

# PROGRAM

## MEDLEY OF AZERBAIJANI MUSIC: SHUSHTAR

Kamila Nabiyeva, *mugham* vocals  
Miralam Miralamov, *mugham* vocals  
Rauf Islamov, *kamancheh*  
Zaki Valiyev, *tar*



### LAYLA AND MAJNUN

(World Premiere)

Music by Uzeyir Hajibeyli (1885-1948),  
arranged by Alim Qasimov, Johnny Gandelsman, Colin Jacobsen

Layla: Fargana Qasimova, *mugham* vocals

Majnun: Alim Qasimov, *mugham* vocals

Zaki Valiyev, *tar*; Rauf Islamov, *kamancheh*; Evan Ziporyn, *clarinet*; Wu Man, *pipa*;  
Shane Shanahan; *percussion*; Michi Wiancko, *violin*; Jessie Montgomery, *violin*;  
Max Mandel, *viola*; Karen Ouzounian, *cello*; Shawn Conley, *bass*

#### ACT I LOVE AND SEPARATION

Layla: Stacy Martorana

Majnun: Dallas McMurray

Sam Black, Rita Donahue, Lesley Garrison, Lauren Grant, Brian Lawson,  
Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson, Michelle Yard

#### ACT II THE PARENTS' DISAPPROVAL

Layla: Nicole Sabella

Majnun: Domingo Estrada Jr.

Layla's Parents: Lauren Grant, Noah Vinson

Majnun's Parents: Michelle Yard, Billy Smith

Sam Black, Lesley Garrison, Brian Lawson,  
Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray, Brandon Randolph

#### ACT III SORROW AND DESPAIR

Layla: Laurel Lynch

Majnun: Aaron Loux

Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada Jr., Lauren Grant,  
Brian Lawson, Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray,  
Nicole Sabella, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson, Michelle Yard

#### ACT IV LAYLA'S UNWANTED WEDDING

Layla: Lesley Garrison

Majnun: Sam Black

The Husband: Durell R. Comedy

Layla's Parents: Lauren Grant, Noah Vinson

Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada Jr., Aaron Loux,  
Nicole Sabella, Billy Smith, Michelle Yard

#### ACT V THE LOVERS' DEMISE

Layla: Stacy Martorana, Nicole Sabella, Laurel Lynch, Lesley Garrison  
Majnun: Dallas McMurray, Domingo Estrada Jr., Aaron Loux, Sam Black

Layla's Parents: Lauren Grant, Noah Vinson

Majnun's Parents: Michelle Yard, Billy Smith

THURSDAY-SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 6-8, 8PM

SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 8, 2PM

MEANY HALL

## MEDLEY OF AZERBAIJANI MUSIC: SHUSHTAR

All pieces in this medley are based on the melodic patterns of *Shushtar*, which is one of the major *mughams* of Azerbaijani music. The composition proceeds from the melancholic and sad to the upbeat and playful; such development is highly typical for Azerbaijani traditional music. The medley opens with a famous folk song, "Loneliness is painful," which is about the love and longing for the beloved. This second part of this composition features the actual *mugham Shushtar*, where both singers and instrumentalists demonstrate their ability to improvise. *Mugham Shushtar* is followed by a traditional song known as *tasnif*. A *tasnif* is a romance-like lyrical song that is usually performed within *mugham* composition. *Tasnif* "Come to me, my deer" is a joyful and humorous expression of love. The title and the lyrics of this last piece feature a common metaphor of Azerbaijani poetry, a comparison of a beautiful girl to a deer. This medley therefore features three vocal genres typical for the traditional and folk music of Azerbaijan—*mugham*, *tasnif* and folk song.