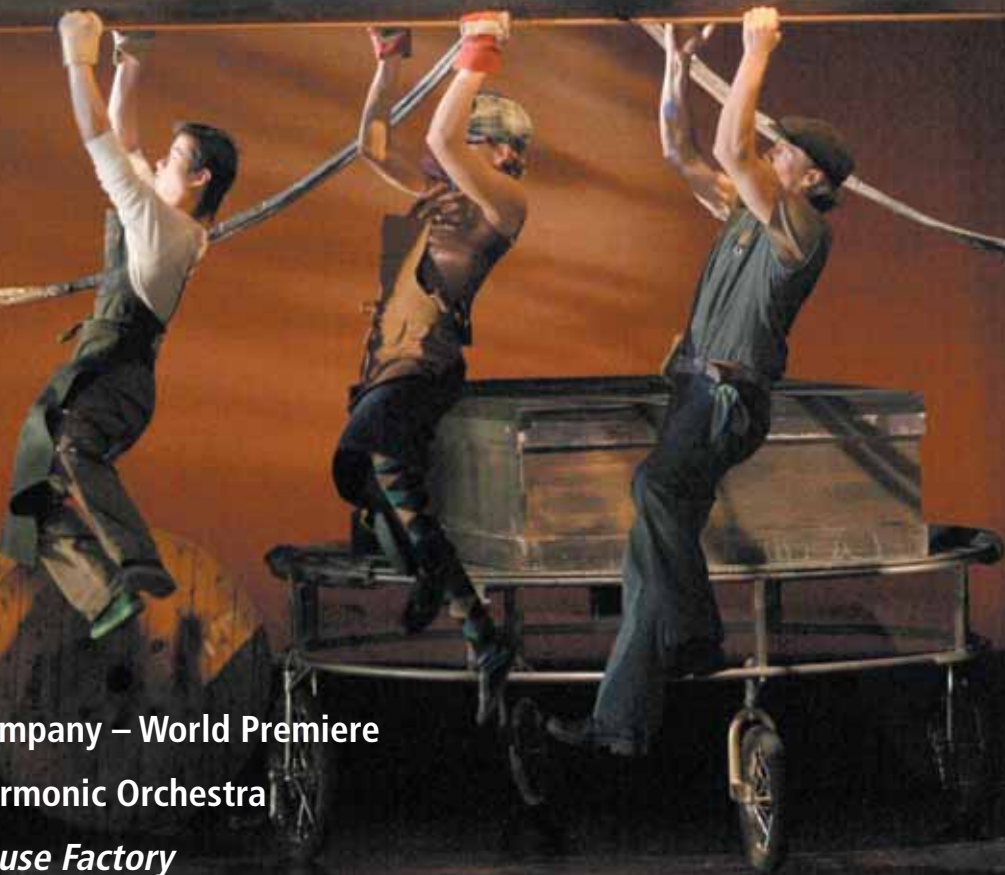


Places

A preview of events
Carlsen Center for the Performing Arts
Johnson County Community College
www.jccc.edu/CarlsenCenter

November 2007



Paul Taylor Dance Company – World Premiere

St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra

Cirque-Works *Birdhouse Factory*

Up and Coming Jazz Artists

Beakman Live!



Paul Taylor Dance Company Gives World Premiere

Few artists of our time have had the impact on their art form that Paul Taylor has had on dance, and the Carlsen Center is proud to have supported Paul Taylor and his dance company through the years. In the last six years, the Carlsen Center has commissioned or co-commissioned four Taylor dances. The company will perform their most recent Carlsen Center commission at 8 p.m. on Friday-Saturday, Nov. 2-3, in Yardley Hall. Artists Insights begins at 7 p.m.

Two entirely different programs will be performed on Friday and Saturday, except for the world premiere, which appears on the program both evenings.

Friday's program is *Aureole* (1962), *Troilus and Cressida* (reduced) (2006), new work and *Cloven Kingdom* (1976). Saturday's program is *Byzantium* (1984), new work and *Arden Court* (1981).

The new piece is set to music by Latin composers arranged by Osvaldo Golijov, and recorded by the Kronus Quartet, a San Francisco-based string quartet. Golijov grew up in an Eastern European Jewish household in La Plata, Argentina, where he was surrounded by classical chamber music, Jewish liturgical and klezmer music, and the new tango of Astor Piazzolla. Golijov, who now lives in the United States, is a two-time 2007 Grammy Award winner. This new work features lighting by Jennifer Tipton, sets and costumes by Santo Loquasto.

