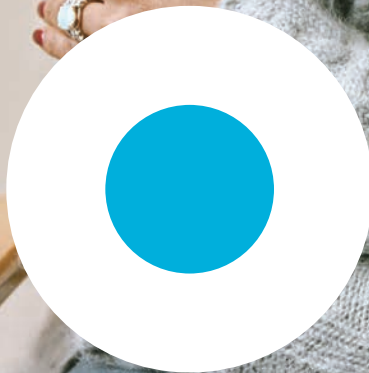




fest



January 26–February 5

2017

MOfest

, celebrating its
fifteenth anniversary, is

Vassar College's annual exploration of the arts of the 20th and 21st centuries. To honor the various perspectives across our community, this year's festival is centered around the theme "Raising Voices," and will feature unique voices expressed through written and spoken words, visual arts and performing arts.

We are thrilled to present internationally renowned singer Audra McDonald in recital as the culmination of this year's Modfest. Following her performance, a moderated talk discussing her work both on and offstage will be led by Mia Mask, Professor of Film on the Mary Riepma Ross '32 Chair. Ms. McDonald was recently recognized for her contribution to the fields of arts and humanities by receiving the National Medal of Arts, presented by President Barack Obama in September of this year.

This year we also honor the retirements of both Adene and Richard Wilson, co-founders of Modfest. Adene (Dee) Wilson, who served as director of Modfest, saw the festival through fourteen seasons of outstanding events. We celebrate their legacy by continuing this important festival and programming a concert in their names.

Modfest 2017 will bring together the voices of students, faculty, and guests in a variety of spaces and contexts that will inform, entertain, inspire, and challenge all who attend.

Christine Howlett & Tom Pacio, *Modfest co-directors*



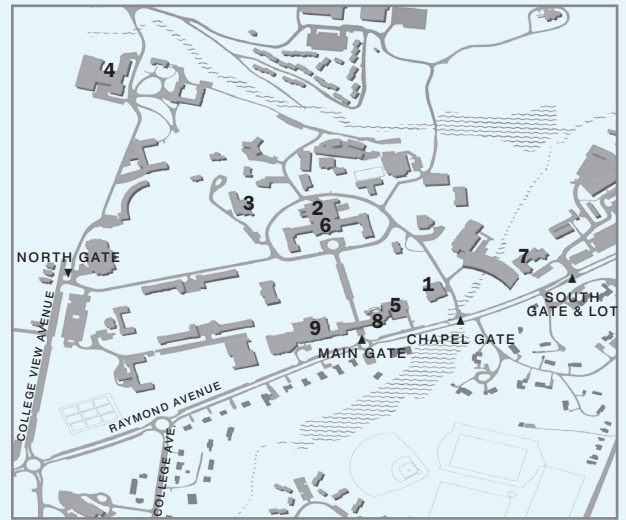
2-16 February

Modfest artists 2003-2016

Sarah Adams
 Alash Tuvan
 Gail Archer
 David Alpher
 Paul Appleby
 Janet Arms
 Argento Ensemble
 Attacca Quartet
 Eliot Bailen
 Biava Quartet
 Mark Bennett '85
 Allen Blustine
 Lisa Boost-Sandberg
 Michael Boriskin
 Susan Botti
 Kate Brattin '07
 Eric Brenner
 Courtenay Budd
 Akiva Cahn-Lipman
 Cappella Festiva
 Chamber & Treble
 Choirs
 Frank Cassara
 Miriam Charney
 Jie Chen
 Yi Chen
 Jamie Christopherson
 Caroline Cole
 Continuum Ensemble
 Laura Conwesser
 Dorothy Crawford
 Todd Crow
 Cygnus Ensemble
 Mario Davidovsky
 Carol Ann Davis '92
 Decoda
 David Del Tredici
 Misha Donat
 Dominic Donato
 Yann Dubost
 Adrienne Elisha
 Jonathan Elliott '84
 Elisenda Fàbrigas
 Ralph Farris
 Trey Files
 Michael Finkle
 Richard Fitz
 Laura Flax
 Alexandra Gardner '90
 Judith Gordon
 Stephen Gosling
 Jesse Greenberg '13
 Wang Guowei
 Nathan Hall '04
 Rachel Handman
 Will Healy '12
 Diana Hill '07
 Edward Hirsch
 Robin Hodson
 Christine Howlett
 Jack String Quartet
 Kelly Kathman
 Moran Katz
 Bridget Kibbey
 Donald Kuspit

Joakim Lartey '78
 Karyn Levitt
 Jill Levy
 Serge J-F Levy '95
 Jennie Litt
 Patrick Litterst '07
 Annea Lockwood
 Eileen Mack
 Katherine Mangiardi '04
 Brian Mann
 The Mannes Trio
 Curtis Macomber
 Bart and Priscilla McClean
 "The McClean Mix"
 Robinson McClelland
 Peter McCulloch
 Joe McPhee
 Mahagonny Ensemble
 Thomas Meglioranza
 Drew Minter
 Eric Moe
 Ted Mook
 Eduardo Navega
 Mary Nessinger
 Ahling Neu
 The New York New
 Music Ensemble
 Yuki Numata
 Tara O'Connor
 Jane Strong O'Leary '68
 Tarik O'Regan
 James Osborn
 Robert Osborne
 Eric Ostling
 Karen Ouzounian
 Fitz Patton '88
 Marc Ponthus
 Andrew Porter '94
 Linda Quan
 Steve Reich
 Rachel Rosales
 Martha Rosler
 James Ruff
 Paul Ryan
 Ralph Sassone '83
 Thomas Sauer
 Nathan Schram
 Rolf Schulte
 Sophie Shao
 Lucy Shelton
 Signal
 James Austin Smith
 Sean Smith
 John Solum
 Yoobin Son
 Patricia Spencer
 Stephen Squibb '05
 David Starobin
 Jeanette Stenson
 Jo-Ann Sternberg
 Curtis Streetman
 Timothy Takach
 Richard Teitelbaum
 Tiffany Consort
 Blanca Uribe

