



KIMI in Maine | July 8th - 10th 2022

KIMI is a Copenhagen based trio with Greek percussionist **Katerina Anagnostidou**, Icelandic accordionist **Jónas Ásgeirsson** and Icelandic soprano **Pórgunnur Anna Örnólfsdóttir**. KIMI performs new music written for their exciting and unique instrumentation, as well as composing folk-inspired original works, mostly based on melodies from their native countries *Iceland* and *Greece*. They have collaborated with numerous composers from across the world, including **Marianna Filippi** (USA), **Nick Martin** (UK), **Christos Farmakis** (GR) and **Hugi Guðmundsson** (IS), to name a few.

KIMI was nominated for *Concert of the year* at the *Iceland Music Awards*, and being chosen ensemble-in-residence for *Skálholt Summer Concerts* festival. They recently released an EP with **Dacapo Records**.

KIMI will be bringing a brand new program to Maine this July as part of their U.S. debut. Their first concert will be at the **Camden Opera House** on the 8th of July at 7:30 p.m., followed by a performance at **Mechanic's Hall** in Portland on the 10th of July at 4 p.m. The repertoire is an exciting selection of original works written for their distinctive instrumentation. They open with **Nick Martin's** *Bittersweet*, a gorgeously yearning piece of music inspired by the renaissance. Armed with texts of *Sappho* and *Juan Ramón Jiménez*, Nick creates a deeply touching soundscape, equally at home in a cathedral as in a lover's embrace. Next, KIMI pay homage to their Greek connection, with **Christos Farmakis's** *Like dreams of the dawn and scarecrows of the night*, based on poems by *Kostis Palamas*, Greece's unofficial national poet. While composing the piece, Christos imagined that he was weaving a mystical veil, lending the epic poem a fitting garment. The work is in three movements, whose evocative titles give a clear impression of their characters: 1. *Silence*, 2. *Witches milking the moon* and 3. *Rain of Blood*.

After the intermission, KIMI will perform *Through the Eyes of an Octopus*, a piece they commissioned from **Marianna Filippi**, a former resident of Camden, ME and current Copenhagener. The piece, inspired by the Oscar-winning film *My Octopus Teacher* is a fast-paced adventure through a day in the life of the incredible ocean-dweller. With Portland-based writer **Megan Grumbling's** explosive lyrics such as '*Clench!*', '*Spool!*' and '*Ten-ta-cle!*', Marianna whisks between expressions and emotions with as much speed and skill as an octopus changing its colors. The final piece on the program is a brand new composition, **MEDEA VERSES**, by Icelandic composer **Hugi Guðmundsson**, receiving its first performance on this tour. Hugi took inspiration from KIMI's Greek roots and wrote a piece exploring the modern lessons to be gleaned from the ancient Greek tragedy of *Medea*, a sorceress who murdered her own children to spite her former lover. Though it is a shockingly dark subject matter, Hugi manages to keep the mood light by including an impromptu pop melody as one of the four movements, entitled '*Erotic Love with too much passion*', as well as quoting a surprisingly optimistic message from the ancient text of *Euripides*: '*Honor is coming to the female sex. Slander will no longer injure women*'.

KIMI's tour is graciously supported by the *Danish Arts Foundation* and *SNYK / Art Music Denmark*.



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Program

Nick Martin

Bittersweet (2019)

Christos Farmakis

Like dreams of dawn and scarecrows of the night (2020)

Intermission

Marianna Filippi

Through the eyes of an octopus (2021)

Hugi Guðmundsson

MEDEA VERSES (2022)*

All of the works on this program are composed for KIMI

*World premiere

KIMI members

Katerina Anagnostidou | percussion

Jónas Ásgeir Ásgeirsson | accordion

Bógunnur Anna Örnólfsdóttir | soprano

Concert details

July 8th | 19:30

Camden Opera House, Camden, ME

July 10th | 16:00

Mechanics' Hall, Portland, ME

Links

KIMI

<https://www.kimi-ensemble.com>

Camden Opera House

<https://www.camdenoperahouse.com>

Mechanics' Hall

<https://mechanicshallmaine.org>

Marianna Filippi:

<https://mariannafilippimusic.com>

Megan Grumbling

<https://www.megangrumbling.com>



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