

Rúna Ingimundar was born 1963 in Húsavík, a small town on the North coast of Iceland. She received Doctoral degrees in Music Composition and Ethno-Musicology from the University of Arizona. Since 2009, Rúna has worked for the Folk Music Center in Iceland, taught and advised graduate students at three different universities in Iceland. She has given concerts, presentations and workshops about Icelandic traditional music in Iceland and abroad. Rúna is the chairman of the Icelandic Traditional Folk Music Association, and became the Icelandic representative in the Nordic Committee for Folk Music in 2009. Rúna was the first teacher to bring traditional Icelandic singing into the regular music school curriculum.

Merrill Clark received his early training at the University of Utah. He later studied with film composer Pat Williams, contra bass virtuoso Lisle Atkinson, tabla master Samir Chatterjee and Latin percussionist and arranger Louis Bauzo. His work has been heard in the United States, Brazil, Malaysia, Thailand and throughout Europe. Merrill has written many works in a wide variety of genres, from unaccompanied solo pieces to large scale orchestral works. His collaboration with German trombonist Dirk Amrein has resulted in a series of works for trombone, including *Trombonist from Hell*. Recently the Albany/Naxos records release a CD featuring the piano trio *di.vi.sion* performing Merrill's new work *Prime Divisions* for Piano Trio.

Merrill Clark maintains a private teaching studio in New York. His music has been published by Downbeat Magazine, and his book *Mastering Blues Keyboard* is published by Alfred Publishing Company.

Ektoras Binikos was born on the island of Ikaria, Greece, and was educated in Athens. He received his degree in Film Direction from the Greek Film Institute (Lykourgos Stavrakos). After moving to New York, he furthered his studies at the New School University in Graphic Design/Electronic Publishing as well as Video Production, and at Cooper Union in drawing & collages. He works in multiple mediums, including painting, drawing, installation, video, photography and digital art. He has exhibited his works in numerous exhibitions throughout the United States, South America and Europe.

He is the Head Mixologist at the legendary Michael's NY and is a creative force in the "New American Cocktail Renaissance". His award-winning cocktails reflect the pure and natural ethos of our new American global cuisine, featuring fresh, exotic ingredients in surprising combinations.

Hlíf Sigurjónsdóttir

solo violin

National Opera Center America
330 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10001
Sunday January 10th 2016 at 8:00 pm

Program

Hlíf Sigurjónsdóttir was born in Denmark and grew up in Iceland. Upon graduation from the Reykjavík College of Music, she furthered her violin studies at the Universities of Indiana and Toronto where her teachers were Franco Gulli and Lorand Fenyves, and the Banff School of Fine Arts. Later she took private lessons in New York from the renowned violinist and teacher Gerald Beal. She has been fortunate over time to work with many of the leading musicians of the twentieth century, including William Primrose, Janos Starker, Rucciero Ricci, Igor Oistrach, György Sebok and the members of the Hungarian quartet.

Hlíf has given numerous concerts both as a soloist and with various ensembles and orchestras. In 2014, MRS Classics released her disk *DIALOGUS* with works for solo violin, all of which were written for her. That disk has been highly acclaimed, e.g. by *Voix des Arts*, and one of *Fanfare Magazine's* critics, Maria Nockin, has named it as one of the best CDs of the year 2015. Last year MSR Classics re-released the critically acclaimed 2-CD set of her playing the Sonatas and Partitas for solo violin by J.S. Bach, originally released in 2008.

Rúna Ingimundar
b. 1963

From My Home

J.S. Bach
1685-1750

Partita II in d minor BWV 1004

Allemanda
Corrente
Sarabanda
Giga
Ciaccona

Merrill Clark
b. 1951

The Sorceress

- *Sigurjonsdottir Sonata*

accompanied with a video work by the
Greek artist Ektoras Binikos

Prelude
Song
Fugue
Waltz Scherzo
Ciaconna