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**MUSE/IQUE ANNOUNCES ITS 2016 SUMMER OF SOUND CONCERT SERIES,
CELEBRATING THE INFLUENCE OF GEORGE GERSHWIN, IN A
THREE-PART SERIES TITLED “GERSHWIN/NATION”**

Summer of Sound Opens July 16 at Caltech’s Beckman Mall Lawn

PASADENA, Calif. (June 22, 2016) -- MUSE/IQUE, Pasadena’s non-profit counter-conventional orchestra that presents one-of-a-kind live performances that span beyond music into the world of dance, theatre, literature, and fine art, today announced that this year’s Summer of Sound (SOS) series will celebrate the work of George Gershwin by examining his prolific collaborations with his brother Ira, his influences and those he influenced, as well as his contributions to both the American musical and the American opera. George Gershwin bridged the worlds of jazz and classical together in ways unparalleled by any other composer. MUSE/IQUE works to make meaningful musical connections in all artistic mediums, and often travels beyond music into other disciplines such as science and mathematics. This summer MUSE/IQUE aims to continue to bridge these musical worlds, uniting people and audiences alike, in its three-part festival titled “GERSHWIN/NATION.”

All Summer of Sound performances are held on Caltech’s Beckman Mall Lawn, located at 332 S. Michigan Ave., Pasadena, CA 91106. Summer of Sound, in conjunction with Caltech, offers FREE parking (not stacked), on-site catering provided by The Kitchen for Exploring Foods, and dressed linen-covered tables and chairs for all ticket levels (\$25-\$200). The 2016 Summer of Sound is guaranteed to be a perfect evening for singles, couples, friends, and families alike.

“This summer is particularly special for us as we approach our five year anniversary as a nonprofit, serving the Pasadena community and greater Los Angeles schools and communities,” said MUSE/IQUE’s Artistic Director Rachael Worby. “We know there are many summer performances to choose from, and our hope is that after just one MUSE/IQUE experience, Summer of Sound will become an annual tradition for each of our guests.”

The 2016 Summer of Sound schedule of events includes:

Saturday, July 16th at 7:30p.m.

PERFECT/UNION features renowned singer Sheléa Frazier and two-time Grammy award winning guitarist Laurence Juber as they team up with Rachael Worby and the MUSE/IQUE orchestra to explore the works of some of music’s most dynamic duos. From George and Ira Gershwin, Lennon and McCartney, Leiber and Stoller, Arlen and

Yarburg, Bacharach and David and, Alan and Marilyn Bergman, the concept of “pairs,” and their significance in music, will be presented to audiences. Included in this program is a choreographed dance to Bach’s Double Concerto for Violin and Oboe by the brilliant Jackie Kopcsak as well as an informative, comedic, and scientific telling of the number “2” by singer and thespian Gia Mora.

Saturday, August 20th at 7:30 p.m.

AMERICAN/RHAPSODY melds together a dizzying array of genres – classical, ballet, jazz, and more! George Gershwin created a sound just as big and alive as America itself. On August 20th the evening shifts its focus onto music by those Gershwin himself was influenced by and, in turn, those he influenced. Pianist HyeJin Kim joins Rachael Worby and her orchestra in a performance of “Rhapsody in Blue” while dancers from BODYTRAFFIC dance to the orchestrated versions of Gershwin’s “Three Preludes” and Kurt Weil’s (arrangement by the Oscar Peterson Trio + 1) classic “Mack the Knife.” Whether it is jazz or classical, we can hear the exchange of big ideas between these giants of modern music.

Saturday, September 10th at 7:30 p.m.

SUMMER/TIME, reimagines Gershwin’s complex, heartbreaking and beautiful contribution to the American opera, “Porgy and Bess.” Rachael Worby’s unexpected cast of characters, with dance prodigy Charles “Lil Buck” Riley and the “Ambassador of Soul,” Ellis Hall at the helm, will engage in a musical storytelling of one of Gershwin’s most complicated works. Inspired by last year’s soaring interdisciplinary performance of “West Side Story,” MUSE/IQUE invites back director Matthew McCray to seamlessly weave the worlds of theatre and music together in ways not yet seen or heard by audiences. MUSE/IQUE’s vibrant group of virtuosos, including Kenton Chen (The Sing-Off), are teaming up with the Los Angeles Spirit Chorale to breathe new life and a new perspective to “Porgy and Bess.”

All events open at 5:30 p.m. for casual mingling and dining in an intimate and friendly table seating environment. Food and wine are available for purchase, in advance, from Pasadena’s own The Kitchen for Exploring Foods. Ticket holders can pre-order gourmet boxed meals or fully-serviced family-style meals by calling 626.793.7218. Beverages and small concessions are available for purchase on-site. Performances begin at 7:30 PM with an exhilarating non-stop 90-minute adventure in sound.

Tickets are available for purchase for \$25-\$200. For more information about tickets sales, including groups discounts, please visit <http://muse-ique.com/> and click on events. All new MUSE/IQUE Members receive a 25% discount on Summer of Sound tickets as well as support the orchestra’s year-long efforts to deliver live music to the community as well as music education. Support for MUSE/IQUE’s innovative, live music and interdisciplinary arts performances directly benefit its KIDS/IQUE! outreach program, which brings live music performances and instruction to local at-risk youths.

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#SummerOfSound #GershwinNation

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 performances. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Rachael Worby, MUSE/IQUE 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 designed to feel more like a “party” than a traditional concert hall experience. Notable MUSE/IQUE guest artists have included Jessye Norman, Angela Bassett, Rickie Lee Jones, Arturo Sandoval, Flea, Savion Glover, Charlie Haden, Steven Page, Patti Austin, Mary Wilson, Kevin McHale, The Doric Quartet, Nnenna Freelon, and Colin Hay.

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