



December 14, 2022 | 7:30 PM.
Epiphany Center for the Arts
Chicago

Stephen Burns: trumpet & flugelhorn
Steve Rogers: electric guitar
Cheryl Wilson: voice
Cynthia Yeh: marimba, vibes, gran cassa

JacobTV, Mission Control

Welcome to our 24TH Annual Concert for Peace. Over the decades we have sought to celebrate an aspiration for peace held in common reverence by religions, cultures, and peoples internationally. We are grateful to the First Nations' Council of the Three Fires—the Odawa, Ojibwe and Potawatomi—for their curation of this land that we share and upon which we hold this concert. As we bring together our community representing different cultures, generations, genders, and musical styles we honor their tribal elders as well as the legacy of the great musicians who came before us and upon whose shoulders we stand.

Stephen Burns, December 2022

The Freedom Songs is a musical ode to freedom, composed 75 years after the liberation from fascism in Europe. Ever since, freedom seemed obvious in democratic societies. But democracy is fragile and so is freedom. Ukraine, a young democracy, is now fighting a war for freedom. And in Iran, women are fighting for a life in freedom.

So what is freedom? Already in antiquity, there is a notion of freedom, even inner freedom, where *'freedom is the property of man's own self, independent of the world'*, as the Greek philosopher Epictetus argued. And the Buddha said: *'No one can rule us inwardly. When we know this, we become free'*.

In 1941, when Nazi Germany had already occupied large parts of Europe, President Franklin D. Roosevelt introduced four fundamental freedoms: *freedom of speech and expression, freedom to worship God in his own way, freedom from want and freedom from fear.* These words along with quotes from politicians, writers, poets and philosophers, was the inspiration for The Freedom Songs.

And music? Music expresses freedom pur sang, it celebrates life and is free of regulations. The Freedom Songs is a ritual sound bath as a hymn to freedom.

The music was composed by JacobTV and commissioned by Fulcrum Point New Music Project with financial support from the Netherlands Performing Arts Fund. *The Freedom Songs* are dedicated to Stephen Burns and his musicians, with whom JacobTV worked before in several editions of his reality opera *The News*.

The Freedom Songs were first performed by Fulcrum Point New Music Project in the Netherlands in November 2021 at: November Music Den Bosch, Tivoli-Vredenburg Utrecht and Muziekgebouw Amsterdam. Tonight is its American premiere.

JacobTV, December 2022

The Freedom Songs

1. NO ONE

No one outside ourselves can rule us inwardly. When we know this, we become free.

Buddha

2. THE CUP OF BITTERNESS

Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred.

Martin Luther King Jr.

3. INNISFREE

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
And I shall have some peace there (..)
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;

There, midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow
And evening full of the linnet's wings

I will arise and go now, for always night and day
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

William Butler Yeats

4. IF FREEDOM FAIL

For what avail the plough or sail,
or land or life, if freedom fail?

Ralph Waldo Emerson

5. IN LIMBO No.1

instrumental

6. IF I FALL

If I fall, I'll fall five feet four inches forward in the fight for
freedom. I'm not backing off.

Fannie Lou Hamer

7. LIBERTY

Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage;
Minds innocent and quiet take
That for an hermitage;

If I have freedom in my love
And in my soul am free,
Angels alone, that soar above,
Enjoy such liberty.

Richard Lovelace, To Althea, from Prison

8. FREEDOM FROM FEAR

The only real prison is fear, and the only real freedom is freedom from fear.

Aung San Suu Kyi

9. FOUR FREEDOMS

In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms. The first is freedom of speech and expression – everywhere in the world. The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way – everywhere in the world. The third is freedom from want – which, translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants - everywhere in the world. The fourth is freedom from fear – which, translated into world terms, means a world-wide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbour - anywhere in the world. That is no vision of a distant millennium. It is a definite basis for a kind of world (..) Freedom means the supremacy of human rights everywhere (..) Save victory.

*President Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The Annual Message to Congress, Jan. 6, 1941*

10. THE POWER OF LIBERTY

instrumental

11. BELIEVER an interview

O'Reilly: So you are indeed a true believer?

GW Bush: I'm a believer in the power of liberty to transform societies. I'm a believer and I believe we have a duty!

O'Reilly: So you are indeed a true believer?

GW Bush: I believe that peace is coming; his world is getting better. And I believe we have a duty!

I believe that peace is coming:

We climbed the mountain and now we see the valley below;

I really believe that. I believe that peace is coming

And I believe that we're more free.

Bill O'Reilly & George W. Bush

12. OPEN WINDOW

Freedom is the open window through which pours the sunlight of the human spirit and human dignity.

Herbert Hoover

13. CONSCIOUSNESS

World history is the progress of the consciousness of freedom

Die Weltgeschichte ist der Fortschritt im Bewusstsein der Freiheit Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel

14. DIE FOR IT!

If you're not ready to die for it, put the word 'freedom' out of your vocabulary.

