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Photos: http://live.stanford.edu/presscenter/artist_photos.php?code=LIVE

STANFORD LIVE PRESENTS WORLD PREMIERE OF 3D WORK *LINKED VERSE*, DECEMBER 7 & 8 AT BING CONCERT HALL

Stanford, CA, November 7, 2013—Stanford Live will present the world premiere of *Linked Verse*, a new evening-length work by Stanford composer **Jaroslav Kapuscinski** and the New York-based digital media collective **OpenEndedGroup**, on Saturday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 8 at 2:30 p.m. in Bing Concert Hall. This multimedia concerto, commissioned by Stanford Live, will bring together two renowned musicians—*shō* master **Ko Ishikawa** and cellist **Maya Beiser**—in a visually immersive performance environment featuring live 3D stereoscopic video. The soloists will exchange musical passages while sounds and images recorded in Japan and the U.S. undergo an evolving, interlinked transformation.

Linked Verse builds on tensions and accords between elements of Japanese and Western cultures, of ancient and contemporary eras, and of sensory modalities (visual and aural). Its structure is derived from the ancient Japanese poetic practice of “linked verse” (*renga*) in which two or more poets take turns adding interlocking links to form a chain of unexpected associations. Here, though, the links are between 3D scenes captured on location in Tokyo, Kyoto, New York and the Bay Area in counterpoint to the music.

“In *Linked Verse* we find our unexpected way through scenes, motifs and structures of Japan and the West,” says OpenEndedGroup member Paul Kaiser. “There’s a distinct sense of difference and otherness but also of utter familiarity, of the old but also the new, of time suspended but also flying past.”

Linked Verse is coproduced with the Stanford Department of Music and was commissioned by Stanford Live in collaboration with the experimental Media and Performing arts Center (eMPaC),

Rensselaer Polytechnic institute, Troy, New York; the Creative Media Centre, City University of Hong Kong; and the Center for Art and Media (ZKM), Karlsruhe, Germany.

The work is made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Japan Foundation and the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. Additional support has been provided by the Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA), the Stanford Arts Institute, and the Center for East Asian Studies.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Jaroslaw Kapuscinski is an intermedia composer and pianist whose work has been presented at New York's MOMA, the Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie in Karlsruhe, the Museum of Modern Art Palais de Tokyo in Paris, the National Reina Sofia Museum in Madrid, and many other venues. He has received numerous awards at, among others, the UNESCO Film sur l'Art Festival in Paris in 1992, Video Art Festival in Locarno in 1992 and 1993, Manifestation Internationale Vidéo et Art Électronique in Montréal in 1993, and International Festival of New Cinema and New Media in Montréal in 2000. Kapuscinski's primary interest is the creation and performance of works in which musical instruments are used to control multimedia content. As of 2008 he is Assistant Professor of Composition and director of the Intermedia Performance Lab at Stanford University. He has taught at McGill University in Montreal, the Royal Academy of Arts and Music in The Hague, the Art Conservatory and Music Academy in Odense, and the Conservatory of Music at University of the Pacific and has lectured internationally. He has published, among others, the article "Composing with Sounds and Images," outlining his intermedia theory.

OpenEndedGroup comprises three digital artists—**Marc Downie**, **Shelley Eshkar**, and **Paul Kaiser**—whose pioneering approach to digital art frequently combines three signature elements: nonphotorealistic 3D rendering, the incorporation of body movement by motion capture and other means, and the autonomy of artworks directed or assisted by artificial intelligence. Their artworks span a wide range of forms and disciplines, including dance, music, installation, film, and public art. In the field of dance, they have worked most closely with Merce Cunningham (*Hand-Drawn Spaces*, 1998, *BIPED*, 1999, and *Loops*, 2001–2008) but also have worked with Bill T. Jones (*Ghostcatching*, 1999, and *22*, 2005), Trisha Brown (*how long...*, 2005), and Wayne McGregor (*Stairwell*, 2010). Their public artworks include *Pedestrian* (multiple sites, 2002), *Enlightenment and Breath* (Lincoln Center, 2006 and 2007), *Recovered Light* (York Minster, 2007), *Crossings* (Nuit Blanche/Royal Ontario Museum,

2010), and All Day (Barclays Center, 2013). In recent years, OpenEndedGroup has created new approaches to 3D projection, which has resulted in works of digital cinema such as Upending (2010) and All Sides of the Road (2012); the shorter installations After Ghostcatching (with Bill T. Jones, 2010), Stairwell (with Wayne McGregor, 2010), and plant (2011); the interactive installations Into the Forest (2011), Drawn Together (2012), and Becoming (2013); and the chamber opera Twice through the Heart (with Mark-Anthony Turnage and Wayne McGregor, 2011). Its first collaboration with Jaroslaw Kapuscinski came earlier this year at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum with the short 3D-film Knight's Rest.

