

**June 6-9, 2013**  
**67<sup>th</sup> OJAI MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
THOMAS W. MORRIS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MARK MORRIS MUSIC DIRECTOR

**FESTIVAL MEMORABLE MOMENTS**

**Tell us about a favorite Festival moment:**

**SETTING**

- A wonderful evening in an exquisite setting amongst the beautiful people of Ojai. We are visitors from England and we loved every minute of the concert. Thanks so much!
- The focus on events in the bowl and in other locations was especially good.
- Just having the opportunity to attend a relaxing concert under the stars, in an intimate bowl.
- Enjoyed the music and, really not musically related, where I was sitting, the sun just went past the sun screen above when the concert ended.
- Nice linen on picnic tables.
- The weather, the volunteers, the staff.
- Sitting under incredible trees in a small venue with an audience who were there to hear new and wonderful music (instead of sending texts during the concert)...and being part of a compelling, interesting, moving musical experience on Saturday night! We can't wait to return, with more planning time, next year. (We read about the Ojai Festival in the LA Times on the Sunday morning before the Saturday night that we attended.)
- The concert was great, and I enjoyed the settings very much
- Beautiful evening good seat for the ballet. However, too modern for me.
- Quite interesting. I liked that there seemed to be a following of people who attend the festival. I live in Santa Barbara, so not that far away, but really did not know what the festival was all about. I am happy I went.
- The organization was phenomenal. Nary a glitch. Kudos to Caitlin, volunteers and all the staff.

**IN C**

- The performance of Terry Riley's *In C*.
- My favorite performance was the Terry Riley *In C* -- totally transformational -- and very beautiful!
- Terry Riley *In C* concert.
- There were many. *In C* was wonderful. The Mark Morris dances to the Henry Cowell string quartets. And maybe most of all, the very last piece - the Lou Harrison piano concerto. What made it all the more special was sharing it all with friends.
- Terry Riley - I loved this music. Mark Morris - I love his choreography and dancers and the music he chooses. The Bad Plus - very nice. I enjoyed the films except the silent one (but I did love The Bad Plus improvisation).
- Ives, Terry Riley *In C*, dance plus Barber combination.

- Early Sat morn in the hills hearing (John Luther Adams) and seeing the fog banks and the young musicians and their beautiful instruments...lying on the grass under the oaks listening to *In C*...the fabulous Mark Morris dance company performance Friday night in our seats in the Libbey bowl...honestly the whole thing was fabulous. Look forward to next year. Music and dance outdoors...what could be better?
- Amazing musicianship created real emotion out of percussion and repetition.
- All of it: from the Gamelan Friday evening through *In C* on Saturday -- outstanding programs all. Mark Morris is genius -- funny and heartbreaking.
- Loved the workout/dance classes. Enjoyed the juxtaposition of the marching band and the rehearsing gamelan players. Always love red fish blue fish. *In C* best musical moment.
- Cage percussion, *In C*, toy piano and *Four Walls*.
- *In C* was well done. Outdoor performances of John Luther Adams works.
- *In C* rocked, Salome, and The Bad Plus *Rite of Spring*.
- Too many to choose just one. The complete involvement, availability and genius of Mark Morris and his dance group, including dance in the Festival. The sunrise performances. Terry Riley's *In C*. Gamelan everywhere. The Bad Plus. Colin Fowler. The films and talks.
- *songbirdsongs* on Meditation Mount was absolutely magical. *In C* was my favorite performance in the bowl. THANK YOU for the live streaming! Interviews with Mark Morris added wonderful personality and information to the festival.
- Songbirds, *In C*, community and early morning events.
- We enjoyed the Ives' *Variations on 'America'* and Riley *In C*.

## LATE NIGHTS

- I loved the late night concerts which were a delight and tied the musical inspiration together even more. They were like sweet asides that so added to the whole. Thank you to Mark Morris.
- John Cage's *Four Walls*.
- red fish blue fish late night performance was everything I love about this group: edgy, well-balanced and perfectly executed, in spite of the car siren competing.
- The morning at Besant Hill School, listening to Adam's *Strange and Sacred Noise* was one of the most powerful and beautiful moments for me in the last eleven years of attending the Festival. The late night performance by red fish and blue fish was inspiring and artistically done. The group greatly elevated my sense of reverence for percussion instruments.
- Cage percussion, *In C*, toy piano and *Four Walls*.
- There were many. Both sunrise concerts (John Luther Adams) were beautiful, serene, and faithfully executed. The Sunday *songbirdsongs* was an especially unique celebration of time, space and sound. The Bad Plus brought back a familiar ensemble sound of piano trio while exploring new horizons. The sound crew deserves credit for excellent mix with the outdoor environment. I felt that many folks missed an excellent set of Cage performances on Saturday

Late Night. red fish blue fish does Cage as well as anyone. The *Double Music* was very precise and extremely entertaining. This, and the sunrise concerts were attended by a sparse audience, but we were well rewarded. Concerto for Piano with Gamelan (Sunday pm) was also an excellent mix of diverse sounds.