Taylor's three works previously co-commissioned by the Carlsen Center are *Black Tuesday* (2001), *Dante Variations* (2004) and *Banquet of Vultures* (2006). In 2006, the Paul Taylor Dance Foundation named Charles Rogers, artistic director of the Carlsen Center, to the Exemplary Presenters' Coalition because of the Carlsen Center's support and commissions of Taylor's works. The honor places Rogers and the Carlsen Center among a prestigious

group of six others, including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and American Dance Festival. Commissioned dances provide the Carlsen Center worldwide recognition and the Taylor company acclaimed additions to its repertoire.

"The Carlsen Center's affiliation with the company has been extremely rewarding. It has raised the Carlsen Center's profile as a major player in the presenting world as well as shown our commitment to commissioning new works," Rogers said. "We are extremely fortunate to have been involved with a piece like *Black Tuesday*, which has been performed in 70 cities worldwide. Every time the piece is performed, the Carlsen Center name appears in the program."

Taylor Dance Company last appeared at the Carlsen Center in 2006 with a retrospective of this master choreographer's 50 years of work. Taylor first presented his choreography with five other dancers and himself on May 30, 1954, in Manhattan, N.Y. In the following decades, Taylor has become a cultural icon – dance-maker, naturalist and self-described "reporter," who takes as much pride in his wildflower gardens, scarab (a kind of beetle) collection, writings, paintings and furniture-making as he does in the dances that bring cheering audiences to their feet. And,



perhaps most remarkable of all, his creative powers have shown no sign of abating after 53 years and 125 dances.

His two dance companies (Taylor 2 was created in 1993) travel the globe, bringing his ever-increasing repertoire to theaters and venues of every size and description in cultural capitals, college campuses and rural communities – and often to places modern dance has never been.

Taylor's choreography, once deemed experimental and avant-garde, quickly became the gold standard of modern dance. And Taylor bridged, as no other choreographer, the once-distant camps of ballet and modern dance by allowing internationally acclaimed ballet companies to acquire the works he creates for his own celebrated troupe.

He has been showered with every prestigious award the United States and France can bestow on an artist including an Emmy Award for *Speaking in Tongues*, Kennedy Center honoree, National Medal of Arts recipient, three

Guggenheim Fellowships, the MacArthur Foundation Fellowship award for lifetime achievement and France's highest honor, the Légion d'Honneur, for exceptional contributions to French culture in 2000. Taylor's works have been licensed for performance by more than 75 companies worldwide.

His autobiography, *Private Domain*, was nominated by the National Book Critics Circle as the most distinguished biography of 1987, and Taylor and his company are the subject of *Dancemaker*, Matthew Diamond's Oscar-nominated film, hailed by Time Magazine as "perhaps the best dance documentary ever."

Tickets \$25 and \$35



The Paul Taylor Dance Company will have a master class for advanced students (college-age and older) and teachers from 4-5:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 2. For more information, call Angel Mercier, Arts**Education** program director, 913-469-8500, ext. 4221.

Celebrating their 50th anniversary the Kansas City Ballet features Paul Taylor's work *Company B*, Oct. 11-14 at the Lyric Theatre at its opening season performance. *Company B* was a smash hit when it premiered in 1991. Featuring 10 dances set to nine classic songs sung by The Andrews Sisters (*Bei Mir Bist du Schön*, *Pennsylvania Polka*, *Oh Johnny Oh!*), the work creates a souvenir photo album of 1940s Americana telling the story of a triumphant time that is tempered by the doubt and tragedy of war.

Francie Huber, former Carlsen Center dance artist in residence, will be rebuilding *Company B* for the Ballet's October performance.

Russian Orchestra Plays Prokofiev with Passion



Russia's oldest and most respected symphony orchestra, the **St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra**, under the direction of **Nikolai Alexeev**, will perform at 8 p.m. **Saturday, Nov. 10, in Yardley Hall**. The all-Prokofiev program features a suite from the ballet of *Romeo and Juliette* and the bright and heroic *Symphony No. 5*. **Artist Insights begins at 7 p.m.**

The Orchestra was founded in 1882, when it served music-loving Russian aristocrats in the city founded by Peter the Great. On Oct. 19, 1917, during the Great October Revolution, the orchestra was changed into a state orchestra and gave its first public concert in the same year. The St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra was the first Soviet orchestra to tour abroad. Tours and recordings continue its worldwide fame.

Known for its rich Russian repertoire and musical fervor, the Orchestra can play the works of Russian composers better than anyone. Reviewers never fail to cite the superiority of the strings, which are uniquely divided into two sections on either side of the stage, and the impressive brass section. The orchestra's sound is majestic, proving its ability to stand above the fray of past wars and present economic woes of other Soviet arts groups.