Cellist **Maya Beiser** has captivated audiences worldwide with her virtuosity, eclectic repertoire, and relentless quest to redefine her instrument's boundaries. The Boston Globe declares, "With virtuoso chops, rock-star charisma, and an appetite for pushing her instrument to the edge of avant-garde adventurousness, Maya Beiser is the postmodern diva of the cello." AllMusic.com reports, "Maya Beiser has etched a bold career path that marries classical to rock, starched collars to casual dress, and tradition to unorthodoxy."

Raised in the Galilee Mountains in Israel, surrounded with the music and rituals of Jews, Muslims, and Christians, while studying classical cello repertoire, Maya Beiser has dedicated her work to reinventing solo cello performance in the mainstream classical arena. A featured performer on the world's most prestigious stages, Maya has appeared as soloist at the Sydney Opera House, New York's Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall and BAM, London's Barbican, Royal Albert Hall, and South Bank Center, and the World Expo in Nagoya, Japan. She has collaborated with artists across a wide range of musical styles, including Brian Eno, Philip Glass, Steve Reich, Tan Dun, James Newton Howard and Carter Burwell, among many others. Maya's latest production, *Elsewhere: a CelloOpera*, premiered in October 2012 at Carolina Performing Arts followed by a sold-out run at the BAM Next Wave Festival. *Elsewhere* is an imaginative retelling of the Biblical legend of Lot's wife, created by Maya with director Robert Woodruff. In 2011, she was invited to present at the exclusive TED conference. Her TEDtalk performance has been watched by close to one million people and translated to 32 languages.

Ko Ishikawa is a professional *shō*, (Japanese bamboo mouth organ) player and is a member of the gagaku ensemble Reigakusha. He was born in Tokyo in 1963 and studied *shō*, and gagaku music with masters Mayumi Miyata, Hideaki Bunno, and Sukeyasu Shiba. He became a member of the Reigakusha in 1987 and has made numerous appearances with the ensemble and as a soloist in Europe, performing in major festivals. His performances of both traditional and new music for *shō*, have been

highly regarded in Vienna, London, Paris, Tokyo, Frankfurt, and Berlin. Ko Ishikawa has worked frequently with Otomo Yoshihide in the group Cathode, and he played and recorded with Gene Coleman in Japan in 2001, 2002 and 2003.

TICKETS

Tickets for *Linked Verse*, presented by Stanford Live on **Saturday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 8 at 2:30 p.m.**, range from \$26-\$75. All tickets are \$10 for current Stanford University students. Tickets are available in person at the Bing Concert Hall Box Office, by phone at **650-724-2464 (BING)** or at **<http://live.stanford.edu>**. The Bing Box Office is located at 327 Lasuen Street. Regular hours are Tuesday-Friday from 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Weekends and performance days vary (call for specific hours).

VENUE INFORMATION

Bing Concert Hall is located on the Stanford University campus at 327 Lasuen Street on the corner of Lasuen and Campus Dr. Parking on campus is free of charge after 4:00 PM and on weekends at all times, and may be found in the Galvez Lot across Campus Dr. from Bing Concert Hall.

ABOUT STANFORD LIVE

Stanford Live is multi-disciplinary performing arts on the campus of Stanford University. The organization is committed to sharing, celebrating, and advancing the art of live music, dance, theater and opera. It unites celebrated and emerging artists with the Stanford campus and greater Bay Area communities in a broad range of experiences to engage the senses and emotions, stimulate minds, and enrich lives.

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

What: *Linked Verse* (**World premiere, Stanford commission**)
When: Saturday, December 7, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 8, 2:30 p.m.
Where: Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen Street, Stanford University
Tickets: \$26-\$75; \$10 (Stanford students)
Description: *Linked Verse* is an evening-length concerto for cello, Japanese *shō* player Ko Ishikawa and cellist Maya Beiser, voice, sound, and live 3D stereoscopic visual projection by Stanford Department of Music faculty member and composer Jaroslaw Kapuscinski and OpenEndedGroup.