## GAMELAN

- I was very moved by the Ur-Twitter experience, and I was very impressed by the Gamelan Performances. All the subscription concerts were beyond my expectations for enjoyment.
- Watching the afternoon Gamelan Consort rehearsal. The Toy Piano concert. Watching the big stage setup for the Terry Riley concert. The avant-garde is not my most favorite music—nor dance. But still glad to have been there. Still a world-class relaxed venue!
- Any of the modern dance and the gamelan.
- Concerto for Piano and Javanese Gamelan, Karaoke, Dancing.
- Gamelan concerts - great new experiences.
- All of it: from the Gamelan Friday evening through *In C* on Saturday -- outstanding programs all. Mark Morris is genius -- funny and heartbreaking.
- The Gamelan performances in the park and in the bowl concerts.
- Lou Harrison's piece performed by the gamelan orchestra. The tiny piano, the dance to Cowell's mosaic, *Unity* pieces. It was all wonderful. The pianist on the last Lou Harrison work. First time I'd seen a pregnant dancer perform.
- Gamelan concert from the Gazebo in the park and eating a picnic dinner nearby. Also the Mark Morris dancers in concert on Friday.
- The free Gamelan performance in the Park.
- There are always great memorable moments at the Festival, but this year I had two: First was the incredible concert on Saturday at the Gazebo by incredible Gamelan Sari Raras. The second one memorable moment was the Fugue for Percussion and Concerto for Piano with Gamelan, showing what a great musician Lou Harrison was and how marvelous red fish blue fish and Gamelan groups are.
- Too many to choose just one. The complete involvement, availability and genius of Mark Morris and his dance group, including dance in the festival. The sunrise performances. Terry Riley's *In C*. Gamelan everywhere. The Bad Plus. Colin Fowler. The films and talks.
- I thoroughly enjoyed The Bad Plus on Thursday night! Really fun! I also attended the talk previous to the show which was very interesting and informative. The 2 Gamelan shows here very fun as well!

## TOY PIANO

- I loved the moment when the tallest man in the crowd turned out to be the pianist for the tiniest piano loved watching him fold his legs and then play with such feeling - great idea, great performance.

- At the toy piano concert in the park the intensity of a little girl's eyes watching the performance.
- Many memorable moments -- Gamelan, toy piano, Salome film, as well as the MMDG.
- Loved the intersection of natural beauty at Meditation Mount and John Luther Adams music.....really wonderful and so intimate and the quirky pieces by Cage played in the Libbey Park playground....the wonderful moments when the festival takes music to the real world.
- The toy piano by the playground on Friday evening...
- Watching the afternoon Gamelan Consort rehearsal. The Toy Piano concert. Watching the big stage setup for the Terry Riley concert. The avant-garde is not my most favorite music—nor dance. But still glad to have been there. Still a world-class relaxed venue!
- The performance in the playground was fun and memorable.
- The toy piano at dusk in the playground felt very magical.
- Loved Henry Cowell- first exposure to his music. Enjoyed the Satie on toy piano too.
- The last dance and music piece by Lou Harrison on Friday night was great, but the inter-concert John Cage piece for toy piano (in the children's playground) being broadcast through the park as it turned dark was gorgeous--a vivid memory.
- The "toy piano" concert being watched with such focus by hundreds! Friday's dances. Sitting behind John Luther Adams and his lovely wife for the weekend, and a few seats over and behind Mark Morris, too - such focus he had on all the performances.
- I happened on The Toy Piano Concert by chance. I thought it was to be earlier in the evening. It was charming and the children were so interested. I wish it had been longer and earlier, but it certainly was a delightful moment.
- Lou Harrison's piece performed by the gamelan orchestra. The tiny piano, the dance to Cowell's *Mosaic*, *Unity* pieces. It was all wonderful. The pianist on the last Lou Harrison work. First time I'd seen a pregnant dancer perform.
- Harrison Film, Mike Morris pre concert Q&A, Toy Piano, concerts, too many to choose just one.
- Cage percussion, *In C*, toy piano and *Four Walls*.
- Morning drum concert. Toy piano. Gamelan. The extra concerts were great this year. The dancing added to the experience. The gamelan music of Harrison.
- Eric Satie performed on the toy piano in the playground.
- The Bad Plus was wonderful. But the toy piano concert brought a smile to everyone's faces.
- Since Mark Morris is a choreographer and we could only attend one evening, we went to Friday evening's dance performance. We loved the entire arc of the performance: the way the music built in complexity with the dance, dancers, and the costumes. We loved the asymmetry of the choreography, the counterpoint, and the costumes and thought it worked well with the music of Charles Ives, Henry Cowell and Lou Harrison. We also thoroughly enjoyed the toy piano concert at the playground of Erik Satie and John Cage's music. It was unexpected and delightful.
- The performance of Cage's *4'33"* on a toy piano.

