



presents

Mike Greensill, *piano*
John Wiitala, *bass*

Sunday, September 6, 2020 at 4 PM
Old First Church
1751 Sacramento St. at Van Ness Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94109
(415) 474-1608 www.oldfirstconcerts.org

ABOUT OLD FIRST CONCERTS

- Great venue for music with beautiful acoustics and amazing Steinway concert grand piano.
- Primarily local emerging and mid-career professional musicians presenting innovative programs.
- Every concert offers new insights and virtuosic performances.
- Complimentary refreshments served at intermission or after the concert.
- An independent 501(c)3 non-profit organization devoted to presenting music at affordable prices, especially for low-income seniors and students.
- Solo, chamber music, and world music concerts year-round since 1970.

DONATING TO OLD FIRST CONCERTS

Ticket sales provide about 38 percent of our operating revenue each year. In addition, we rely on support from private foundations and Grants for the Arts from the city of San Francisco. Our generous individual donors complete the picture. We invite you to join us in our mission to connect audiences and local musicians and build up the classical music and world music scene in San Francisco. Donations are tax-deductible and donating on our website is easy and secure: www.oldfirstconcerts.org/give/, or checks can be mailed to:

Old First Concerts, 1751 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.
Thank you!

COVID-19 RESPONSE: RETURNING TO THE MUSIC

Old First Concerts is committed to the health and safety of our audiences, performers and staff. We hope to resume concerts soon and have implemented a number of policies and procedures to help us reach that goal, which you can read about on our website.

In the meantime, know that all tickets are fully guaranteed—so if we have to cancel or postpone an event that you’ve purchased a ticket to, you can choose to use the ticket for any concert between now and June 1, 2021, or you can be fully refunded.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Following us on **Facebook** is a great way to keep informed about the latest concert information. While you are there, don’t forget to **share** events with your friends and hit the “Like” button liberally. [facebook.com/oldfirstconcerts/](https://www.facebook.com/oldfirstconcerts/)

You can also find us on **Instagram** [@oldfirstconcerts](https://www.instagram.com/oldfirstconcerts) with information about upcoming events plus photos and videos from our concerts.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

After graduating in 1972 from Leeds College of Music in England, **Mike Greensill** toured Europe and the Far East and lived in Hong Kong for 4 years before finally settling into his adopted home, San Francisco, in 1977. Well known in his role as musical director to acclaimed vocalist Wesla Whitfield with whom he has recorded twenty albums. Mike can also be caught playing jazz and singing in many a San Francisco saloon and every Wednesday at Silo's in Napa. As an arranger Mike, in addition to his work with Wesla, has had the opportunity to write for big bands and symphony orchestras including the Boston Pops and the San Francisco Symphony. Mike has also had the pleasure of accompanying such diverse talents as Rita Moreno, Margaret Whiting, Broadway stars Lillias White and Franc D'Ambrosio and jazz singers Madeline Eastman, Ann Hampton Callaway and Denise Perrier.

Mike's writing and arranging for the Kronos Quartet can be found on Wesla Whitfield's CD *September Songs* on HighNote Records. Wesla's CD *Livin' On Love* which is also on HighNote records, features Mike's arrangements for The Klingel Horns, Gary Foster's reeds and rhythm section. The Klingel Horns are a French horn quartet lead by SF Opera's principle Horn Bill Klingelhoffer. Wesla's and Mike's last CD *A Message From The Man In The Moon* features Mike playing solo piano in a collection of duets with his late wife on vocals.

Mike is also the author of *Playing For Singers*, a how-to book on the art of the accompaniment for the jazz and cabaret pianist published by Sher Music. Since 2008 he's delighted in exploring the taste delights of his new adopted home, St Helena in Napa Valley's "wine country" and during the lock-down he has discovered a new career, performing 3 days a week on facebook live.

John Wiitala has worked with some of the greatest names in jazz, including Joe Henderson, Mark Murphy, Ernestine Anderson, Junior Cook, Charlie Rouse, James Moody, Bud Shank, and Benny Golson. He toured with Richie Cole, Arturo Sandoval, Shorty Rogers, Jessica Williams, Wesla Whitfield and Mark Levine's Latin Tinge, and has played at jazz festivals around the world, including Monterey, North Sea, Montreux, Detroit, and JVC/Concord. His recording credits include work with Scott Hamilton, Jessica Williams, Mark Levine, Adam Shulman, Patrick Wolff, Erik Jekabson and Nancy King. He's currently on the faculty at the California Jazz Conservatory and the Stanford Jazz Workshop.

COMING UP AT OLD FIRST CONCERTS

Friday, September 18 at 8 pm

Lyle Sheffler, *guitar*

International guitar soloist performs works by Isaac Albéniz, Francisco Tárrega, Heitor Villa-Lobos, Leo Brouwer, Dietmar Ungerank, John Dowland, Peter Maxwell Davies, & Agustín Barrios.

Friday, September 25 at 8 pm

Ensemble Ari

Jiwon Evelyn Kwark, *violin*; **Sarah Hong**, *cello*; **Sharon Lee Kim**, *piano*

Works for trio, duo, and solo by women composers Amy Beach, Addie Camsuzou, and Sofia Gubaidulina.

Sunday, September 27 at 4 pm

Del Sol String Quartet

Sam Weiser & Benjamin Kreith, *violins*; **Charlton Lee**, *viola*; **Kathryn Bates**, *cello*

Recognized as a “vigorous champion of living composers”, Del Sol perform works by Jonah Gallagher, Erika Oba, and Rajna Swaminathan, plus a performance of Julius Eastman’s *Gay Guerilla*.

Sunday, October 11 at 4 pm

Kate Stenberg, *violin* & **Sarah Cahill**, *piano*

Works by Brahms and Debussy are performed alongside premieres by Martha Callison Horst and Bay Area composer Mary Watkins.

Friday, October 16 at 8 pm

Stephen Porter, *piano*

Porter returns to our stage with a program of Beethoven’s final piano work, the *Six Bagatelles, Op. 126*, premieres by four living composers—Toni Lester, Norberto Oldrini, Andrew List, and Martin Skafté—and both books of Debussy’s luminous *Images*.

Sunday, October 18 at 4 pm

Sierra Prelude Project—Lynn Schugren, *piano*

A series of ten newly commissioned preludes evoking the Sierra Nevada Mountains, from the beauty of sunrise or the sounds of the forests to the destruction caused by man or wildfire, by Alexis Alrich, Eleanor Armer, Molly Axtmann, Jake Collins, Jerry Grant, Robert Greenberg, Durwynne Hsieh, Dennis Lauderdale, Bruce Nalezny, and Mark Vance.

Tickets and more information at oldfirstconcerts.org

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Old First Concerts' piano is a New York Steinway D model, circa 1980, with Hamburg action. It was donated by The Stanley Ibler Fund, and is maintained by David Love Piano Service and Restoration.