

Leo Block Visiting Distinguished Professor  
and Marsico Visiting Scholar

# David Amram

at the  
University of Denver

Spring 2006

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**No More Walls,  
Bridging the Gap Between the Fine Arts,  
Humanities and Natural and Social Sciences Through Music**  
an inter-disciplinary lecture series with live music

## **Names We Call America, Digging the Roots of Cool**

David Amram will be co-teaching this upper level undergraduate course with Dr. Audrey Sprenger of the Department of Sociology, as well as hosting two filmed tributes to Lawrence Ferlinghetti, a guest lecture by filmmaker and photographer Chris Felver, two guest lectures by painter and art critic Dr. Ed Adler, and a tribute to journalist Hunter S. Thompson

## **At Lilac Evening, Jack Kerouac in Denver**

David Amram will be co-teaching this urban studies seminar with Dr. Audrey Sprenger of the Department of Sociology, as well as hosting a guest lecture by Dr. Ed Adler

## **The Leo Block Lectures, Concerts and Film Screenings**

with and for the Lamont School of Music's  
Jazz, Orchestral, Choral, Music Theory, Composition, Conducting,  
Film Scoring and Music Education Programs

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**No More Walls,  
Bridging the Gap Between the Fine Arts,  
Humanities and Natural and Social Sciences Through Music**

An Inter-disciplinary Lecture Series

**David Amram Reads From His Book  
Off Beat, Collaborating With Kerouac**  
an American literature lecture with live music  
Tuesday, April 25 from 11:30-12:30 am

**Shared Roots  
On the Musical Links Between  
Native, African, Latin and Jewish American Music**  
an anthropology and geography lecture with live music  
Tuesday, April 25 from 7-9 pm

**Finding and Maintaining Your Voice in Music  
From Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart to Thelonious Sphere Monk**  
a music history lecture  
Wednesday, April 26 from 9-10 am

**Combining the Spontaneous and the Formal,  
On Improvising Jazz Solos and Composing Symphonies**  
a music theory lecture  
Wednesday, April 26 from 10-11 am

**Hearing The Music and Writing It Down,  
The Art of Musical Notation**  
a music composition lecture  
Wednesday, April 26 from 12-1 pm

**Songs of the Soul,  
The Mysteries of Jewish Music**  
a philosophy and religious studies lecture with live music  
for Judaic Studies' 10 Judaic Studies Scholars in Conversation Conference  
Monday, May 15 from 7-9 pm

No More Walls lecture series continued

**Singing Around the World, Global Vocal Stylings**

a choral music lecture

Thursday, May 18, 9-10:50 pm

**Painting In Sound**

a music composition lecture

Thursday, May 18, 12-12:30 pm

**Tuning In To The Earth's Rhythms**

**On the Relationship Between  
the Natural World and Symphonic Music**

a lecture for undergraduate biology students with live music

Monday, May 22, 10-0:50 am

**Facts and Aesthetics**

**The Art of Science and the Science of Art**

a lecture for graduate biology students  
and the natural science faculty with live music

Monday, May 22, 1-2 pm

**Words and Music**

**Amram Recalls His Collaborations With Poets**

**W.H. Auden, Langston Hughes,**

**Archibald MacLeish, and Leslie Marmon Silko**

an American literature lecture with live music

Monday, May 24 from 7-9 pm

**The Birth of the Lincoln Center Theatre 1964**

**Amram Recalls His Collaborations With Founders**

**Arthur Miller, Elia Kazan, Robert Whitehead and Harold Clurman**

a theatre lecture with live music

Friday, May 26 from 1-3 pm

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**Names We Call America, Digging the Roots of Cool**

Names We Call America, continued

David Amram will be co-teaching this upper level undergraduate course with Dr. Audrey Sprenger of the Department of Sociology, who also wrote its syllabus. Please contact her at draudreysprenger@mac.com for a copy.

**Amram's lectures with live music include**

**The New York of  
Holden Caulfield, Jack Kerouac and David Amram**  
Tuesday, April 18, from 1-3

**Bird Flight**  
Charlie Parker and the Myth of East Coast, West Coast Jazz  
Tuesday, April 25, from 1-3

**A Tribute to Poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti**  
co-hosted with filmmaker and photographer Chris Felver and Dr. Audrey Sprenger,  
featuring screenings of Felver's THE CONEY ISLAND OF LAWRENCE FERLINGHETTI  
and Ferlinghetti and Amram's PICTURES OF THE GONE WORLD

**An Introduction to the Photographic Work of Chris Felver**  
Tuesday, May 2, from 1-3

**An Introduction to the Paintings of Ed Adler**  
Tuesday, May 16, from 1-3

**Stanislavski Meets Salsa**  
**Improvising With Words, Music and Movement**  
Tuesday, May 16, from 7-9 pm

**Beatific Voices, Readings With Music**  
**From the Works of Carson McCullers, Sonya Sanchez, Ted Joans,**  
**Frank Messina, Gregory Corso, Philip Lamantia,**  
**Howard Hart, Ron Whitehead and Edna St. Vincent Millay**  
at the Mercury Café in downtown Denver  
Friday, May 19 from 8-10pm

**From Kentucky to Colorado,**  
**Hunter S. Thompson's Journalistic and Literary Legacy**  
Tuesday, May 23, from 7-9 pm

Names We Call America, continued

**A Year In Our Land**

Amram plays recordings from his cantata, which includes the texts of James Baldwin, Jack Kerouac, John Dos Passos, Thomas Wolfe, John Steinbeck, and Walt Whitman and celebrates the four seasons in four parts of America  
Tuesday, May 30, from 1-3 pm

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**At Lilac Evening, Jack Kerouac in Denver**

David Amram will be co-teaching this special urban studies seminar with Dr. Audrey Sprenger of the Department of Sociology, who also wrote its syllabus. Please contact her at draudreysprenger@mac.com for a copy.