Malcolm X

Bios:

Dutch 'avant pop' composer **JacobTV** (Jacob ter Veldhuis, 1951) started as a rock musician and studied composition and electronic music with Luctor Ponse and Willem Frederik Bon in Groningen. He received the Composition Prize of the Netherlands in 1980 and was a full time composer ever since, who made a name for himself with melodious compositions, straight from the heart and with great effect. From the press: *'In the US they call him JacobTV. Sounds cool, just like his music, packed with slick sounds and quirky sound bites. Some of his pieces are so intense, that people got freaked out by it. Or simply blown away.'* JacobTV is considered an 'outlaw' in some circles, whose work *'makes many a hip-hop artist look sedate'*, according to

the Wall Street Journal. With around 1000 worldwide performances a year, JacobTV is one of the most performed European composers.

www.jacobtv.net

Conductor, composer and trumpeter **Stephen Burns** is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Fulcrum Point New Music Project in Chicago. He has been acclaimed on four continents for his virtuosity and interpretative depth in recitals, orchestral appearances, chamber music, and multi-media performances. He has worked closely with composers John Corigliano, Osvaldo Golijov, Gunther Schuller, Jacob TV, and La Monte Young. Native to Wellesley, Massachusetts, Mr. Burns studied under Carmine Caruso, Armando Ghitalla, Arnold Jacobs, Vincent Penzarella, Gerard Schwarz, Pierre Thibaud, William Vacchiano, and Roger Voisin at the Tanglewood Music Center, the Julliard School, and postgraduate work in Paris. He won the Young Concert Artists International Auditions, Avery Fisher Career Grant, the NEA Recital Grant, the Naumburg Award, the Charles Colin Award, the Meier Arts Achievement Award, and the Maurice André Concours International de Paris. A certified teacher in The Art of Practicing and Performing Beyond Fear, Mr. Burns is on faculty at DePaul University's School of Music and The Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University, as well as a Visiting Lecturer with Amici della Musica in Florence, Italy. CDs at Naxos, MHS, Dorian, Delos, Essay, Kleos, & Innova. Stephen Burns is a Yamaha performing artist.

A veteran of the Chicago rock, jazz and experimental music scene, guitarist **Steve Roberts** has recorded and performed with a myriad of local and touring artists. His work as co-founder/songwriter/electric guitarist for the bands Loud Thoughts and the post-punk/art rock D-Section has somehow led (most unnaturally), to popular and not-so-popular, orchestral, new music,

musical theater and chamber music. That natural progression has included performing with: Andrea Bocelli, Kristin Chenoweth, Stewart Copeland, Melissa Etheridge, Heather Headley, Audra McDonald, Luciano Pavarotti, Herbie Hancock and Lang Lang—OK...he was playing banjo with them while sitting at the back of the CSO....but still! Steve can often be found performing as a member of Fulcrum Point New Music Ensemble, Broadway musicals, Broadway In Chicago musicals and as an extra with The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Philharmonic, The Lyric Opera of Chicago and Grant Park Music Festival.

Vocalist **Cheryl Wilson** enjoys a career as an internationally known recording artist, having recorded or performed with a Who's Who of music stars such as Michael Jackson, Mavis Staples, Celine Dion, Seal, Diana Ross, Michael Bolton, Faith Hill, Mannheim Steamroller, R Kelly, Cameo, Bill Withers, KMFDM, Peter Cetera, David Foster and Whitney Houston. She writes, arranges and records music for commercials, feature films and television, has several gold, platinum and diamond Billboard recording awards, and is SAG/AFTRA, AFM/CFM and BMI affiliated. Her solo performances include the Atlanta Jazz Festival, the Chicago Jazz Festival, the Chi-Town Jazz Fest and guest appearances with Chicago and Toledo Jazz Orchestras, as well as appearing as guest soloist with several symphony orchestras and international music festivals. Wilson is the recipient of a National Association of Jazz Educators award for Outstanding Service to Jazz Education and is Artist Faculty at both Roosevelt University's Chicago Conservatory of Performing Arts and the University of Illinois at Chicago, and is a Faculty Fellow at the Honors College at UIC. Cheryl is also a member of the Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra, as a violist.

Cynthia Yeh is the Principal Percussionist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. She was recently Principal Percussionist of the Diego Symphony under the baton of Jahja Ling. Other orchestral appearances include performances with the Philadelphia Orchestra, as well as the Chicago, American, Delaware, Harrisburg, Hartford, Springfield, Richmond, and Vancouver Symphonies. She has worked under Christoph Eschenbach, Daniel Barenboim, David Robertson, James Conlon, David Zinman, James DePriest, Sergiu Comissiona, Gerard Schwarz, to name a few. An active chamber musician, Ms. Yeh is a member of the Battery Four Percussion Group, known for its stylistic diversity and dedication to new music. In addition, she has performed throughout the United States and Canada including concerts in Lincoln Center in New York, Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. and British Columbia, Canada. She has also been featured in the West Coast Performance Series of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Ms. Yeh is a recipient of numerous awards and grants including the Canada Council Grant for the Arts and the B.C. Arts Council. She has participated in the National Repertory Orchestra in Breckenridge, Colorado, the National Orchestral Institute in College Park, Maryland, the Bard Music Festival in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York and the Aspen Music Festival. She received her Bachelor's degree in Percussion performance from the University of British Columbia and her Master's degree from the Esther Boyer College of Music at Temple University where she studied with Alan Abel. Ms. Yeh is an active clinician as a concert artist for Pearl Drums, Adams Musical Instruments, and the Avedis Zildjian Company.



Created in 1998 by Stephen Burns, **Fulcrum Point New Music Project** pushes the boundaries of the musical experience globally by supporting new compositions, creating and performing new music experiences, and educating audiences to imagine the possibilities of music. We embrace a broad range of experimental styles and multimedia content. Our programs are influenced by popular culture, literature, film, dance, jazz, Latin and world music. We create dynamic new programming with an emphasis on cross-cultural exchange, improvisation, technology, and collaboration. Through multi-disciplinary programs, we encourage audiences to make cross-cultural connections between new music, art, and technology, gaining greater insight into today's diverse world. Fulcrum Point New Music Project empowers artists and communities to create new art music that enriches people's lives and brings about a more empathic world.

www.fulcrumpoint.org

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