## FILMS

- Movie Salome with accompanied jazz group The Bad Plus.
- Many memorable moments -- Gamelan, toy piano, Salome film, as well as the MMDG.
- Terry Riley - I loved this music. Mark Morris - I love his choreography and dancers and the music he chooses. The Bad Plus - very nice. I enjoyed the films except the silent one (but I did love The Bad Plus improvisation).
- The Sunday donor's event concert by the American String Quartet, and the film with YoYo Ma and Mark Morris.
- Friday night's music were some of my favorite Cowell pieces and the dance was surprisingly good. I am not as knowledgeable in dance. The Lou Harrison film!
- Harrison Film, Mike Morris pre concert Q&A, Toy Piano, concerts, too many to choose just one.
- Three: *In C* rocked, Salome, and The Bad Plus *Rite of Spring*.
- The Bad Plus rendition of *Rite of Spring*. Lou Harrison movie. Adams' *songbirdsongs* at Meditation Mount.
- Early morning concert on Saturday at Meditation Mount. The film about Lou Harrison. The overall sense of community due in part to the excellent programming - a family of composers, seeing the dancers at all concerts, the sweetness of Mark Morris' camp counselor/artist persona, the respect of the audience.
- Most interesting: the documentary by Eva Soltes about Lou Harrison. For sheer amusement, *Atlantis* by Cowell. Best, Lou Harrison's Concerto for Piano and Javanese Gamelan. Worst: *For Lou Harrison* by John Luther Adams - left after 20 minutes. My sentiments are summed up totally in the Santa Barbara News-Press review of the Festival.
- The early morning concerts, the Fri day night concert, the movies.

## Mark Morris Dance Group

- The first dance by the Mark Morris dancers with the walking patterns and one or another dancer "falling out."
- The solo unannounced dance on Saturday morning with Dallas and Colin.
- Mark Morris Dance Company. GREAT!!
- Final dance of Friday night, with its Shaker roots and off-the-wall choreography and performance.
- Many memorable moments -- Gamelan, toy piano, Salome film, as well as the MMDG.
- The two sunrise concerts were marvelous treats. The dancing throughout added a rich dimension.
- Meeting the piano player, the dance performances, the sunrise concert on Sunday.
- 2 favorites: Thursday night *Rite of Spring*; Friday night dance. What I did not like was Saturday night. I really wanted to leave but stayed out of courtesy to the performers.
- There were many. *In C* was wonderful. The Mark Morris dances to the Henry Cowell string

quartets. And maybe most of all, the very last piece - the Lou Harrison piano concerto. What made it all the more special was sharing it all with friends.

- The performance of *In C* and the dancing.
- The second part of the Friday evening dance performance.
- Terry Riley - I loved this music. Mark Morris - I love his choreography and dancers and the music he chooses. The Bad Plus - very nice I enjoyed the films except the silent one (but I did love The Bad Plus improvisation).
- Ives, Terry Riley's *In C*, dance plus Barber combination.
- Early Sat morn in the hills hearing (John Luther Adams) and seeing the fog banks and the young musicians and their beautiful instruments...lying on the grass under the oaks listening to *In C*...the fabulous Mark Morris dance company performance Friday night in our seats in the Libby Bowl...honestly the whole thing was fabulous. Look forward to next year. Music and dance outdoors...what could be better?
- Second half of Mark Morris dancers evening.
- Any of the modern dance and the gamelan.
- Mark Morris Group dance performances.
- Unexpected *Ten Suggestions*.
- Loved the dance.
- Having Mark Morris as the artistic director was genius. It was such a dynamic season from what I've read about the other performances. Although it was not for everyone, I think that those who love music and new experiences would appreciate being intellectually stretched. The dance performances added another dimension to the programs. Being a fan of Mark Morris I loved the dance, the costumes and his choice of music.
- The "toy piano" concert being watched with such focus by hundreds! Friday's dances. Sitting behind John Luther Adams and his lovely wife for the weekend, and a few seats over and behind Mark Morris, too - such focus he had on all the performances.
- The Friday evening dance performance, with the Mark Morris Dance Company, so expertly complementary to the music emphasized at this year's festival.
- Thursday night trio; Friday night dance; Fitness with MMDG.
- Friday's dancers.
- Friday night's music were some of my favorite Cowell pieces and the dance was surprisingly good. I am not as knowledgeable in dance. The Lou Harrison film!
- Mark Morris Dance Company performances! MM in the audience! MM conducting Sunday!
- The dance piece was exquisite! And I'm not much of a dance person, but it really stood out in the pleasure my husband and I felt.
- Second performance of MMDG.
- Mark Morris restarting the dance program.
- Lou Harrison's piece performed by the gamelan orchestra. The tiny piano, the dance to Cowell's *Mosaic*, *Unity* pieces. It was all wonderful. The pianist on the last Lou Harrison work. First time I'd seen a pregnant dancer perform.
- Mark Morris's show was truly incredible!! We enjoyed the festival experience, but Sunday