"The great Russian orchestras, of which St. Petersburg is the greatest of the great, bring a special passion and intensity of playing to native composers like Prokofiev," said Charles Rogers, artistic director, Carlsen Center. "Symphony No. 5 is a monumental work, Prokofiev's last great work before Soviet censorship. It is ironic that after all Prokofiev artistically suffered under Stalin, Stalin and Prokofiev died and lay in state the same day."

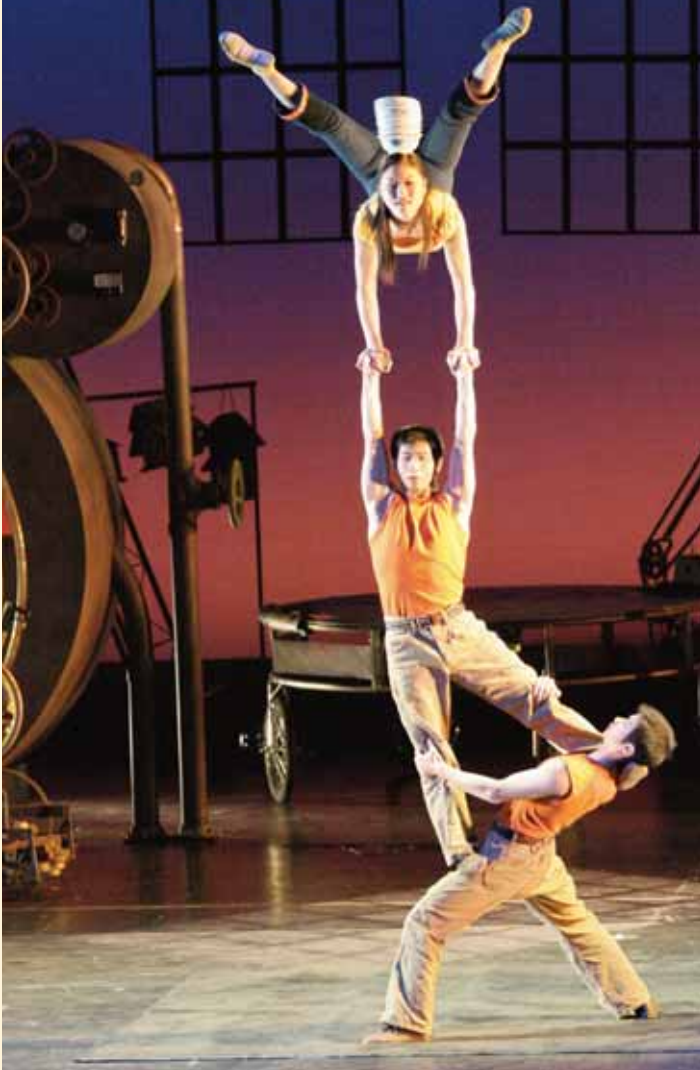
In its long history, the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra has had few music directors. Evgeny Mravinsky took over as music director in 1938 and continued in the position for almost 50 years. Yuri Temirkanov has been the artistic director and chief conductor since 1988. He was the first Russian artist permitted to perform in the United States after cultural relations were resumed with the Soviet Union at the end of the war in Afghanistan.

For this concert, the conductor will be Nikolai Alexeev, chief conductor of the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and associate conductor of the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, who has met with huge success on tour with orchestras in the United States, Europe and Japan. In March, 2007, the president of the Russian Federation awarded Alexeev the title "People's Artist of the Russian Federation."

Tickets \$40 and \$50



Fantasy Soars in 'Birdhouse Factory'



Cirque-Works *Birdhouse Factory* is the amalgamation of circus, machines and magic. Inspired in part by Diego Rivera's Detroit industry murals and in part by Charlie Chaplin's *Modern Times*, this new-breed of circus is a flight of fantasy starring an international cast including former members of Cirque du Soleil and the Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe.

Circus acrobatics and early 20th century machines work in tandem to tell a story of laughter, love, loss and birdhouses in *Birdhouse Factory* at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 16-17, in Yardley Hall. Enjoy this magical family event together.

In this 90-minute show, workers at the H. Rosebud Factory are interconnected by their roles on the assembly line. The factory produces uninspired widgets until a hapless bird flies into one of their machines, creating mayhem and forever altering their lives and the factory's future. A tribute to the industrial era, machines assist the circus acts while attempting to build a better birdhouse and acrobatics transform ordinary factory workers into circus artists.

