



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Planet/Bernstein series from MUSE/IQUE ends with a Big Bang

*West Side Story is explored
for a powerful finale to a fantastic summer festival*

PASADENA, CA (August 1, 2015) – MUSE/IQUE concludes its Planet/Bernstein Summer of Sound festival with *IN/SIDE STORY* on Saturday, August 29, 7:30 p.m., at Caltech’s Beckman Mall Lawn in Pasadena. *IN/SIDE STORY* is an unconventional and thrilling adaptation of the iconic *West Side Story*.

The Planet/Bernstein series explores the creative genius of Bernstein with a blend of multiple musical genres through several artistic mediums including music, poetry, sciences, theatre, and dance.

“We’ve been celebrating the world of Leonard Bernstein all summer,” says MUSE/IQUE’s Artistic Director Rachael Worby.

“There was only one possible finale for the Planet/Bernstein series, and that’s *West Side Story* with Bernstein’s timeless score – a masterpiece of overwhelming emotional depth and power.”

The three-part concert series –widely described as a party in three parts – celebrates the creations, influences, collaborations of Bernstein as only MUSE/IQUE can -- by breaking conventions, deconstructing the music and carefully curating the venue and performance with a goal of fully immersing the audience in the event.

IN/SIDE STORY is an exploration and mash-up of *West Side Story* favorites such as “Somewhere,” “Tonight” and “Maria” set in a contemporary context. MUSE/IQUE will blend elements of rock, opera, hip-hop, jazz, classical and modern dance into one extraordinary experience. Music will range from Bernstein, of course, to the Beatles to Peggy Lee and even original poetry from Sekou Andrews, and dance grooves from local hip/hop legends Frit and Frat Fuller of KIN Dance Company.

It’s no party, of course, without the MUSE/IQUE orchestra who, led by Rachel Worby, will showcase Bernstein, Shakespeare, and Sondheim.

“We called our series Planet/Bernstein because we wanted to celebrate everything he gave to our musical world,” says Worby.

“Now we are ending with a Big Bang. *West Side Story* remains as powerful, poignant and timely as ever and IN/SIDE STORY is a miraculous fusion of theatrical elements that place this story firmly into today.”

West Side Story -- based on the greatest love story of all, Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet* -- is the tale of young lovers caught in a turf war between rival gangs. The musical has an electrifying Latin and Jazz-infused score. It first premiered on Broadway in 1957 and is the result of collaboration between three theatrical luminaries: book by Arthur Laurents, score by Leonard Bernstein and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. The smash hit 1961 film version won 10 Academy Awards including Best Picture and catapulted the musical to the center of national consciousness.

Planet/Bernstein is sponsored in part by the City of Pasadena Arts and Cultural Affairs Division and Pasadena Arts and Culture Commission.

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FOR CALENDAR SECTION

WHO: Local orchestra extraordinaire, MUSE/IQUE

WHAT: IN/SIDE STORY - The final in the Planet/Bernstein series that places *West Side Story* firmly into today

WHERE: Beckman Mall Lawn at Caltech
332 S. Michigan Ave. Pasadena, CA 91106

WHEN: Saturday, August 29, 2015, 7:30 p.m.
Grounds open at 5:30 p.m. for outdoor dining and mingling.
Guests can bring own food & drinks for preconcert dining or food can be pre-ordered or purchased on site

TICKETS: Tel: 626 539-7085 or visit: www.muse.ique.com/events

MORE ON MUSE/IQUE

MUSE/IQUE is a not-for-profit, professional counter-conventional orchestra founded in 2011 in Pasadena by community leaders to create unprecedented access to classical and live music performance. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Rachael Worby, it has become a major cultural presence that reaches a broad and diverse audience. MUSE/IQUE is a pioneering platform for collaborative exploration of non-traditional performance contexts and formats. For each event, diverse genres and styles are paired and locations carefully chosen to create an immersive experience packaged in the form of a “party.” Notable MUSE/IQUE guest artists have included Jessye Norman, Angela Bassett, Rickie Lee Jones, Arturo Sandoval, Flea, Charlie Haden, Steven Page, Patti Austin, Mary Wilson, Kevin McHale, The Doric Quartet, Nnenna Freelon, and Colin Hay.