night's vocals made me feel uncomfortable and Saturday night's music had too many repetitions.

- Gamelan concert from the Gazebo in the park and eating a picnic dinner nearby. Also the Mark Morris dancers in concert on Friday.
- Dance Performances.
- The dancing was such a great addition.
- All of the dance/movement by Mark Morris Dance Group; Lou Harrison: Concerto for Piano with Javanese Gamelan and the organ: Colin Fowler playing Charles Ives, *Variations on 'America'*, loved it. All the above did my heart good!
- Really enjoyed the addition of dance choreography to the music I heard during the Friday evening concert. Definitely an enhanced visual experience to my concert experience.
- Both early morning concerts, the bonus dance on Sunday.
- The dance performances were extraordinary. The outside setting added to the beauty of the music and dance.
- Friday eve concert.
- The Bad Plus *Rite of Spring* was a great experience, as was the Friday night dances of MMDG.
- John Luther Adams' work performed at sunrise concerts both Sat and Sun; The Bad Plus' *Rite of Spring*; every dance performance by MMDG; the whole sprawling jam-packed nature of it!
- Loved the Friday evening concerts with the MMDG. The choreography really enhanced the musical experience. The talk/interview about Lou Harrison (we really regret that we did not have tickets to see the film afterwards).
- Dallas McMurray's solo on Sunday morning! Spectacular!
- The dancing was terrific. Being able to do some choreography was pretty unique.
- The dancers.
- The interpretative Dancer was nice. We enjoyed the nice weather and sitting in the shade.
- Unscheduled dance program on Sunday.
- Since Mark Morris is a choreographer and we could only attend one evening, we went to Friday evening's dance performance. We loved the entire arc of the performance: the way the music built in complexity with the dance, dancers, and the costumes. We loved the asymmetry of the choreography, the counterpoint, and the costumes and thought it worked well with the music of Charles Ives, Henry Cowell and Lou Harrison. We also thoroughly enjoyed the toy piano concert at the playground of Erik Satie and John Cage's music. It was unexpected and delightful.
- The Friday night Dance and music program.
- I loved the 8 am concerts, the variety of times and places, and so much to hear and see that I couldn't do it all. Wonderful program. I thought the dancing made unfamiliar music visual.

## **SUNRISE CONCERTS**

- It's hard to choose among all of the memorable moments, but experiencing John Luther Adams' *songbirdsongs* on Meditation Mount (Sunday morning Ojai Sunrise Concert) was a

special treat for me. The red fish blue fish ensemble was joined by Ojai birds who sounded like their parts were written right into the score.

