

**TWINCUSSION** is formed by Taiwanese twin brothers Jen-Ting and Jen-Yu Chien. With their unique music partnership for over 20 years, since the age of six, the twins present a new face in the percussion field. Their diverse repertoires range from romantic transcriptions to contemporary music. The duo connects music from East Asia to the West, and have commissioned original percussion compositions from Taiwanese folksongs to electronic music.

They have won multiple international music competitions in Europe and North America, In June 2014 they clinched the Grand Honorable Mention (2<sup>nd</sup>Place) award at the Southern California International Marimba Competition, in July 2016 they got First prize in ensemble category of International Percussion Competition in Italy. In 2018 March they won first prize of Golden Classical Music Award and played in Carnegie Hall, more recently they won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in Chamber Music Competition in Royal Danish Academy of Music and were the recipient of the annual scholarship.

The duo has toured in the U.S., Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia, China, U.K., Italy, Switzerland and Denmark. They were invited to perform with the World Percussion Group U.S. tour in 2016. They were part of the jury members in 2018 Youth Tuned Percussion Competition in London. More recently, they played in the Showcase Concert at Percussive Art Society International Convention 2018 as the ensemble artist.

Jen-Ting and Jen-Yu are studying the Advanced Postgraduate (Soloist) Diploma at the Royal Danish Academy of Music with Professor Gert Mortensen and are currently artists of Mike Balter Mallets.

#### MEDVIRKENDE:

Rødovre Concert Band  
Dirigent: Max Artved

## PROGRAM

J. S. Bach:  
(1685-1750)

fra Wohltemperiertes Clavier, bd. 1:  
Præludium og fuga i c-mol, BWV 847

G.F. Händel / J. Halvorsen:  
(1685-1759) / (1864-1935)

Passacaglia (Arr. Twincussion)

Søren Barfoed:  
(f. 1950)

Safricana  
IV Dancers in the night

Keiko Abe:  
(f. 1937)

Prism Rhapsody 2  
for 2 marimbaer og concert band

**PAUSE** (ca. 20 min)

Yi-Chih Lu:  
(f. 1982)

Cloudy Sky (Taiwanese Folk Song)  
(Arr. Twincussion)

Jacob ter Veldhuis:  
(f. 1951)

Goldrush

Tomasz Golinski:  
(f. 1986)

Layered Elements for Two Marimbas  
and Electronics (dansk førsteopførelse)

Minoru Miki:  
(1930-2011)

Marimba Spiritual 2

# TWINCUSSION DUO



## Debutkoncert

Onsdag 12. december 2018 kl. 19.30  
Konservatoriets Koncertsal,  
Julius Thomsens Gade 1



DET KONGELIGE  
DANSKE  
MUSIKKONSERVATORIUM

## ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

### PASSACAGLIA

The *Passacaglia* with its dual attribution to Handel and Halvorsen is a famous virtuoso piece for violin and cello (or violin and viola) published by Norwegian composer Johan Halvorsen in 1894, and based on the finale movement from the harpsichord suite in G minor (HWV 432), published by German composer Georg Friedrich Handel 1720.

The ”theme” is a brief four-measure sequence of eight chords with a characteristic dotted rhythm generating a series of thrilling variations in a tour de force of musical invention. The result is a scintillating dialog for two master players frequently expanding to four and five simultaneous parts.

### SAFRICANA

*Safricana* is a multiple percussion duet piece written for the Safri duo. *Safricana* combines Safri and African. In the fourth movement ,you can see a lot of instruments from all over the world on the stage. Such as Temple bowls, Tam-Tam from China, Anklung from Indonesia and congas from Latin America. You can experience different sounds from west to east ,and experience the massive energy of drumming.

### PRISM RHAPSODY II

This is a duo version of *Prism Rhapsody* by Keiko Abe for two marimbas and orchestra. *Prism Rhapsody II* is drawn upon Conversations in the Forest and the Prism Rhapsody series of compositions. Keiko Abe’s compositions are characterized by the use of Japanese folksongs, improvisation and a wide variety of extended techniques.

