

SHEM GUIBBORY
Founder, Producer, Performer

Internationally acclaimed violinist Shem Guibbory, an award winning soloist and chamber musician, has created an indelible mark on the face of today's new music industry as a talented performer, creative producer, and successful entrepreneur. Hailed by critics and artists for his interpretations of 20th Century music, his recording of *Violin Phase* on the ECM label has become an American classic of *avant-garde* music.

Having founded Innovative Music Programs in 2002, Mr. Guibbory developed a series of original musical programs with a fast-growing number of affiliate artists. Each program has been designed to offer an opportunity for performers to serve global communities and organizations through specifically designed projects, recordings, and performances.

“By nature and by choice, I look for the commonality in all things musical and artistic in our culture and all cultures,” he says. “Those things that tie us together as human beings are part of the driving force in the creative process. I love creating this way.”

Throughout his career, Mr. Guibbory has looked for and found ways to use new music as a means of bringing mutual understanding to the global community. With co-creator and director Margaret Booker and writer Robert Schenkkan, he created the musical fable, *A Night at the Alhambra Café*, which will have its World Premiere Season at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts in 2011.

The recently released CD, *Voice of the People* (MSR 1344), which combines 2009 Latin Grammy Award[®] winner Gabriela Lena Frank's Peruvian-influenced music with Dimitri Shostokovich's *Sonata For Violin And Piano, Op.137* (1968), “is indicative of people's attempt to find their own slice of humanity within the chaos of life,” says Guibbory. “I believe that when we communicate with people through their arts, it's far easier to understand them and their cultures.”

For the past 15 years, Mr. Guibbory has been a member of the First Violin Section of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and has appeared as soloist with the New York Philharmonic, the Beethoven Halle Orchestra, the Kansas City Symphony and the Symphony of the New World. He was the original violinist in the Steve Reich Ensemble and has performed recitals and chamber music throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe. He has also recorded five CDs with Anthony Davis, including *Maps*, a violin concerto commissioned by the Kansas City Symphony (Gramavision).

He has earned fellowships from the Rockefeller Foundation (Bellagio), the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, and Spain's Centre por Ars y Natura and has been a faculty member of the Chamber Music Conference and Composer's Forum of the East for the past two decades, during which he served as Music Director for nine consecutive years. He has twice been honored with the ASCAP/CMA Award for Adventurous Programming.

Close associates have included such extraordinary composers as Ornette Coleman, Muhal Richard Abrams, Jeffrey Levine, Earl Howard, Anthony Davis, Stephen Reich and Gerry Hemingway. He has premiered over 60 new compositions, of which 30 were written expressly for him. Additionally, he has collaborated with numerous dance companies, has served as co-director of NovEnsemble with choreographer Joan Lombardi, and performed with Belgian choreographer Anne-Theresa de Keersmaker.

A graduate of the California Institute of the Arts, he served as co-chair of the CalArts Alumni Association's Special Projects Committee from 2005 to 2009. He was also one of the chief architects of *West Goes East*, a 30-year retrospective of East Coast CalArts alumni performances, which sold out its four New York City performances.

"We continue to search for performance opportunities and events in the U.S. and in countries where we have an alumni base," he says, which offer alumni near-term opportunities to develop their work and serve to build the CalArts community."

Mr. Guibbory, who made his recital debut at New York City's Alice Tully Hall in 1988, also has studied with Broadus Erle, Romuald Tecco, Evelyn Read and Sophie Feuermann. His recordings can be found on the ECM, Gramavision, Opus 1, DG, Albany, Bridge, MSR Classics and CRI labels.

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