



**HANDOVER CEREMONY
OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE GROUP OF 77
Tuesday, 15 January 2019
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Trusteeship Council Chamber**

MUSIC PROGRAM

Music Program

Tl't ya mahla norha.....Sayyid Darwish

Zuruni kol sanna marraSayyid Darwish

Lessa Faker.....Riyad Alsunbati

Enta omri.....Mohamed Abdelwahab

Ya Msafer wahdak.....Mohamed Abdelwahab

Medley of Palestinian Folk Songs

Oblivion.....Astor Piazzolla

Sonata no.1 for Violin and Piano in G Major.....Johannes Brahms

Vivace ma non troppo

Adagio

Allegro Molto Moderato

Sayyid Darwish (1892-1923): Despite his short life, Sayyid Darwish was a prolific composer. He is considered to be the father of modern Arabic Music. He expressed the concerns and aspirations of the Egyptian people and that's why he was nicknamed "Fannan Asha'b"; "The Artist of the People". *Ti't ya Mahla Norha* and *Zuruni Kol Sanna Marrah* are two of Sayyid Darwish's most popular tunes written in 1917.

Riyad Al Sunbati (1906-1981): Known in Egypt as the Prince of Melody, Riyad Al Sunbati composed *Lessa Faker* for one of the greatest voices in Egyptian history; Um Kulthoum (1898-1975). She, Um Kulthoum, remains a legendary singer in Egypt and the Arab world.

Mohamed Abdelwahab (1902-1991): Due to his influence on many generations of Egyptian, he was known as "Musiqar Alagyal"; "The Musician of Generations". He is considered one of the most innovative composers in Egypt and the Arab world who managed to skillfully incorporate elements of Western Music into traditional Arabic music.

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992): known as the father of nuevo tango, Astor Piazzolla is an Argentinean composer. He revolutionized traditional tango by incorporating in it elements from Western Classical music and Jazz. *Oblivion* is a milonga composed by Piazzolla in 1982.

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897): is one of the leading German composers of the Romantic era. His status as a composer often groups him with the great Johann Sebastian Bach and Ludwig Van Beethoven as one of the **3 Bs**.

About the musicians

Basma Edrees is a graduate of the Juilliard school where she received her Masters in Violin



Performance. She has performed under the batons of many great conductors including Alan Gilbert and Daniel Barenboim. Basma has served as Associate Concert Master of the Oakland Symphony during their 2015-2016 season. She also worked with the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra as well as the Santa Rosa Symphony.

Basma has performed as a soloist in various countries including the USA, Montenegro, Ethiopia and her native country, Egypt. Equally at home with Arabic music, Basma performed with renowned musicians

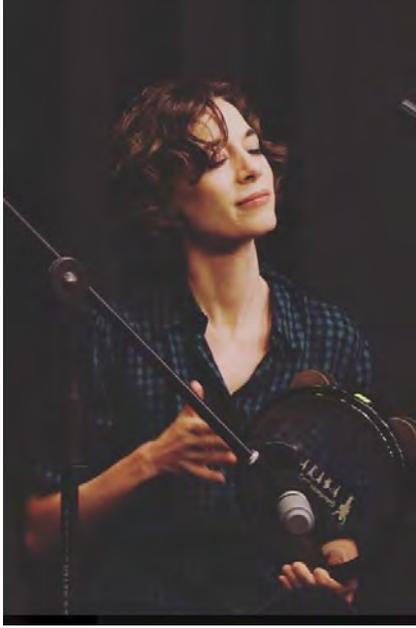
from the Arab world and has been invited to give Arabic Music workshops at UC Berkeley. She currently holds a position as Music Director of the Aswat Women Ensemble; an all female Bay Area community ensemble specializing in Arabic music. Basma's knowledge of music theory earned her assistant teaching positions at the Juilliard School while she was a student there. Currently, she is a member of the Music Theory faculty at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.



Ava Nazar is a New York based pianist. Born in Iran, she has had numerous performances as soloist and chamber musician in her home country and across the United States. She has been featured at *Académies Internationales d'été du Grand Nancy* in France, has received scholarship to study at the Aspen Music Festival, and has served as a fellow at the Music Academy of the West.

Ava received her Bachelor's degree in Piano Performance from the Manhattan School of Music, and received her Master's degree in Collaborative Piano from the Juilliard School as a recipient of the Betty & Daniel Bloomfield scholarship, and the David Garvey & Shendell Scholarship.

Ava currently serves as a fellow for the ArtistYear organization, which its mission is to increase arts access and education for underserved youth in America through an arts-focused national service year. In addition, she works as a staff pianist at the Juilliard School



April Centrone is a multi-instrumentalist, teacher and music therapist based in New York City. She is the co-founder and lead percussionist of the New York Arabic Orchestra, non-profit organization specializing in the performance and education of Arabic music and the preservation of Arab culture and heritage. She has toured with Arab icons including Ziad Rahbani, Bassam Saba and Marcel Khalife, has performed in venues such as Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center and has toured throughout Europe, the Americas, Middle East and Far East. She has held lectures at universities around the world including Taipei University of the Arts and Lebanese American University, and in public schools throughout New York City with project such as Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Connect. In 2018, U.S. Embassy of Malaysia invited Centrone on a 'Music Therapy Tour' where she visited refugee youth centers and safe houses for young women in Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh and Penang. During her residence in

Lebanon from 2013 to 2016, she founded project Juthoor, Arabic music and language project for refugee and underprivileged youth. Centrone holds weekly classes for women in percussion, 'ud performance and drum meditation, and strongly advocates female empowerment in her teaching and compositions. Centrone recently recorded her debut solo album entitled New Moon to be released Spring 2018, featuring her on drumset, riqq (Arabic tambourine), bendir (North African frame drum), 'ud (Arabic lute), buzuq (Arabic long-neck lute), guitar, piano, voice and spoken word. Centrone carries a Masters degree in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College, New York City.