**Amram's lectures with live music include**

**Pull My Daisy**

a screening of the classic beat film  
Tuesday, April 18, from 7-9 pm and Monday, April 24, from 7-9 pm

**At Lilac Evening, Jack Kerouac in Denver**

Amram joins Dr. Audrey Sprenger for her urban hike based on the writings of Jack Kerouac and Neal Cassady, held in Denver's Lower Downtown, Curtis Park and Five Points District, with live music  
Wednesday, May 3, from 4-6:30 pm

**Hearing the Paintings, Seeing the Music,  
The Musical and Visual Art of Jack Kerouac**

co-hosted with painter and art critic Dr. Ed Adler and Dr. Audrey Sprenger  
Wednesday, May 17, from 7-9 pm

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**The Leo Block Lectures, Concerts and Film Screenings**

The Leo Block Lectures, continued

**The Manchurian Candidate**

a lecture to precede David Amram's performance  
with the Lamont School of Music's Jazz Ensemble and Orchestra  
Wednesday, April 26, from 6-7 pm

**David Amram Performs with the Lamont School of Music's  
Jazz Ensemble and Orchestra**

featuring selections of Amram's score for The Manchurian Candidate  
Wednesday, April 26, from 7:30-9:30 pm

**A Screening of David Amram's  
Opera of the Holocaust, The Final Ingredient**

Tuesday, May 23 from 3:10-5 pm

**Fulfilling Dvorák's Vision for American Classical Music  
David Amram Discusses the Works of**

**Aaron Copeland, George Gershwin, Duke Ellington, and Leonard Bernstein**  
a lecture to precede An Evening of Chamber Music Compositions by David Amram  
Thursday, May 25, 6-7 pm

**An Evening of Chamber Music Compositions by David Amram**

including Fanfare and Processional for Brass Quintet,  
Native American Portraits for Violin and Piano,  
Trio for Tenor Saxophone, French Horn and Bassoon,  
and Jack Kerouac's "So In America" for Narrator and String Orchestra  
Thursday, May 25, 7:30-9:30 pm

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**David Amram** has composed more than 100 orchestral and chamber music works, written many scores for Broadway theater and film, including the classic scores for the films *Splendor in the Grass* and *The Manchurian Candidate*; two operas, including the ground-breaking Holocaust opera *The Final Ingredient*; and the score for the landmark 1959 documentary *Pull My Daisy*, narrated by novelist Jack Kerouac. He is also the author of two books, *Vibrations*, an autobiography, and *Offbeat: Collaborating With Kerouac*, a memoir.

A pioneer player of jazz French horn, he is also a virtuoso on piano, numerous flutes and whistles, percussion, and dozens of folkloric instruments from 25 countries, as well as an inventive, funny improvisational lyricist. He has collaborated with Leonard Bernstein, who chose him as The New York Philharmonic's first composer-in-residence in 1966, Langston Hughes, Dizzy Gillespie, Dustin Hoffman, Willie Nelson, Thelonious Monk, Odetta, Elia Kazan, Arthur Miller, Charles Mingus, Lionel Hampton, E. G. Marshall, and Tito Puente. Amram's

David Amram bio continued,

most recent work, *Giants of the Night* is a flute concerto dedicated to the memory Charlie Parker, Jack Kerouac and Dizzy Gillespie, three American artists Amram knew and worked with. It was commissioned and recently premiered by Sir James Galway, who also plans to record it. He is currently completing his third book *Nine Lives of a Musical Cat*.

Today, as he has for over fifty years, Amram continues to compose music while traveling the world as a conductor, soloist, bandleader, visiting scholar, and narrator in five languages. He is also working with author Frank McCourt on a new setting of the Mass, *Missa Manhattan*, as well as on a symphony commissioned by the Guthrie Foundation, *Symphonic Variations on a Song by Woody Guthrie*.

When not on tour, Amram and his son live on their family farm in upstate New York.

This is Amram's third visit to the University of Denver as a **Leo Block Visiting Distinguished Professor** and his first visit as a **Marsico Visiting Scholar**. He is also celebrated at the University of Denver by a group of students, professors and parents called **The David Amram Collective**, an organization dedicated to merging the arts and the academy, as well as **The David Amram Liberal Arts Tree** planted in the University's Arboretum. His work at the University of Denver this spring will include **co-teaching** a thematic core course with Dr. Audrey Sprenger (*Names We Call America, Digging the Roots of Cool*); **giving a series of lectures** with live music for students and professors of English, Anthropology, Judiac Studies, Art, Art History, Sociology, French Studies, Biology, Urban Studies and the Lamont School of Music; **offering a seminar** on the work of novelist Jack Kerouac and Neal Cassady with Dr. Audrey Sprenger and Visiting Guest Lecturer Dr. Ed Adler; hosting a Tribute to Poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti with Dr. Audrey Sprenger and Visiting Guest Lecturer Chris Felver; **screening** his *Opera of the Holocaust, The Final Ingredient*, originally telecast by ABC Network Television; and **performing** in and around the city of Denver.

Details of Amram's activities around campus for the month of April will be available on April 15 and for the month of May, April 27. Please contact Dr. Audrey Sprenger at [draudreysprenger@mac.com](mailto:draudreysprenger@mac.com) if you have any questions.