The Music of Stephen Scott

A Celebration

Friday, October 8, 2021
4 p.m.
Packard Performance Hall
Stephen Scott Biography
(1944-2021)

Stephen Scott was born in Corvallis, Oregon in 1944 to parents trained in the sciences; early study of music included tutoring in recorder in England, clarinet and saxophone in school bands, and private study and transcription of recordings by Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk, Gil Evans, Oliver Nelson and John Coltrane in high school. He played saxophone and piano in a jazz quintet as a teenager, but he also learned and played, as a clarinetist, the classics of the European tradition.

After studying composition with Homer Keller at the University of Oregon and Gerald Shapiro at Brown, he met and studied informally with Steve Reich in Ghana. Later he collaborated with Terry Riley, and these two composers became his most important influences outside jazz. Scott was a professor of music at Colorado College from 1969 to 2014 and served the Music Department as both chair and associate chair. In 1972 he established the Colorado College New Music Ensemble (NME), and in 1977 The Bowed Piano Ensemble, a branch of the NME, was created. He served on the faculty of The Evergreen State College and as visiting composer at Eastman School of Music, Aspen Music School, New England Conservatory, Princeton University, University of Southern California, Cal Arts, and at festivals and conservatories in Germany, Italy, Estonia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Ireland, Norway, England, Italy, Canary Islands, Malta, Bermuda, New Zealand and Australia. In February 2011 he and New York Philharmonic English horn soloist Thomas Stacy premiered his Lyric Suite for English Horn and Bowed Piano. In the summer of 2004 Scott was a resident scholar at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Study and Conference Center on Lake Como, Italy. In 2008 United States Artists named Scott the USA Simon Fellow.

Scott is listed in New Grove's Dictionary of American Music and Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Musicians, and his work is discussed in several books on twentieth-century music. Awards include commissions from Meet the Composer/USA, Pacific Symphony and the Barlow Endowment, a grant from the Peter S. Reed Foundation, the New England Conservatory/Rockefeller Foundation Chamber Music Prize, and a National Endowment for the Arts Composer's Fellowship. His music may be heard on the New Albion, Albany and Navona labels. Film and television credits include Traffic (DVD version), Egg: the Arts Show (PBS) and the NBC special Revenge of the Whale. Scott lived in Colorado Springs with his wife, Victoria Hansen, who toured with the Bowed Piano Ensemble as soprano soloist.

Scott’s interests outside music included reading and writing, sailing, hiking with friends and his grown children, anesthesiologist Benjamin Scott of Denver and public radio reporter Amy Scott of Baltimore and their spouses, pediatrician Halden Scott and photographer/art professor Alex Heilner. Scott summited ten Colorado “Fourteeners” and several peaks in Oregon and Washington. He has two grandsons and two granddaughters.

All of the Scott’s, from the elders to the toddlers and infants, seem to have hot feet and traveled quite a bit. Stephen’s parents were world travelers and often took their three young children along. By 1957 Stephen and his brother and sister had visited all of the then forty-eight states, as well as Great Britain and most of Western Europe. Visits to Hawaii and Alaska came much later.

At Colorado College, Scott’s passions for music and travel seemed made for each other; from 1972 to 2014, his ensembles, from NME to BPE, toured at least once, and often twice, almost every academic year.
The Colorado College Music Department presents

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Friday, October 8, 2021
4:00 pm
Packard Performance Hall
Live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook

Welcoming remarks by Music Department Chair Ofer Ben-Amots

Departures for solo piano
Batavia, 1770
Ruth
Blues for Miles and Gil
June Tune (for Bill Evans)
Vivian
Lake Victoria, 1970

Susan Grace, piano*

The Desperate Notes (A song cycle on poems by Dorothy Parker and Derek Walcott)
One Perfect Rose
The Lady’s Reward
Love After Love

Jennifer DeDominici, soprano*; Paul Nagem, flute*; Karine Garibova, violin^;
Jennifer Yopp, cello^; Susan Grace, piano*

And Always Someone is Leaving from Wild Children of the Urals (Maria’s Death Aria)

Jennifer DeDominici, soprano*
Daniel Brink, piano*
Lyrics by Steven Hayward*

Un poco Passacaglia

Dan Wieneck ’91, piano*

Ta ta logy

Colorado Vocal Arts Ensemble
Deborah Teske, director*

Soprano
Kacie Kenton
Emily Sorenson

Alto
Lori Bammesberger
Linda Cummings ’85; P ’11
Tamara Teske Lenz
Tenor
Ryan Capp '91; P '17
Ely Merenstein '21*
Todd Teske

Bass
Chris Arroyo

Where Flamingos Fly (Dedicated to Amy Scott)  J.B. Brooks/Gil Evans
(arr. Stephen Scott)

Tiger Jazz Ensemble
Ricky Sweum, director*

Kai Givens, flute
Lexie Green, alto sax
Daniel Wu, alto sax
Fabio Hornischer, tenor sax
Bella Takacs, tenor sax
Jackson Hammock, tenor sax
Joyce Hanagan, bari sax, clarinet*
Xinran Wang, piano
Robby Brooks, bass

Anders Pohlmann, trumpet
Connor Stimpert, trumpet
Em Cooper, trumpet
Nathaniel Cutler, trumpet
Harry Lucas, trombone '21*
Jeremy Van Hoy, trombone*

Tyler Chang, percussion, vibraphone
Josh Lieberman, drums

Theme from Il Postino

Bowed Piano Ensemble Alumni
Dan Wiencek '91, ensemble manager*

Ryan Banagale '00*, Bernie Brink '06 *, Ryan Capp '91, Neil Hesse '11
Lynn Shelton Holladay '05, Jeff Kent '92, Laura Whalin '03, Sienna Wood '05
Andrew Pope '13, B-flat clarinet; A.J. Salimbeni '11, bass clarinet

Entrada

The Bowed Piano Ensemble (1999)
Stephen Scott, director
A concert film by Tom Sanny and Amy Scott

* CC Faculty/Staff
^ Guest performer

Please join us for a reception following the concert in the Packard courtyard.

The Life of Stephen Scott:
A memorial celebration of the musician, adventurer, and family man
Sunday, October 10 from 3:00-4:00 pm
First Congregational Church
20 E. St. Vrain