

STANFORD LIVELY ARTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STANFORD LIVELY ARTS OPENS 2009–10 SEASON WITH WEST COAST PREMIERE OF URI CAINE'S GRAMMY-NOMINATED *OTHELLO SYNDROME* ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

Performance by jazz innovator and his ensemble will be preceded by student-curated opening act as part of new Lively Arts initiative

Stanford, CA, August 31, 2009—Stanford Lively Arts opens its 2009–10 season with the West Coast premiere of Uri Caine's *The Othello Syndrome* on Saturday, October 10 at 8:00 p.m. at Dinkelspiel Auditorium. Following up on his “Mahler Remix” (presented by Lively Arts in 2008), the iconoclastic composer/jazz pianist returns with a hand-picked ensemble of A-list collaborators for this radical re-imagining of the classic Verdi opera and Shakespeare play.

The Othello Syndrome dates from 2003, when Caine was commissioned to write a piece for the Venice Biennale for Music. “It came from a confluence of things,” says Caine. “I had always loved Verdi’s late operas, so I just put it all together by thinking about what would happen if Otello were played by an R&B singer from Philadelphia and how that would change the music. It’s not really an opera at all—it’s more about taking different parts of Verdi’s *Otello* and transforming them, changing the style.”

The resulting piece received its premiere in 2003 at the Biennale and was recorded over a three-year period. Released in 2008 on the Winter & Winter label, *The Othello Syndrome* earned Caine a 2009 Grammy Award nomination for “Best Classical Crossover Album.”

Stanford Lively Arts’ presentation of *The Othello Syndrome* will feature Uri Caine on piano and keyboards. The R&B vocalist **Bunny Sigler** and Swedish jazz muse **Josefine Lindstrand** will portray Otello and Desdemona, backed by a band that includes **Ralph Alessi** on trumpet, **Zach Danziger** on drums, **Tim Lefebvre** on bass, **Chris Speed** on clarinet and guitar, and **Josefina Vergara** on violin.

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OPENING ACTS

The performance will also include a short opening act curated by Stanford student **Heidi Lee**. “Opening Acts” is a new initiative launched by Lively Arts this season to involve Stanford students in the performing arts both onstage and behind the scenes. For select performances, a chosen student curator will select and program Stanford-based performers— instrumentalists, vocal ensembles, theater troupes, poetry collectives, etc.—to be featured in the opening 15-20 minutes of a scheduled mainstage performance (more details TBA).

This presentation is generously supported by Bonnie and Marty Tenenbaum.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Called “ferociously versatile” and “a genuine polyglot” (*New York Times*), **Uri Caine** has received commissions from the Vienna Volksoper, the Seattle Chamber Players, Relache, the Beaux Arts Trio, the Basel Chamber Orchestra, Concerto Köln, and American Composers Orchestra. He was the director of the Venice Biennale for Music in September 2003, where he also premiered *The Othello Syndrome*. In 2006 he was named composer-in-residence for the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, premiering his Concerto for Two Pianos and Chamber Orchestra with Jeffrey Kahane in May 2006. Since moving to New York City, the Philadelphia native has recorded 19 CDs, the most recent being *The Othello Syndrome* (Winter and Winter label, 2008).

Caine has performed at many jazz festivals including the North Sea Jazz Festival, Montreal Jazz Festival, JVC Festival, San Sebastian Jazz Festival, Vittoria Jazz Festival, and Newport Jazz Festival, as well as classical festivals and venues including the Salzburg Festival, Munich Opera, Holland Festival, Israel Festival, IRCAM, and the Great Performers series at Lincoln Center.

TICKETS

Tickets for *The Othello Syndrome*, performed by **The Uri Caine Ensemble**, on **Saturday, October 10 at 8:00 p.m.** at Dinkelspiel Auditorium, range from \$34 to \$38 for adults and are \$10 for Stanford students. Half-price tickets are available for young people age 18 and under, and discounts are available for groups and non-Stanford students. For tickets and more information, call 650-725-ARTS (2787), or visit <http://livelyarts.stanford.edu/>.

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VENUE INFORMATION

Dinkelspiel Auditorium is located on the Stanford University campus at 471 Lagunita Drive, adjacent to Tresidder Union. Parking on campus is free of charge after 4:00 p.m. and on weekends at all times and may be found in the lot off Lagunita Drive near Tresidder Memorial Union and on Abbott Way. Maps and directions maybe accessed at <http://livelyarts.stanford.edu>.

ABOUT STANFORD LIVELY ARTS

Stanford Lively Arts curates experiences that engage artists' and audiences' imagination, creativity, and sense of adventure. Founded in 1969 at Stanford University, we produce and present music, theater, dance, spoken word, and multi-media events. We place a special focus on innovation and risk-taking, and through commissions and premieres are an incubator and destination for new work. Stanford Lively Arts plays a leading and collaborative role in the university's thriving vision of a sustained culture of creativity—one in which the arts integrate with the academic disciplines, flourish as a vital part of campus and community life, and inspire new perspectives on our lives and culture.

NOTE TO EDITORS

High-resolution images can be accessed at <http://livelyarts.stanford.edu/presscenter/>.

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

Who: **URI CAINE ENSEMBLE**
What: ***The Othello Syndrome* (West Coast premiere)**
Where: Dinkelspiel Auditorium, 471 Lagunita Drive, Stanford University
When: Saturday, October 10 at 8:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$34/\$38 (Adult); \$10 (Stanford student)
Presented by: Stanford Lively Arts
Description: Following his 2008 *Mahler Remix*, the iconoclastic composer/jazz pianist Uri Caine returns to open Stanford Lively Arts' season with the first West Coast performance of the Grammy-nominated *Othello Syndrome*, a radical re-imagining of the classic Verdi opera and Shakespeare play. Probing the disorder of delusional jealousy through multiple lenses of jazz, funk, blues, soul, and electronica, *The Othello Syndrome* showcases an A-list cast of multi-talented performers from around the globe, including R&B singer-producer Bunny Sieglar and Swedish jazz muse Josefine Lindstrand.

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