Keiko Abe is a Japanese composer and marimba player. She has been a primary figure in the development of the marimba, in terms of expanding both technique and repertoire, and through her collaboration with the Yamaha Corporation, developed the modern five-octave concert marimba.

### CLOUDY SKY (Taiwanese Folk Song)

The theme of *Cloudy Sky* is an old couple’s miff in rural society. The music conversation is in fact self-ridicule for difficult life with humorous and bantering attitudes. It is sorrowful but also a wise self-comfort to look for excuse for difficult life. In drizz-

ling Jinguashi (A mountainous village in Taipei), it came indistinctly sounds of noises. As it turned out, grandpa and grandma were quarreling about the cooking tastes, salty or insipid, of a loach that they were going to cook... The song, *Cloudy Sky*, came from doggerel in Jinguashi. The local rainy weather condition, farmers’ fertile imagination and optimistic and entertaining characteristics are integrated into this collaborative work. This song is re-arranged by Yi-Chih Lu and Twincussion.

### GOLDRUSH

”*Goldrush* is not the first piece I have written for percussion. Both my symphonies and some of my chamber works contain a lot of percussion and I have written some pieces for percussion ensemble. Percussion excites me. I grew up in the sixties and my roots are in rock culture. I played in bands, found out how to improvise and went to the Conservatory of Music to study composition. For me, rhythm is the heartbeat of the music and I think you can hear that in my work. Composing for me always begins with ideas and sketches on which I improvise in my studio, using computers, samplers and so on. Musical inspiration comes suddenly and evaporates immediately, and modern technology helps me to hold on to it and crystallize it into a composition. ’Goldrush’ involves the whole family of percussion instruments. Although music is an abstract art form it can tell stories too. ’Goldrush’ is an adventure; while listening to it you can imagine people exploring new land in search of gold, which led to so many catastrophes in the history of man. At the end of the piece, when you are least expecting it and after a lot of struggling, they find pure, shining gold, represented by instruments such as crotales, chimes and the glockenspiel.”

*Jacob ter Veldhuis*

### LAYERED ELEMENTS

Tomasz Golinski is a Polish composer, marimbist and percussionist. He is one of the leading composers and performers of his generation on the international marimba/percussion scene. His first marimba solo piece *Luminosity* was used as a set-piece in the Universal Marimba Competition Belgium in 2013. Since then *Luminosity* is becoming a standard piece in the marimba solo repertoire, being regularly performed in the world. The young composer is receiving commissions from Thailand, Germany, Spain, Austria, such as marimba solo/duo works with electronics, marimba and organ. This piece is commissioned by Twincussion and world premiered at their Showcase Concert in Percussive Arts Society International Convention 2018 in Indianapolis, U.S.A.

### MARIMBA SPIRITUAL 2

Marimba Spiritual by Minoru Miki is one of the most well-known, widely performed, and historically important pieces for marimba ever written. This piece of music gained even wider fame when it was highlighted on Broadway with the show Blast!

In 1984, many people died in Africa from starvation. As a person who had experienced similar suffering before and after the end of World War II, Miki could not be silent. Rather he felt that he must express his condolences and anger for that situation. He therefore composed the first slow section as a static requiem, and the second fast section as lively resurrection. The title *Marimba Spiritual* is as expression of the total process.

In 1988, the Safri Duo played the piece with only two people. The recording was so excellent that Miki gave them permission to arrange the piece and named the result *Marimba Spiritual 2*. The Safri Duo performed the piece more than 700 times all over the world throughout the 1990’s. Both the original piece and *Marimba Spiritual 2* have frequently appeared in many different venues, from TV CM to numerous contemporary music festivals.

We hope you enjoy the music tonight.

*Twincussion: Jen-Ting Chien and Jen-Yu Chien*