



CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
PRESENTS

David Gonzalez
Wounded Splendor

with
Daniel Kelly, piano

This performance is sponsored in part
by the generous support of *The Gazette & The Star*.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2009 . 3PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2009 . 8PM
ROBERT & ARLENE KOGOD THEATRE 37

PROGRAM

Wounded Splendor

David Gonzalez, storyteller, musician and poet
Daniel Kelly, piano

and

Daniel Hartnett, video design
Mary-Susan Gregson, stage manager

Wounded Splendor will include selections from the following pieces:

Riverkeeper

I Speak for the Living Earth

Enough

Impoundment

Oil Change

The River is on Fire

Song of the Earth

The New Green

Kili

The program will be approximately 75 minutes with no intermission.

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A NOTE FROM THE ARTIST & ABOUT THE MUSIC

A NOTE FROM THE ARTIST

As a boy I identified with my family, then my friends, then my neighborhood, my wonderful city (NYC) and country. As I got older and began to travel, I came to identify with the larger human family, and with the human condition. Throughout my life I've been drawn to nature; a hike in the woods, the adventurous trek, quiet moments meditating at the sea. *Wounded Splendor* is my ode to the natural world, and beyond, for "what can be seen at the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro on a moonless night will change a man forever." In recent years I find myself identifying most with the mystery of nature; the ebb and flow of her cycles, the profound strength, and fragility, of our world. I feel a responsibility to preserve it — may we find a way back to balance.

— David Gonzalez

ABOUT THE MUSIC

The starting point for the music in this program are the sounds of the natural world and an intuitive approach to interpreting the scenes and emotions of David's poetic writing. I'm very aware of the dialogue between sound and the spoken word. The abstract quality of music can serve to emotionally heighten the words or provide commentary by being in opposition to what's being said. I like to play with these modes of interpretation to create different layers of meaning that are presented to the audience. The dialogue between acoustic instruments and sampled sounds also invites inquiry from the audience. I like to layer sampled sounds to create strange musical territories — that seem to me like a traveler stumbling into an alien land. In all my work, there is ample room for improvisation. The organic process of reacting to the words and how they are spoken seems to be a suitable analogy to the unfolding of life from the natural world and the open-endedness of the questions *Wounded Splendor* presents to the audience:

In what ways do we and will we inhabit this changing earth?

How does the earth live in us?

— Daniel Kelly



ABOUT THE ARTISTS

David Gonzalez, playwright, storyteller, musician, poet and actor, was nominated for a 2006 Drama Desk Award for his original production, *The Frog Bride*, at Broadway's New Victory Theater. He has created numerous theatrical productions including the critically acclaimed *iSofrito!* with Larry Harlow and the Latin Legends Band. His many works — *Double Crossed: The Saga of the St. Louis* (commissioned by the Smithsonian Institution), *As If The Past Were Listening*, *The Secret of the Ceiba Tree*, *MytholoJazz*, *Finding North* and *City of Dreams* have been performed at the best performing arts centers, theaters and festivals in the United States and abroad. David wrote *Rise for Freedom!*, an opera libretto commissioned and produced by the Cincinnati Opera in 2007, and *Mariel*, an Afro-Cuban musical co-written with Grammy-nominated lyricist John Forster, which won the Macy's "New Play Prize for Young Audiences." Mr. Gonzalez's poetry has been featured at Lincoln Center's Out-of-Doors Festival, Bill Moyers' documentary, *Fooling with Words*, on PBS and on NPR's *All Things Considered*. David was a featured performer at the 2007 National Storytelling Festival. Mr. Gonzalez received his doctorate in music therapy from New York University's School of Education and worked and taught handicapped children as a music therapist for many years. Visit David online at www.davidgonzalez.com.

Daniel Kelly (pianist and composer) award-winning composer and pianist, has developed a unique and personal approach to jazz, free improvisation and modern chamber music. Daniel has collaborated in performance and on disc with a wide range of artists, including Michael Brecker, Lauryn Hill, Ray Barretto, David Murray, Don Byron, Bobby Sanabria, William Parker, John Zorn, Donny McCaslin, David Binney, Brad Shepik, Joel Harrison, Nestor Torres, Briggan Krauss, Iva Bittova, Candido and many others. He performs regularly with bassist Harvie S and the genre-busting modern chamber ensemble the Bang on a Can All-Stars. Daniel has toured throughout the United States, Europe, Southeast Asia, Africa and Central America. In addition to the several CDs he has recorded as sideman, he has recorded many highly acclaimed CDs as a leader, including *World and Duets with Ghosts*, which features Daniel's unique approach to electronic sound manipulation and sampler. Daniel's latest CD, *Portal*, is an improvised solo piano suite that arose from his continuing series of improvised solo piano concerts. His quartet was the recipient of the 2007 Chamber Music America/ASCAP Adventurous Programming Award. Daniel has exhibited his commitment to arts education and young audiences by performing in schools and in artistic multi-media works for family audiences. His most notable collaborator is storyteller David Gonzalez. In addition to performing in hundreds of schools, they have toured to performing art centers throughout the United States and Canada and the Royal National Theatre in London. They developed the multi-media theatrical work *The Frog Bride*, which premiered at the New Victory Theater on Broadway and incorporated Daniel's music with the music of Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev and video images of paintings by Wassily