- The two John Luther Adams programs at 8 am. Thank you for bringing this interesting composer to my attention.
- The morning sound experience composed by John Luther Adams at the Besant Hill was incredible. The view of the landscape, the echoes off the school, the shifting of the sun, and that moment right as the gongs faded away into silence and the sound of the birds sweetly bloomed into my ears.
- The sunrise concerts including the surprise breakfast, all of Lou's music. All of Mark's hard work and fun surprises like a dance that was not on the program and I could go on and on and will when I get my letter written to the Board. It was fantastic and as a friend of Lou's I could feel his spirit there.
- I was very moved by the Ur-Twitter experience, and I was very impressed by the Gamelan Performances. All the subscription concerts were beyond my expectations for enjoyment.
- The two sunrise concerts were marvelous treats. The dancing throughout added a rich dimension.
- Meeting the piano player, the dance performances, the sunrise concert on Sunday.
- JLA's music, the two morning concerts were special. I loved the Saturday night concert, although I was in the minority.
- The Sunday morning concert at Meditation Mount.
- Early Sat morn in the hills hearing (John Luther Adams) and seeing the fog banks and the young musicians and their beautiful instruments...lying on the grass under the oaks listening to *In C*...the fabulous Mark Morris dance company performance Friday night in our seats in the Libbey Bowl...honestly the whole thing was fabulous. Look forward to next year. Music and dance outdoors...what could be better?
- Having the music sing with the birds and entice the sun to rise in the early mists at Meditation Mount.
- The morning at Besant Hill School, listening to Adam's *Strange and Sacred Noise* was one of the most powerful and beautiful moments for me in the last eleven years of attending the Festival. The late night performance by red fish and blue fish was inspiring and artistically done. The group greatly elevated my sense of reverence for percussion instruments.
- Both the early morning concerts were really special, but everything about the festival is so amazing that it is really hard to pick out a single moment, it is the total package that is so superb. It keeps us coming back year after year!
- Loved the *songbirdsongs* concert at Meditation Mount. I was there with two 6-year-olds, who were able to enjoy it because it was OK for them to move around.
- At Meditation Mount, during the John Luther Adams piece when the birds replied...
- Bad + *Rite of Spring*; JL Adams' "sunrise" events.
- The J L Adams early morning concerts.
- The Sat morning 8am concert at Besant Hill was the best. The surprise breakfast, the incredible percussion, the clouds, the hills, - it was awesome. A second moment which



should go down in infamy in the Ojai memorabilia was after the one hour performance of the orchestra playing the same ascending phrase over and over, between the end of the piece and the audience clapping, someone shouted out "Play it again." We were all subject to hysterical guilty laughter!

- There were many. Both sunrise concerts (John Luther Adams) were beautiful, serene, and faithfully executed. The Sunday *songbirdsongs* was an especially unique celebration of time, space and sound. The Bad Plus brought back a familiar ensemble sound of piano trio while exploring new horizons. The sound crew deserves credit for excellent mix with the outdoor environment. I felt that many folks missed an excellent set of Cage performances on Saturday Late Night. red fish blue fish does Cage as well as anyone. The *Double Music* was very precise and extremely entertaining. This, and the sunrise concerts were attended by a sparse audience, but we were well rewarded. Concerto for Piano with Gamelan (Sunday pm) was also an excellent mix of diverse sounds.
- Meditation Mount performance.
- *In C* was well done. Outdoor performances of John Luther Adams works.
- Saturday's *Strange and Sacred Noise* was the highlight for me.
- Both early morning concerts, the bonus dance on Sunday.
- Sunday early morning concert.
- The concerts not in the bowl, e.g. early morning hilltop concerts with red fish blue fish this year; and last year's Inuksuit in the park.
- *The Rite of Spring* and the Besant Hill experience.
- Too many to choose just one. The complete involvement, availability and genius of Mark Morris and his dance group, including dance in the festival. The sunrise performances. Terry Riley's *In C*. Gamelan everywhere. The Bad Plus. Colin Fowler. The films and talks.
- John Luther Adams' work performed at sunrise concerts both Sat and Sun; The Bad Plus' *Rite of Spring*; every dance performance by MMDG; the whole sprawling jam-packed nature of it!
- The Bad Plus rendition of *Rite of Spring*. Lou Harrison movie. Adams' *songbirdsongs* at Meditation Mount.
- The 8 am Sunday morning concert at Meditation Mount was truly magical.
- Morning drum concert. Toy piano. Gamelan. The extra concerts were great this year. The dancing added to the experience. The gamelan music of Harrison.
- *songbirdsongs* on Meditation Mount was absolutely magical. *In C* was my favorite performance in the bowl. THANK YOU for the live streaming! Interviews with Mark Morris added wonderful personality and information to the festival.
- *songbirdsongs*, *In C*, community and early morning events.
- *songbirdsongs* - ravishing, mystical, exquisite. Site specific and not replicable. A truly unique experience. "You were there or you missed it."
- I loved the 8 am concerts, the variety of times and places, and so much to hear and see that I couldn't do it all. Wonderful program. I thought the dancing made unfamiliar music visual.
- I loved the two John Luther Adams early morning pieces played outdoors.
- Beginning of first outdoor concert in the morning.

- The early morning concerts, the Fri day night concert, the movies.
- The John Luther Adams piece at Besant Hill School was a peak experience.
- *songbirdsongs* at meditation Mount was sublime; and the Thursday night opening concert was the best jazz I have heard in years. Thank you.