Spectators will see a contortionist perform on a turntable powered by unicycles. They will be captivated by the flying-hoop performer controlling

an acrobat inside a giant gear-like wheel, amused by the antics of comedic characters, and astonished by the acro-dancing and high jumps performed by other factory workers.

Birdhouse Factory is brought to life thanks to the vision of Chris Lashua, who has spent his life on or around wheels. After nearly a decade of professional bicycle-freestyle competitions, he found himself at China's famed "Wu Ciao" festival in 1992, where he won a bronze medal and a place in Cirque du Soleil. His obsession with wheels led him to perform inside a German wheel as the opening act of Cirque's *Quidam*.

During his six years with *Quidam*, Lashua began work on a mechanical contraption he called the trolley. By adding a winch to the trolley and inviting fellow artist Aloysia Gavre to experiment, a duo act emerged. Next Lashua modified four unicycles to power a turntable that can hoist another ground act. He decided that the place to showcase these machines would be a factory floor, a place he called *Birdhouse Factory*. Next came a conveyer belt driven by a giant turning wheel, a rolla-bolla driven fan and an overhead crane with a traveling high bar. As *Birdhouse Factory* was growing, Lashua teamed up with experienced friends – graduates of the Circus School of San Francisco and former Pickle Family Circus members, other former members of Cirque du Soleil and artists from the Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe.

The result is a factory full of jugglers, tumblers, contortionists, stilt walkers and cyclists, and circus rigging that substitutes for machinery. *Birdhouse Factory* provides a place to experience the magic of human inventiveness – a place for the imagination to take flight.

Tickets \$30 and \$40



The Carlsen Center Arts**Education** program is hosting Aloysia Gavre on Friday, Nov. 16, as part of the *Creativity to Innovation* project to foster creativity across campus. For more information, call Angel Mercier, Arts**Education** program director, 913-469-8500, ext. 4221.

Jazz Fuses with Education

The Up and Coming Jazz Artists Program will bring middle school and high school music students (instrumental and vocal) to the Carlsen Center for an after-school jazz camp Nov. 26-30.

The Up and Coming Jazz Artists Program, now in its fourth year, has reached more than 1,000 students through after-school clinics, summer camps and outreach programs. Future jazz artists learn from Kansas City's best professional jazz musicians. The program was developed and initiated by the Carlsen Center Arts**Education** program and co-sponsored by Bobby Watson, the Conservatory of Music at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and JCCC Music Department.

Students participate in master classes, ensemble work, theory, improvisation training and the newly added discipline – jazz vocals. The new vocal component will be taught by Ron Stinson, JCCC associate professor, training jazz musicians in pitch and harmony as part of their comprehensive education.

The professional musicians may include Clint Ashlock, Michael Pagan, Ray DeMarchi, Gerald Spaits, Joe Parisi, Dan Thomas, Stan Kessler, Rod Fleeman, Joe Cartwright, Bob Bowman, Doug Auwarter and Doug Talley.

The annual jazz summer camp alternates between UMKC and the Carlsen Center, but starting with the 2008 summer camp, both locations will host a camp with the JCCC Music Department participating and planning a continuous jazz experience for students who wish to attend both.

For more information, contact Angel Mercier, Arts**Education** program director, 913-469-8500, ext. 4221.

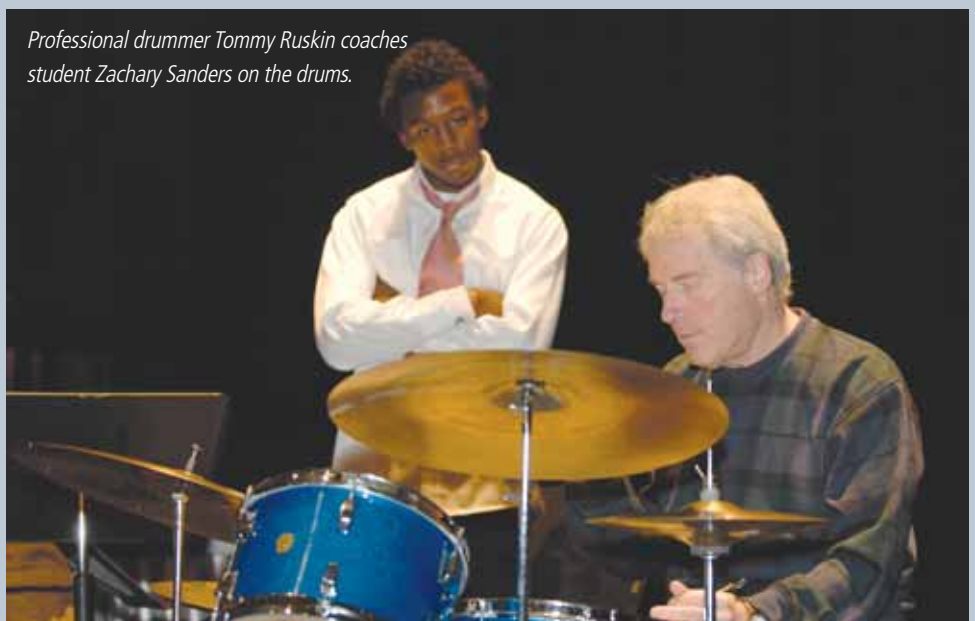
Photos are from the 2006 after-school jazz camp.



