

PORTLAND CELLO PROJECT

Performing Radiohead's OK Computer and more

Patti King Vocals Diane Chaplin Cello **Douglas Jenkins** Cello Kevin Jackson Cello Lauren McShane Cello Sage Coy Cello Skip vonKuske Cello Farnell Newton Trumpet Jen Harrison French Horn Tyrone Hendrix Percussion **Jeff Anthony Percussion** JP Downer Bass Jason Powers Sound

PROGRAM

There will be an intermission.

Saturday, October 20 @ 8 PM

Zellerbach Theatre



Co-presented with World Cafe Live.

PROGRAM NOTES

Portland's premiere alt-classical group brings a huge, orchestral ensemble (including brass, percussion, and guest vocals by Patti King of the Portland band The Shins) to perform a night in homage to Radiohead. The evening will feature unique renditions of classical Radiohead pieces that wander from truly epic to breathtakingly intimate.

OK Computer is a historic album that has proven over the years to yield an infinite variety of artistic inspiration to people of all walks of life. Cello Project first performed the record in its entirety in 2012 for the 15th anniversary of the album's release, and ever since then, pieces of it have remained in the group's repertoire as constantly evolving musical meditations.

All of the cellists in the group are classically trained, and yet, all of them seem to find a unique connection between Radiohead and their musical foundation. The deep layers of sonic ecstasy are reminiscent to so much late-19th-century music of the Western Classical Tradition, but beyond that, each of the cellists have worked to bring out subtleties they discover that hint at everything from Bach counterpoint at times, to rhythms they initially learned counting and performing Stravinsky.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

In the fall of 2006, a group of nine cellists got on stage at Portland's Doug Fir Lounge to perform western classical music in an informal setting. Many of the cellists that night thought it would only happen once. But slowly, that one-off event became a second, and a third, cellists joined and left, and rejoined the group again, to perform in Portland's most popular clubs.

By 2009, the group had evolved into a nationally recognized performing, recording and educational group with a revolving cast of cellists. Cello Project (or PCP as their fans affectionately call them) were quickly appearing anywhere and everywhere in North America, from punk rock clubs to symphony halls, from street parties to exclusive private events. By 2010, a self-described horde of cellos were spending more than a quarter of the year touring, featuring a diverse repertoire that quickly ballooned to over 1,000 pieces of music.

Under the artistic direction of Douglas Jenkins, the group grew and evolved, working with an all-star group of cellists in the Pacific Northwest. The group developed a three-part philosophy that has mostly remained unchanged over the years:

To bring the cello places you wouldn't normally see it (from wild dance parties, to formal symphony halls, to street parties, to Millennium Park in Chicago).

To perform music on the cello you wouldn't normally associate with the instrument alongside music from the Western Classical Tradition (from Pantera to Taylor Swift to Kanye West to Elliott Smith, alongside Bach, Rossini and Saint-Saens, to name just a few).

To build bridges between different musical communities through educational community outreach and through collaboration with a myriad of artists, from The Dandy Warhols to Garrison Keillor to Ural Thomasto Corin Tucker (Sleater-Kinney) to Jolie Holland to Peter Yarrow (Peter, Paul and Mary), among many others, and cellists such as Ben Sollee, Maya Beiser and Zoe Keating.