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Kandinsky. It was nominated for a Drama Desk Award in 2006. David and Daniel have also been Lincoln Center Institute Repertory artists from 2002 – 2005 and 2008 – 2009. Visit him at www.danielkellymusic.com and www.myspace.com/danielkellymusic.

Daniel Hartnett (video design) programmed the projections for *Distracted* at the Roundabout Theatre on 46th St. (Laura Pels). He worked with the design team for *All My Sons* at the Schoenfeld Theater, designed the projections for *Jimi and Mr B* at the Empire State Plaza Performing Arts Center in Albany and programmed the projections for *The Frog Bride* (both by David Gonzalez). Mr. Hartnett worked with the video design team for *Diaspora* with Theatreworks of Singapore. He edited video with Nam June Paik for many years. He has toured doing projections with David Bowie, John Denver, Paul McCartney, The Grateful Dead, Tori Amos, Kiss, Laurie Anderson, 311, Steve Reich and DJ Spooky. His projection designs have toured with 311, Tori Amos, The Verve Pipe, DJ Spooky and Bow Wow. He has done projections for shows with U2, Public Enemy, Miley Cyrus, The Jonas Brothers, The Chemical Brothers, The Beastie Boys and more.

Mary-Susan Gregson (stage manager) has collaborated with David Gonzalez on *The Frog Bride*, *iSofrito!*, *MytholoJazz* and *Double Crossed*. They met the opening season of The New Victory Theater where she has stage managed 20 productions. This summer will mark her 13th season production coordinating for Lincoln Center Festival including Peony Pavilion, the Harold Pinter, Brian Friel and both Beckett festivals. Shows at BAM have included *Sizwe Bansi is Dead*, Tan Dun's *The Gate*, Sufjan Steven's *BQE*, *Violet Fire*, *Red Hot & Riot* and Brooklyn Philharmonic's presentations with such artists as Joanna Newsom, Antony & The Johnsons and Kronos Quartet. Other New York credits include *His Holiness the Dalai Lama* at the Beacon, *Reel to Real*, *The Prince & The Pauper*, *The Jazz Nativity*, *Breaking the Code* and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. She toured internationally with *Forbidden Christmas* starring Mikhail Baryshnikov. Regional credits include McCarter Theatre, Yale Rep, Williamstown Theater Festival, The Huntington and the White House. She has toured with Dance Theatre of Harlem, Elisa Monte, Jennifer Muller and Pilobolus.



David Gonzalez wishes to thank:

- Fred Tutman – Riverkeeper of the Patuxent River
- Robert E. Boone – Founder of the Anacostia Watershed Society
- Dr. Andrew Baldwin – Associate Professor, Environmental Science & Technology
- Hyattsville Middle School – Gail Golden, Tracey Cutler, Saralyn Trainor, Ishmail Reaves and the students
- M-NCPPC and Jeneanne Hunter
- Karen Jenson – Research Associate
- Nicole Paoletti, Madeline Bell, Paul Brohan, Ruth Waalkes, Susie Farr and the rest of the staff of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center
- Kyle Rudgers and the technical staff of CSPAC
- Christine Hinojosa and the University of Maryland School of Architecture Visual Resources Collection
- Students from the CONS program at UM
- My family for standing by me during the trials, tribulations and travels of this project.

Wounded Splendor is dedicated to all the people who give freely of their time and energy to protect and preserve “the source” — our Mother Earth.

Artist in Residence David Gonzalez

During the 2008 – 2009 season, David Gonzalez has visited our community for a series of three-day residencies, working with environmental activists; scientists and professors; college students; and middle and elementary school students. The residency has included: youth performances of *Cuentos: Tales from the Latino World* at three area elementary schools, a special workshop at Centro Familia for pre-K ESL students; and poetry/spoken word workshops with Colours, Hyattsville Middle School and ESOL students from Northwestern High School. David has also been working extensively with Hyattsville Middle School on a Touch the Earth Workshop that encourages young artists to take inspiration from nature. Combining the artwork of Andy Goldsworthy with hands-on activities in nature, 20 students from Hyattsville are creating poetry and visual art from their experience working with David that is highlighted in the lobby of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center for today's performances.