## **GENERAL**

- The Ives Quartet.
- Sitting on the lawn with the Mark Morris Dancers during *Atlantis*, when - because we had no sight lines to the bowl, the imagination could reign supreme - the dancers started acting out the moans and groans of the singers!!
- Dancers--music-being with friends- dinner before the concert-great weather- just an all around wonderful evening. We were 4 people ages ranged from 40 to 83. Thanks.
- My memorable moment was when I realized I would be seated in an area completely exposed in unbearable full sun- that in fact there was no warning whatsoever when I purchased my tickets.
- Loved Henry Cowell- first exposure to his music. Enjoyed the Satie on toy piano too.
- Mark Morris telling one of his musicians that it's "a parasol not a parapluie...look it up." Lots of memorable moments onstage as well....
- It was wonderful , just as Rick Caperella on KUSC said , it was the perfect beginning to the summer .The music of Persichetti was the most memorable.
- Sunday morning was particularly appealing listening to songs by Cowell and Ives.
- Mark Morris' broad awareness of music forms and composers, and their inter-related aspects strongly influenced a succession of serendipitous discoveries. This resulted in an eye opening (and ear opening) revelation for us.
- The vocalists during *Atlantis*.
- Organ music.
- We enjoyed the Ives *Variations on 'America'* and Riley's *In C*.

## **MARK MORRIS LEADING EVERYONE IN SONG**

- Singing a hymn as a group on Sunday morning.
- The group sing-along.
- Singing with Mark Morris!
- Mark Morris conducting the audience with music supplied to us to sing along.
- Mark Morris leading the audience in chorus.

## **SATURDAY NIGHT (positive and negative)**

- I brought my friend's teenage daughter and son to their first classical performance. We all thoroughly enjoyed Lou Harrison's Suite for Symphonic Strings and both kids are more

engaged in their music preferences as a result. But we walked out after 40 monotonous minutes of John Luther Adams' *For Lou Harrison*. It was a great lesson that even world class entertainment gets things wrong.

- JLa's music, the two morning concerts were special. I loved the Saturday night concert, although I was in the minority.
- JL Adams, *For Lou Harrison* (it actually was controversial with my crowd!); I like some pieces that "stretch the ears" and make people a little uncomfortable...
- The final note of the John Luther Adams piece, followed by a cluster of audience laughter.
- *For Lou Harrison*.
- Interview with Mark Morris on Thursday morning. The torture of Saturday night's concert.
- Dance lessons with Mark Morris dance troupe, sitting on the lawn on Saturday afternoon during rehearsals for the Saturday night concert/hearing the John Luther Adams piece.
- When the John Luther Adams piece was FINALLY over.
- Good memorable moment: The Bad Plus on Thursday night! Bad memorable moment: The "other" John Luther Adams piece Saturday night...a travesty...you need more curatorial "selectivity."
- "Play it again!" It was all memorable.
- Saturday night's piece by John Luther Adams was excruciating and drove us away from the rest of the festival. It was our 13th season as subscribers. I always commend the festival for taking chances, for not pandering, and for introducing terrific new artists and works, but the Adams piece was long, repetitive -- its subtle variations were not enough to assuage the monotony -- and frankly, the worst Saturday night concert in our 13 years of attendance.
- Man yelled, "Play it again!" after Saturday evening piece. Everyone laughed.
- Most interesting: the documentary by Eva Soltes about Lou Harrison. For sheer amusement, *Atlantis* by Cowell. Best, Lou Harrison's Concerto for Piano and Javanese Gamelan. Worst: *For Lou Harrison* by John Luther Adams - left after 20 minutes. My sentiments are summed up totally in the Santa Barbara News-Press review of the Festival.
- The extremely painfully boring concert on Saturday night. Does no one listen to the music before you put it on the program.
- Pierre Boulez's Assistant yelling "What did Lou ever do to you!" at John Luther Adams after 50 torturous iterations of *For Lou Harrison*.
- John Luther Adams' *For Lou Harrison*, the "BIG" piece Saturday night, was worse than nonstop. For an hour (read eternity), an ensemble of strings and two pianos climb up a scale, over and over, over and over, over and over, over and over, over and over, over and over, over and over, over and over, over and over, over and over . . . Stop! I'll talk, I'll talk!! That was punishingly uncomfortable. I chatted with another patron upon leaving and said, "The piece never, ever ended." She said, "Yes, it did. One hundred and fifty-six times." Please avoid torturing your patrons in the future.

