



UKRAINIAN FOLK-PUNK QUARTET DAKHABRAKHA PERFORMS AT JORGENSEN

Thurs, Apr 6, 2017 at 7:30 pm

The delightfully offbeat Ukrainian folk-punk quartet, DakhaBrakha, will stop at UConn's Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on Thursday evening, April 6th to treat audiences to an unforgettable night of "ethno chaos"-- a word coined by the band to describe their infectious blend of traditional Ukrainian folk music, African and R&B grooves, and Middle Eastern colors. Playing a variety of instruments including cello, piano, bass drums, darbukas, accordions, Jew's harp and the didgeridoo, this highly energetic and entertaining ensemble has developed an avid international following for their campy costumes, driving rhythms, and tight vocal harmonies layered with riotous birdcalls, eerie wails, and occasional yelps of joy. Doors open at 7:00 pm. Concert begins at 7:30 pm.

DakhaBrakha, which means "give/take" in Old Ukrainian, draws on a repertoire of songs that the band's three female performers - Nina Garenetska, Olena Tsybulska, Iryna Kovalenko (all of whom trained in folklore and ethnomusicology) - have compiled after years of visiting remote Ukrainian villages, where they listened to and learned the music sung by the elder women who lived there. The three have also spent years singing together, a fact that resonates in the beautifully close, effortlessly blended sound of their voices.

"At the beginning our sound was pretty primitive," says Marko Halanevych, the quartet's keyboardist and only male member. "We tried to find rhythms to match the melodies. We tried to shift the emphasis of these songs. We know our own material, our native music well, yet we wanted to get to know other cultures and music well. We started with the Indian tabla, and then started to try other percussion instruments. But we didn't incorporate them directly; we found our own sounds that helped us craft music."

DakhaBrakha was created in 2004 at the Kiev Center of Contemporary Art "DAKH" by the avant-garde theatre director, Vladyslav Troitskyi, and given their name, which means "give/take" in the old Ukrainian language. Theater work has left its mark on the band's performances; their shows are always staged with a strong visual element.

The group has taken part in numerous international festivals in Ukraine, France, Great Britain, Ireland, Austria, Slovenia, Netherlands, Belgium, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Germany, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Belarus, Georgia, Hungary, Poland, China, Australia, USA, Canada, Columbia, New Zealand, and Brazil.

In March 2010, DakhaBrakha won the prestigious Grand Prix prize in the sphere of contemporary art, and confirmed its place in the culture. In March 2011 DakhaBrakha was discovered by Australian Womadelaide and began their ascent in the international music scene. They have since played more than 300 concerts and performances.

After its North American debut at Toronto's Luminato Festival in 2013, the group gave rousing performances at New York's globalFEST and at Bonnaroo in 2014, with Rolling Stone magazine singling out the band as the Tennessee festival's "Best Breakout."

Quick Reference

World Music Event
DakhaBrakha

Date
Thurs, Apr 6, 7:30 pm

Place
Jorgensen Center
for the Performing Arts
2132 Hillside Road
UConn campus, Storrs, CT

Tickets
\$36, \$32

Box Office
860.486.4226
Mon-Fri, 10 am-5 pm

The Box Office window is also open for walk-up ticket sales 90 minutes before showtime.

For Immediate Release

MEDIA CONTACT:
Leann Sanders
Marketing Coordinator
Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts
860-486-5795
leann.sanders@uconn.edu

Quick Reference

World Music Event

DakhaBrakha

Date

Thurs, Apr 6, 7:30 pm

Place

Jorgensen Center
for the Performing Arts
2132 Hillside Road
UConn campus, Storrs, CT

Tickets

\$36, \$32

Box Office

860.486.4226
Mon–Fri, 10 am–5 pm

The Box Office window is also open for walk-up ticket sales 90 minutes before showtime.

DAKHABRAKHA, continued

For more information about DakhaBrakha please visit www.dakhabrakha.com.ua.

Jorgensen was voted Best College or University Performing Arts Center in the Hartford Courant's CTNow, as well as Connecticut Magazine's Best of Performing Arts Venues (College) for 2016. Established in December of 1955, Jorgensen has grown to become the largest college-based presenting program in New England. Each season Jorgensen enriches the lives of students, faculty, staff, and area residents with 30 to 35 diverse performances from nationally and internationally acclaimed artists and ensembles ranging from classical music to world music and dance, classical ballet and contemporary dance, comedy, family programming, and contemporary entertainment. Dedicated to University of Connecticut president Albert N. Jorgensen, Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts continues to follow his vision of the University as the state's educational and cultural leader.

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts is located at 2132 Hillside Road on the UConn campus in Storrs. Tickets are available now online. Floor seats - \$36; Mezzanine - \$32; Students & Youth under 18 - all seats \$15.

For tickets and information, call the Box Office at 860.486.4226, Monday through Friday, 10 am - 5 pm, and 90 minutes prior to events, or order online at jorgensen.uconn.edu. Convenient \$5 event parking is available in the North Garage. Free parking is available in Lots 9, F, and L. For a detailed parking map, go to park.uconn.edu.

#