UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION



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2013 Fall Batists in Residence



Visual artist Jen Lewin creates large, immersive, interactive art pieces for the public. She creates experiences and environments that are both part of, and intergrated into, a physical space. Her work The Pool, which will be installed in UCA's Alumni Circle, spans almost a quarter acre and involves 120 interactive, glowing, outdoor light platforms that, when stood upon, interact with each other. Her work The Chandelier Harp creates sound when viewers break light beams using their hands. Because of the sensitivity of the software, the harp is able to tell how fast a person is moving as well as the height of their hand as it intersects the beam. The resulting complex sounds grow and swell over time.

Lewin received her BA in architecture and computer-aided design from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and her MPS in interactive design at the Tisch School for the Arts at NYU. Her works have been exhibited at Burning Man in Nevada, the New Orleans Botanical Garden, the Gwanglu Design Biennale in South Korea, and the New York City Javitz Center, to name a few. Lewin recently collaborated with sculptor Claes Oldenberg as the LED lighting consultant for his monumental sculpture Paint Torch, installed in Lenfest Plaza in Philaelphia in 2011.



Nov. 11

Public Reading and Book Signing

Tickets are required. Two free tickets may be obtained through the Reynolds Box Office from 10-4, Mon-Fri, or by calling (501) 450-3265. Tickets will be released 10/10/13 for UCA students, and 10/17/13 for UCA faculty/staff and the general public. Seating is general admission. Doors open at 6:30. No reentry will be allowed. No bags, purses or backpacks. No cameras or video recording of any type will be permitted.

Formed in 1985, the Manhattan-based Cassatt String Quartet performs throughout North America, Europe, and the Far East, with past appearances at New York's Alice Tully Hall and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, the Tanglewood Music Theater, the Kennedy Center and Library of Congress in Washington, DC, the Theatre des Champs-Elyseees in Paris, and Maeda Hall in Tokyo.

Their numerous awards include a Tanglewood Chamber Music Fellowship, the Wardwell Chamber Music Fellowship at Yale (where they served as teaching assistants to the Tokyo Quartet), First Prizes at the Fischoff and Coleman Chamber Music Competitions, two top prizes at the Banff International String Quartet competition, two CMA/ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming, a recording grant from the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, and commissioning grants from Meet the Composer and the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2004, they were selected for the centennial celebration of the Coleman Chamber Music Association in Pasadena, California.

Equally adept at classical masterpieces and contemporary music, the Cassatt has collaborated with a remarkable array of artists/composers including pianist Marc-Andre Hamelin, soprano Susan Narucki, flutist Ransom Wilson, jazz pianist Fred Hersch, didgeriedoo player Simon 7, the Trisha Brown Dance Company, distinguished members of the Cleveland and Vermeer Quartets, and composers Louis Andiressen and John Harbison. The Quartet has played the music of many contemporary composers including that of John Duffy, Andy Tierstein, Dan Welcher, Julis Wolfe, Margaret Brouwer, and Mary Jane Leach.

The Cassatt String Quartet will perform a free concert in Reynolds Performance Hall on October 3, during Conway's annual ArtsFest celebration. The program will feature the world premiere of an original composition, Mary Cassatt: Scenes from Her Life, by New York

composer Bruce Adolphe. This composition, inspired by works of art in the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, was commissioned by the UCA College of Fine Arts and Communication.



As one of the West Memphis Three, convicted of the 1993 murder of three Arkansas boys, Damien Echols is one of few on earth to know what it means to persevere through imprisonment and ultimately reclaim his freedom. Echols credits his wife and biggest supporter, Lorri Davis, for taking charge of his legal efforts, which led to his 2011 Alford plea deal and release.

Echols' New York Times bestselling memoir, Life After Death, published in September 2012, focuses on his abusive childhood and brutal incarceration, as well as his stores of patience and perseverance that he drew upon to survive in prison. The book is also a deeply moving and profound account of Echols' and Davis' fight to prove his innocence, giving a voice to those who are persecuted for the way they look or anyone who has experienced an injustice. Their story gives hope to those who know what it's like to struggle against seemingly insurmountable odds.

In 2012, West of Memphis, the documentary film based on Echols' story, directed by Academy Award nominated filmmaker Amy Berg and produced by Echols and Davis in colaboration with the multiple Acadamy Award winning team of Peter Jackson and Fran Walsh - both long-time supporters of Echols - premiered at the Sundance Film Festival an was released to theaters in late December.