## THE BAD PLUS

- Loved The Bad Plus! I would love it if you brought in someone like Bjork who has a connection with both visual arts as well as performing arts. She could really bring the festival into the 21st century and turn it upside down.
- The Bad Plus' *Rite of Spring*.
- Every moment spent at the Ojai Music Fest was memorable and magical. Sitting on the lawn Thursday night, listening to The Bad Plus for the first time. The sound was so crisp and clear - I felt the percussion as clear little feathers in my ear.
- *Rite of Spring* with no oboe!
- Watching The Bad Plus perform.
- 2 favorites: Thursday night *Rite of Spring*; Friday night dance. What I did not like was Saturday night. I really wanted to leave but stayed out of courtesy to the performers.
- *Rite of Spring* percussion.
- The Bad Plus' performance of *Rite of Spring*!
- Terry Riley - I loved this music. Mark Morris - I love his choreography and dancers and the music he chooses. The Bad Plus - very nice. I enjoyed the films except the silent one (but I did love The Bad Plus improvisation).
- The Bad Plus concert Thurs. night.
- There were many. The Bad Plus' *Rite of Spring*. Suite for Symphonic Strings.
- The Bad Plus performing *Rite of Spring*.
- Our whole evening w/The Bad Plus was quite magical.
- Thursday night trio; Friday night dance; Fitness with MMDG.
- We especially enjoyed the first concert on Thursday. Otherwise we regretted having to miss both Sunday concerts.
- The Bad Plus' *Rite of Spring*; JL Adams' "sunrise" events.
- Beautiful stars and music...The Bad Plus.
- The Bad Plus rendition of *Rite of Spring*.
- *The Rite of Spring* and the Besant Hill experience.
- Thursday evening's experience of the jazz trio deconstructing a one-hundred year old classic.
- Three: *In C* rocked, Salome, and The Bad Plus *Rite of Spring*.
- Too many to choose just one. The complete involvement, availability and genius of Mark Morris and his dance group, including dance in the festival. The sunrise performances. Terry Riley's *In C*. Gamelan everywhere. The Bad Plus. Colin Fowler. The films and talks.
- The Bad Plus *Rite of Spring* was a great experience, as was the Friday night dances of MMDG.
- Good memorable moment: Bad Plus on Thursday night! Bad memorable moment: The "other" John Adams piece Saturday night...a travesty...you need more curatorial "selectivity."
- John Luther Adams' work performed at sunrise concerts both Sat and Sun; The Bad Plus' *Rite of Spring*; every dance performance by MMDG; the whole sprawling jam-packed nature of it!
- The Bad Plus rendition of *Rite of Spring*. Lou Harrison movie. Adams' *songbirdsongs* at Meditation Mount.

- Early morning concert on Saturday at Meditation Mount. The film about Lou Harrison. The overall sense of community due in part to the excellent programming - a family of composers, seeing the dancers at all concerts, the sweetness of Mark Morris' camp counselor/artist persona, the respect of the audience.
- The Bad Plus was wonderful. But the toy piano concert brought a smile to everyone's faces.
- I thoroughly enjoyed The Bad Plus on Thursday night! Really fun! I also attended the talk previous to the show which was very interesting and informative. The 2 Gamelan shows were very fun as well!
- *songbirdsongs* at Meditation Mount was sublime; and the Thursday night opening concert was the best jazz I have heard in years. Thank you.

### **HARRISON'S CONCERTO FOR GAMELAN & PIANO**

- The Harrison Gamelan/Organ Closing
- There were many. *In C* was wonderful. The Mark Morris dances to the Henry Cowell string quartets. And maybe most of all, the very last piece - the Lou Harrison piano concerto. What made it all the more special was sharing it all with friends.
- There were many. Both sunrise concerts (John Luther Adams) were beautiful, serene, and faithfully executed. The Sunday *songbirdsongs* was an especially unique celebration of time, space and sound. The Bad Plus brought back a familiar ensemble sound of piano trio while exploring new horizons. The sound crew deserves credit for excellent mix with the outdoor environment. I felt that many folks missed an excellent set of Cage performances on Saturday Late Night. red fish blue fish does Cage as well as anyone. The *Double Music* was very precise and extremely entertaining. This, and the sunrise concerts were attended by a sparse audience, but we were well rewarded. Concerto for Piano with Gamelan (Sunday pm) was also an excellent mix of diverse sounds.
- All of the dance/movement by Mark Morris Dance Group; Lou Harrison's Concerto for Piano with Javanese Gamelan and the organ: Colin Fowler playing Charles Ives, *Variations on 'America'*, loved it. All the above did my heart good!
- There are always great memorable moments at the Festival, but this year I had two: First was the incredible concert on Saturday at the Gazebo by incredible Gamelan Sari Raras. The second one memorable moment were the Fugue for Percussion and Concerto for Piano with Gamelan, showing what a great musician Lou Harrison was and how marvelous red fish blue fish and Gamelan groups are.
- Lou Harrison's Concerto for Piano and Javanese Gamelan
- Most interesting: the documentary by Eva Soltes about Lou Harrison. For sheer amusement, *Atlantis* by Cowell. Best, Lou Harrison's Concerto for Piano and Javanese Gamelan. Worst: *For Lou Harrison* by John Luther Adams - left after 20 minutes. My sentiments are summed up totally in the Santa Barbara News-Press review of the Festival.

