

**Ruthmere Museum and Lampkin Magic Productions are proud to present
International Award-Winning composer/pianist, Dan Tepfer, in a special Bastille Day Recital
Celebration on July 11th @ 7:00 p.m. One Night Only!**

We are proud to co-produce with Lampkin Magic Productions, the gifted French American jazz pianist, Dan Tepfer, in his first Elkhart appearance at the beautiful Ruthmere Museum. Carrying on with the 2015 French Culture theme, Dan will perform a special Bastille Day show featuring music of the french genre, including selections by Ravel mixed with his own compositions. After the concert there will be a reception with the artist in the Piazza.

Dan is a graduate of the New England Conservatory, The University of Edinburgh and Lycee Helene Boucher. Born in Paris to American parents, “tremendously gifted” (LA Times) pianist-composer Dan Tepfer has translated his bi-cultural identity into an exploration of music that ignores stylistic bounds. His 2011 Goldberg Variations / Variations, which pairs his performance of Bach’s work with improvised variations of his own, has received broad praise as a “riveting, inspired, fresh musical exploration” (New York Times). He has worked with the leading lights in jazz, including extensively with saxophone luminary Lee Konitz, while releasing seven albums as a leader. As a composer, he is a recipient of the Charles Ives Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters for works including Concerto for Piano and Winds, premiered in the Prague Castle with himself on piano, and Solo Blues for Violin and Piano, premiered at Carnegie Hall. Bringing together his undergraduate studies in astrophysics with his passion for music, he is currently working on integrating computer-driven algorithms into his improvisational approach. Awards include first prize and audience prize at the Montreux Jazz Festival Solo Piano Competition, first prize at the East Coast Jazz Festival Competition, and the Cole Porter Fellowship from the American Pianists Association. His recent soundtrack for the independent feature Movement and Location was voted Best Original Score at the 2014 Brooklyn Film Festival.

Thoughts from Dan: I’ve been making music for as long as I can remember — it’s always been my primary mode of expression. I grew up studying classical piano and obsessively improvising jazz at home. For most of my creative life, I’ve navigated the divide between these two worlds, though at this point my deepest roots lie in jazz and improvisation. I’ve been lucky to get to make music with some of the very best musicians in the jazz community, from Lee Konitz to Pharoah Sanders via Mark Turner and Paul Motian.

The truth, however, is that style has never felt all that important to me. I grew up bilingual, raised in France by an American family, which may explain why I’ve always been much more attached to content than to form, more concerned with what’s being said than the language in which it’s being expressed. As a result, I’ve grown increasingly drawn to exploring different means of expression for my music in order to further isolate the message from the medium. A sports analogy: if you always play tennis against the same person, you only get better at playing against that person. If you always play with different people, you get better at tennis. What I’m trying to do is clarify my message, independently of style. To get right at the music itself. The recital will have a concentration on French music, mixed with Dan’s original compositions.

What the critics have said:

Riveting and inspired... A brilliant performance... This is no stunt, but a fresh musical exploration. Mr. Tepfer invites you to hear this masterpiece through his ears. I bet Bach would recognize a kindred spirit in Mr. Tepfer.—**New York Times**

Brilliant... A sharp young talent, rugged and emphatic... A young pianist of exceptional poise who is drawn to the deeper currents of melody. —**New York Times**

New York-based pianist Tepfer is among the most accomplished and imaginative of the new wave of players emerging across the pond. He specializes in a rippling, lyrical style that builds complex melodic layers of ideas...a piano star. —**Time Out London**

A fascinating and engrossing listen... [Tepfer] meets exhilaration with exhilaration... A huge and unique success.—**Ottawa Citizen**

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Ruthmere is a 75 seat arena, so please RSVP your tickets soon, will sell out fast.

Tickets for this special event are \$50.00. Available through Ruthmere Museum. 302 E Beardsley Ave, Elkhart, IN 46514 [\(574\) 264-0330](tel:5742640330).

For interviews and press information, please contact Ralph @ [574-310-4047](tel:5743104047).