Keegan Warring fine tunes his bass playing by listening to Gerald Spaits, professional bass player.



Micah Swihart (left) and Chris Blevens receive one-on-one instruction from Gerald Spaits.



Professional drummer Tommy Ruskin coaches student Zachary Sanders on the drums.

Carlsen Center Events

Johnson County Community College

November 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>For best seats, order early. Call 913-469-4445 or visit www.jccc.edu/CarlsenCenter for tickets and information.</p>  <p>Purchase live online</p>		 <p>Cloven Kingdom, Paul Taylor Dance Company</p>			<p>Paul Taylor Dance Company Dance Series, World Premiere 8 p.m. Yardley Hall~ \$25, \$35</p>	
<p>4 Kansas City Symphony Family Concert Jim Cosgrove, <i>Mr. Stinky Feet</i> 2 p.m. Yardley Hall \$15-\$35 adults, \$10-\$25 youth</p>	<p>5 *Trio Fedele Ruel Joyce Recital Series noon Recital Hall</p>	 <p>Trio Fedele</p>		<p>8 <i>Beakman Live!</i> ArtsEducation School Show 9:45 a.m. grades 1-3, noon grades 4-6, Yardley Hall \$5</p>	 <p>Nikolai Alexeev</p>	<p>10 St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra Nikolai Alexeev, conductor Celebrity Series 8 p.m. Yardley Hall~ \$40, \$50</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	 <p>Cirque-Works Birdhouse Factory</p>			<p>16 Cirque-Works <i>Birdhouse Factory</i> Center Series 8 p.m. Yardley Hall \$30, \$40</p> <p>* <i>Urinetown, The Musical</i> 8 p.m. Polsky Theatre</p>	
<p>18</p> <p>* <i>Urinetown, The Musical</i> 2 p.m. Polsky Theatre</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>*JCCC Music Masters Concert Band 7:30 p.m. Polsky Theatre</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 Kansas City Symphony <i>Yuja Wang Plays Mendelssohn</i> 2 p.m. Yardley Hall \$48 adults, \$12 youth</p>			<p>28 Up and Coming Jazz Artists Program ArtsEducation residency After-school jazz clinic</p>			<p>30</p>

* free-admission event
~ Artist Insights 7 p.m.

Box Office:
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday
Call 913-469-4445
Tickets are required for most events in Polsky Theatre and Yardley Hall.
Programs, dates and times are subject to change.
Discounts are available for music, theater and dance students.

Buy tickets online at www.jccc.edu/CarlsenCenter
There is a \$1 per ticket handling charge at the JCCC box office.

Carlsen Center Administrative Office:
Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday
Call 913-469-4450

A request for interpretative services must be made 72 hours before a performance. Call the box office at 913-469-4445 or TDD/TTY 913-469-4485.
Persons with disabilities who desire additional support services may contact services for patrons with disabilities, 913-469-8500, ext. 3521, or TDD/TTY 913-469-3885.
This program is presented in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

'Beakman Live!' at the Carlsen Center

Beakman, the wild wacky scientist from the Emmy Award-winning television show, *Beakman's World*, combines slapstick, humor and real science in a winning formula. The Carlsen Center Arts **Education** program will present *Beakman Live!* at 9:45 a.m., for grades 1-3, and noon, for grades 4-6, on Thursday, Nov. 8, in Yardley Hall.

Beakman's performance stresses the fun in science while answering real questions from children: What makes people burp? How does soap work? Beakman proves that getting students to think, to ask questions and to see science in everyday life need not be intimidating or boring.

Performance artist and Guggenheim fellow, Paul Zaloom, best known as Beakman, concocts simple experiments and performs scientific demonstrations with a kaleidoscope of crazy objects. A study guide of materials is available with experiments. Students learn that experimentation is the heart of science and what makes it fun.

Beakman Live! is made possible in part by a grant from Sprint Foundation.

Tickets \$5



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