

*Department of Music Presents...*

# Visions & Variations

## Gongs and Shadows

**Shepard Recital Hall**

Wednesday, December 6  
7:30 p.m.



**GAMELAN SI BETTY  
and the Si Betty All Stars  
Jody Diamond, director**

**PROGRAM**

**Prelude: Anyone Can Play**

Jody Diamond

**Sabbath Bride**

Jody Diamond

**Number Measure Increase Downward\***

Philip Corner

**Ladrang Eling-Eling laras slendro, pathet manyura\***

Central Java classical repertoire

**Stomping in the Dark\***

Daniel Goode

**Terus Dan Terus**

Wayan Sadra

**Si Betty All-Stars**

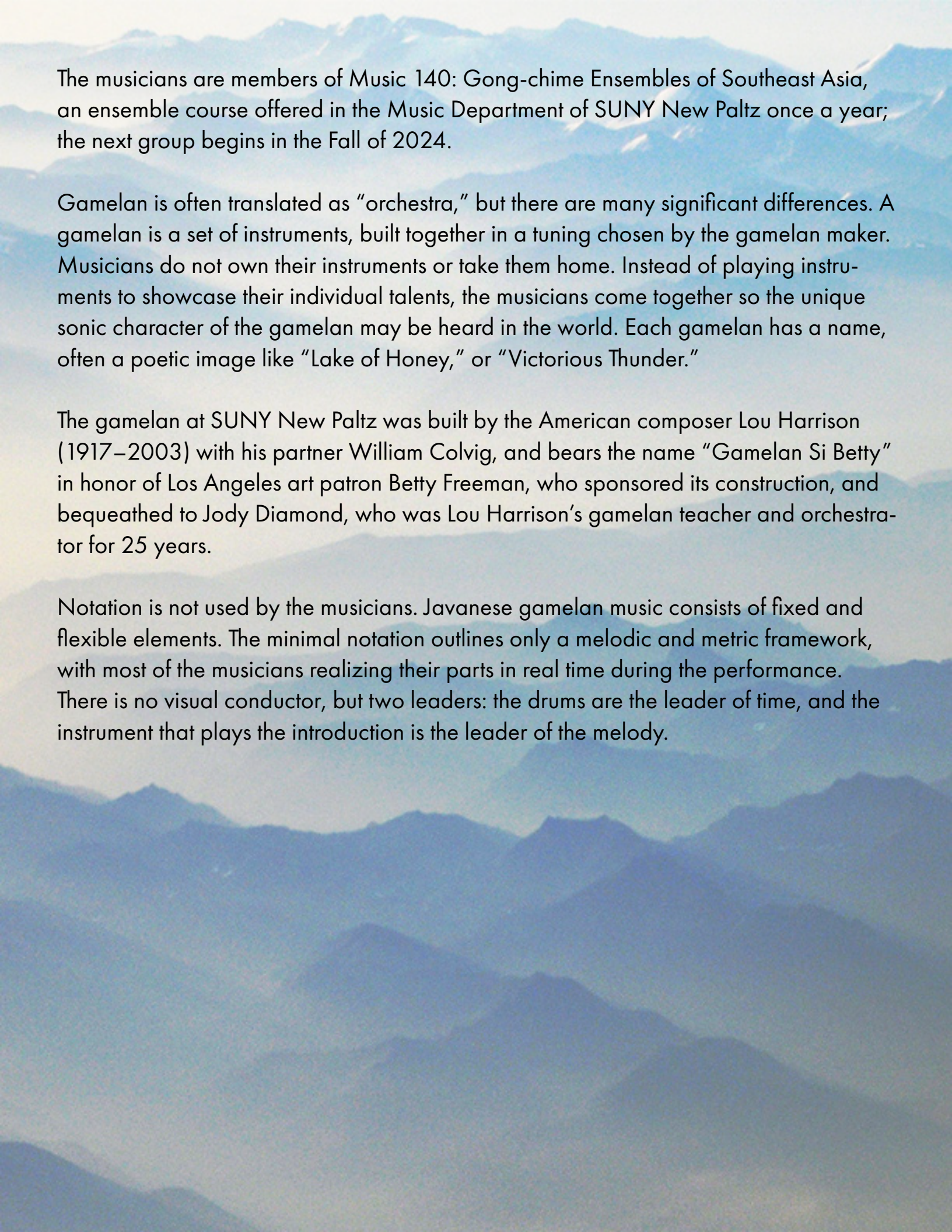
Everyone

**Kecak**

**Kecak Redux\***

arr. Wayan Sadra/Jody Diamond

\*World Premiere: the "Encore Experience"



The musicians are members of Music 140: Gong-chime Ensembles of Southeast Asia, an ensemble course offered in the Music Department of SUNY New Paltz once a year; the next group begins in the Fall of 2024.

Gamelan is often translated as “orchestra,” but there are many significant differences. A gamelan is a set of instruments, built together in a tuning chosen by the gamelan maker. Musicians do not own their instruments or take them home. Instead of playing instruments to showcase their individual talents, the musicians come together so the unique sonic character of the gamelan may be heard in the world. Each gamelan has a name, often a poetic image like “Lake of Honey,” or “Victorious Thunder.”

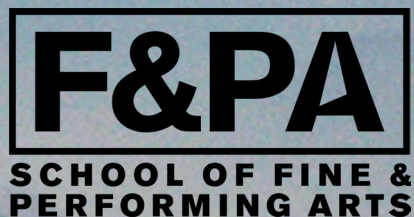
The gamelan at SUNY New Paltz was built by the American composer Lou Harrison (1917–2003) with his partner William Colvig, and bears the name “Gamelan Si Betty” in honor of Los Angeles art patron Betty Freeman, who sponsored its construction, and bequeathed to Jody Diamond, who was Lou Harrison’s gamelan teacher and orchestrator for 25 years.

Notation is not used by the musicians. Javanese gamelan music consists of fixed and flexible elements. The minimal notation outlines only a melodic and metric framework, with most of the musicians realizing their parts in real time during the performance. There is no visual conductor, but two leaders: the drums are the leader of time, and the instrument that plays the introduction is the leader of the melody.

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