things **A LOT**.

Alejandra Venancio likes to climb mountains, tackle crossword puzzles, and fail big. A theatre maker, mover, shaker, deviser, revisor, experimentator. She's learned a lot on this project and has been immensely lucky to collaborate with such incredible people.

Adam Von Housen began violin at the age of 10 in a small elementary school strings class.

Ann Warren walks through the streets of NYC and takes the clangs of construction, the sporadic beep beep of horns, the whirring of some type of unidentified machine that never seems to stop, then mixes in some occasional cabbie shouting expletives, the bass thump thump thump from a car passing in the night, the bar or stadium cheers for a Yankees home run and..., and is surrounded by music!

Kryssy Wright goes by *kryssylight* on social media. Avant Media has a good picture of her on their website. She has a cat and a **Bessie**. One day she hopes to be accused of being a witch.

All text presented in

A/K/A Benjamin (Franklin's Women)

was written by Benjamin Franklin — anonymously (and he later revealed he wrote it) or written as Silence Dogood, Poor Richard, Polly Baker, Historicus, Sidi Mehmet Ibrahim, and The Left Hand (and he later admitted that it was written by him).

Introduction and transitional text was written by

Nancy Greening

Salon 3

is back in September



Concrete Timbre's monthly salon series
of new music, each with a **theme**
to inspire composers to examine, create, and present contemporary
issues in an interdisciplinary setting that is thoughtful, pertinent,
and provocative.

SAVE THE DATES

September 17 - #5 Trade
Piano, Violin, Bass

October 15 - #6 Justice
Jazz Ensemble

November 19 - #7 Lethal
String Quartet

December 17 - #8 Belief
Woodwind Quintet

The Drawing Room
56 Willoughby Street
Downtown Brooklyn, NYC

For more information:
www.ConcreteTimbre.com

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Contributions for the charitable purposes of **Concrete Timbre** are
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Please send contributions to: **Concrete Timbre, Inc.**
c/o Robert Morton, President
P.O. Box 20686
New York, NY 10011

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Concrete Timbre

wants to acknowledge and thank the following people and organizations that have contributed money, space, and/or materials to make another production possible:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
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For everyone who will ever fight against all odds for freedom, justice, and peace.

Ryba lubi pływać. Fish like to swim! (Dziewczynyna)

We never know what's coming next! (Eiffel Tower Wedding Brunch)

J'aime la vérité. Mais elle ne m'aime pas. (Jean Cocteau)

These are the times that try men's souls. (Thomas Paine)