



**THE PERRY AND MARTY GRANOFF MUSIC CENTER**

Tufts University • 20 Talbot Avenue • Medford, MA • 02155

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TUFTS UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND ART GALLERY PRESENT  
*RAINFOREST:*  
INTERACTIVE, IMPROVISATIONAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AUDIO-VISUAL INSTALLATION  
FEATURING THE MCLEAN MIX**

MEDFORD/SOMERVILLE, MA – The Tufts University Department of Music and Art Gallery present a very special interactive installation called *Rainforest* by composer-performers **Barton and Priscilla McLean**, collectively known as "**McLean Mix**," who will be in residence at the **Aidekman Arts Center** on **Wednesday, April 24 and Thursday, April 25, 2013**.

*Rainforest* is an audio/visual work based on the nocturnal impressions one receives in a tropical rainforest, inspired by actual recent expeditions by the McLeans to rainforests in the Amazon, Puerto Rico, The Everglades, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, and most recently, an expedition to the jungles of Borneo, living with a former headhunter tribe.

Like the rainforest itself, this collaborative work has no beginning or ending, but rather the visitor/listener defines these, as well as the course of the work, by entering, interacting in various musical ways, and leaving.

The installation will take place in the Koppelman Gallery at the Aidekman Arts Center. Several stations around the room will be equipped with electronic and acoustic musical instruments where the visitor can input sound into the installation, which processes it and makes it part of the ongoing composition. Musicians and singers are encouraged to bring their own instruments and voices to add to the sound—there are no wrong

notes or gestures. Visitors are encouraged to wander, listening to the kaleidoscope of sounds, while they are also enveloped by multiple slide projections of surrealistic images of the rainforest.

The installation will be open on April 24 from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., and from 3:00-8:30 p.m. On April 25, it will be open from 10:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Students, faculty, and friends with an interest in music, photography, art, film, environmental science, biology, computers, or the world around them will find *Rainforest* fascinating and beautiful.

A unique "behind-the-scenes" demonstration of the technology supporting the installation, hosted by Dr. Paul Lehrman, Tufts' Director of Musical Engineering, will take place in the Koppelman Gallery on April 24 from 1:30-2:45 p.m. All are welcome.

*Keyboard*, in a recent feature article, said "The McLeans may be leading the way toward whatever lies beyond with their powerful organic/synthetic sound mixes, and unorthodox concept." *Musical America* stated, "The McLeans' music has an immediate appeal by virtue of its colorful, impressionistic textures, poetic texts, and abundance of concrete sounds."

The McLean Mix has performed extensively in all sections of the U.S. and in a number of European countries in such forums as the Zagreb International Muzicki Biennale, and the Pacific Rim and Asia (Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, Malaysia, Philippines). Recipients of six NEA grants, their music has been performed in most of the major music festivals of the world, such as Warsaw Autumn, Graz, Bourges, and Gaudeamus. For more information about the McLean Mix, visit <http://www.fairpoint.net/~rainfor1>.

*Rainforest* is presented by the Tufts University Department of Music and the Granoff Music Fund, with the generous support of the Tufts University Art Gallery.

The Aidekman Arts Center is located at 40 Talbot Avenue on Tufts' Medford/Somerville campus. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit [as.tufts.edu/music/musiccenter](http://as.tufts.edu/music/musiccenter) or call the Granoff Music Center Box Office at 617.627.3679.

## **Press Listing for Event Calendar Details**

*Wednesday, April 24, 2013 and Thursday, April 25, 2013*

### ***Rainforest***

Aidekman Arts Center, 40 Talbot Avenue, Tufts University Medford/Somerville Campus

Featuring: *The McLean Mix: Barton and Priscilla McLean*

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Tufts University, located on three Massachusetts campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville, and Grafton, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's eight schools is widely encouraged.

The Tufts Department of Music offers a flexible and eclectic academic program leading to a Bachelor or Master of Arts degree in music. Students concentrate in composition, ethnomusicology, musicology, or theory, while having the opportunity to explore all these disciplines, as well as the areas of music cognition, linguistics, sociology, and anthropology of music. Students also have the opportunity to perform in over twenty different department ensembles and chamber music groups, as well as study privately on the instrument of their choice (including voice). The Tufts Department of Music is housed in the Perry and Marty Granoff Music Center, home to the Distler Performance Hall, Fisher Performance Room, Varis Lecture Hall, and Lilly Music Library. The Music Center hosts over 180 events and concerts annually, the majority of which are produced and presented by the Department of Music.

***Tufts University - Department of Music***

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