

//PRESS RELEASE



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## The Harvey Mudd College American Gamelan to perform at Cal Poly Pomona

**Harvey Mudd College American Gamelan**, Friday, November 20, 2009 @ 4:00pm

Cal Poly Pomona Music Recital Hall, 3801 W. Temple Ave., Pomona, CA 91768

Tickets \$15 general admission/\$10 students and are available at the concert, online at <http://csupomona.tix.com> or through the CPP Music Publicity Office #24-142, (909) 869-3554

The Harvey Mudd College American Gamelan is an ensemble of instruments from the classical Javanese orchestra known as the gamelan, but which plays new works by composers outside of that tradition. While these composers may be informed by traditional Javanese works, they have adapted this ensemble for their own expression, a "tradition" established in the United States by Lou Harrison and Bill Colvig, who named their ensembles "American Gamelan."

However, unlike their homemade instruments, these were built on commission by Suhirdjan of Yogyakarta, Java, Indonesia. Nevertheless, they are unusual for Javanese instruments in several ways. For one thing, even though their tuning falls into the traditional categories known as pelog (a seven-note scale) and slendro (a five-note scale), they are tuned to particular just intonation versions of those scales, a form of tuning based on harmonic ratios. For the specifics of these tunings, see Bill Alves's article called "Pleng: Composing for a Justly-Tuned Gender Barung."



The ensemble was established in 2000 and has since performed the works of Bill Alves, Lou Harrison, Tom Flaherty, Peter Steele, Bryan Tysinger, Masashi Ito, and others. Recent activities include performances with the Pacific Symphony as a part of their American Composers

Festival series honoring Lou Harrison; Harrison's formidable Double Concerto with violinist Raymond Kobler and cellist Timothy Landauer at the Irvine Barclay Theater; and Harrison's Bubarang Robert and other works with trumpeter Barry Perkins at the Orange County Performing Arts Center.



Current members of the Harvey Mudd American Gamelan include Bill Alves, Kristin Hunt, Martin Hunt, John Pham, Ansel Schmidt, Julie Simon, Mutiara Sandjaja,

Kiattikun Tanapad, Gena Urowsky, and Darryl Yong.