## RED FISH BLUE FISH

- red fish blue fish late night performance was everything I love about this group: edgy, well-balanced and perfectly executed, in spite of the car siren competing.
- I loved red fish blue fish and just generally loved the 2 afternoon events we attended. . .our choice was based on when we could get a room in town!
- Performances by red fish blue fish.
- The morning at Besant Hill School, listening to Adam's *Strange and Sacred Noise* was one of the most powerful and beautiful moments for me in the last eleven years of attending the Festival. The late night performance by red fish and blue fish was inspiring and artistically done. The group greatly elevated my sense of reverence for percussion instruments.
- There were many. Both sunrise concerts (John Luther Adams) were beautiful, serene, and faithfully executed. The Sunday *songbirdsongs* was an especially unique celebration of time, space and sound. The Bad Plus brought back a familiar ensemble sound of piano trio while exploring new horizons. The sound crew deserves credit for excellent mix with the outdoor environment. I felt that many folks missed an excellent set of Cage performances on Saturday Late Night. red fish blue fish does Cage as well as anyone. The *Double Music* was very precise and extremely entertaining. This, and the sunrise concerts were attended by a sparse audience, but we were well rewarded. Concerto for Piano with Gamelan (Sunday pm) was also an excellent mix of diverse sounds.
- Mark Morris was a continuing bright spot: funny and very smart. red fish blue fish are always a favorite as is John Luther Adams. I loved learning more about Harrison, and have even bought more of his CDs so I can continue learning.

## EXTRA EVENTS

- Enjoying the concert pre-talks; receptions; films; symposiums. Especially enjoyable were the morning workouts with the MMDG dancers.
- The Mark Morris pre-concert talks.
- We loved each performance; we especially loved the many opportunities to interact with the MMDG dancers in between -- learning the polka, singing karaoke, taking a dance class, exercising on the Green. These are the moments we'll never forget, and we hope that Ojai plans such "interludes" in festivals to come. We also learned lots from Ara's interviews with the guest artists -- we so appreciate having this kind of context provided by the festival.
- Mark Morris dance class.
- Thursday night trio; Friday night dance; Fitness with MMDG.
- Karaoke, dancing.
- Loved the workout/dance classes. Enjoyed the juxtaposition of the marching band and the rehearsing gamelan players. Always love red fish blue fish. *In C* best musical moment.
- Happening onto a Mark Morris Q + A on Saturday night. Brilliant.
- Harrison Film, Mike Morris pre concert Q&A, Toy Piano, concerts, too many to choose just one.
- Line dancing with Mark Morris.

- Mark Morris' candid commentaries.
- Mark Morris talk was informative and delightful.
- Interview with Mark Morris on Thursday morning. The torture of Saturday night's concert.
- Dance lessons with Mark Morris dance troupe, sitting on the lawn on Saturday afternoon during rehearsals for the Saturday night concert/hearing the John Luther Adams piece.
- Dancing with a chair.
- Dancing the polka with the MMDG dancers!
- Dancing the waltz with Dallas at the Thursday late-night party.
- Loved the Friday evening concerts with the MMDG. The choreography really enhanced the musical experience. The talk/interview about Lou Harrison (we really regret that we did not have tickets to see the film afterwards).
- The *songbirdsongs* pieces performed in the Church, after hearing John Luther Adams speak about his life and his work. The remarkable film about the life of Lou Harrison, unfortunately clashing with the scheduled Legacy Lunch! The "surprise" dance number that Mark Morris announced just before intermission, that was not on the schedule -- a gem of a performance!
- Polka at the opening night party!
- I thoroughly enjoyed The Bad Plus on Thursday night! Really fun! I also attended the talk previous to the show which was very interesting and informative. The 2 Gamelan shows here very fun as well!
- Karaoke at Agave Maria - Mark Morris was a memorable host of that event!
- *songbirdsongs*, *In C*, community and early morning events.
- Love the Thursday interviews....always a good start for the festival.
- Mark Morris/Bad Plus interviews Thursday.