Vassar College Choir
 Vassar College Jazz
 Combos
 Vassar College Jazz
 Ensemble
 Vassar College
 Madrigal Singers
 Vassar College
 Orchestra
 Vassar College Wind
 Ensemble
 Vassar College
 Women's Chorus
 Vassar Repertory
 Dance Theatre
 Anton Vishio
 Yao Wang
 Maria Rivera White
 Richard Wilson
 Katharina Wolpe
 Yehudi Wyner
 Ari Yoshioka
 Robin Zeh



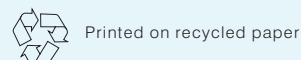
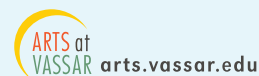
- Festival Venues**
1. Chapel
 2. College Center
(Palmer Gallery and Old Bookstore)
 3. Ely Hall, Aula
 4. Frances Daly Fergusson Dance Theater,
Kenyon Hall
 5. Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center (FLLAC)
 6. Main Building (Villard Room)
 7. Skinner Music Hall
 8. Taylor Hall
 9. Thompson Memorial Library

All events are free and open to the public. No reservations are necessary unless otherwise noted. For the Audra McDonald concert on February 5, please see reservation instructions in the event listing.

Directions to the Vassar campus in Poughkeepsie, New York, are available at www.vassar.edu/directions.

For additional information, call (845) 437-7294 or visit arts.vassar.edu.

People with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Campus Activities at (845) 437-5370.





Under the auspices of the Music Department at Vassar College, Adene and Richard Wilson co-founded Modfest in 2003 to explore and celebrate the arts of the 20th and 21st centuries. Adene (Dee) Wilson '69, Modfest's director for the last fourteen seasons, was responsible for bringing some of the finest composers and musicians to speak and perform in Skinner Hall of Music. Composers-in-residence have included Pulitzer-prize winners Yehudi Wyner, Steve Reich, and David del Tredici. Leading contemporary ensembles have also been featured including the Jack Quartet, DeCoda, Attacca Quartet, the Mannes Trio, and many others. A primary strength of Dee Wilson's conception of Modfest has been its engagement with the arts across the college, involving students and faculty of the Art, Dance, Drama, English, Film, Music, and language departments in creative projects and performances.

To celebrate Dee Wilson's inspired direction of Modfest and professor emeritus Richard Wilson's 50 remarkable years of teaching and making music at Vassar College, the Music Department is honored to host its first annual "Adene and Richard Wilson Concert."



28 January

Caroline Bittencourt

28 Saturday – 8:00pm **First Honorary Adene and Richard Wilson Concert**

To celebrate Dee Wilson's inspired direction of Modfest and professor emeritus Richard Wilson's 50 remarkable years of teaching and making music at service to Vassar College, the Music Department is honored to host its first annual "Adene and Richard Wilson Concert." This concert features music by Vassar composers including *Sylvia Songs* and the *Jitterbug Waltz* by Susan Botti, *Duo Variations for double bass and harp* by Jonathan Chenette, Annea Lockwood's *I Give You Back*, and Richard Wilson's *Dithyramb for Oboe and Clarinet* and *Gnomics for Flute, Oboe, and Clarinet*. Performers include the first Affiliate Chamber Ensemble of Carnegie Hall, Decoda, and guests including Sooyun Kim, *flute*; Stuart Breczinski, *oboe*; Moran Katz, *clarinet*; Anna Elashvili, *violin*; Siwoo Kim, *violin*; Yves Dharmaraj, *cello*; and Brian Ellingsen, *bass*. Vassar faculty members include Susan Botti, *soprano*; Ashley Jackson, *harp*; and Mary Nessinger, *mezzo-soprano*.
Skinner Hall of Music

Ongoing Exhibits

Engage! The Artist's Voice

January 26-February 5

An exhibit of historical and contemporary printed works of protest, vision, and social engagement by artists for the greater good. The exhibition features works from 1945 to now, highlighting national and global issues such as World War II to the Civil Rights Movement, from Environmental Sustainability to Economic Equality. The bold and powerful collection of works should incite dialogue around our contemporary climate, asking each of us how we might...SPEAK UP.

Curated by Rick Jones, Earth Science.

Old Bookstore, College Center

The World After January 20, 2017: Works by Contemporary Artists and Poets

February 2 - 16, 2017

Opening Reception on Thursday, February 2, 5:00-7:00 pm

Poetry, political cartoons, documentary photography, drawings, paintings, and more that address, reflect, and comment on what the first 100 days of the Trump presidency might mean. Artists and poets include Gerardo Castro, Monica d. Church, Michaela Copen '18, Judith Nichols, Peter Steiner, Virginia Lavado, Sam Vernon, and others.

The Palmer Gallery, College Center

26 Thursday – 7:00pm Modfest 2017 Opening Night Concert & Reception

Join us for an exciting and moving opening night for Modfest 2017. At 7:00pm, begin your journey in the Vassar Chapel, from there a short walk will find you in the Main Library, and finally the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center. Along the way enjoy performances by the Vassar College Women's Chorus and string quartet presenting *How to Survive Winter* by American composer Jocelyn Hagen and poetry by Julia Klatt Singer, musical offerings featuring students from various groups and our chamber music ensembles as well as members of the Vassar College Choir. The evening ends with a preview of the new exhibit, *The Art of Devastation: Medals and Posters of the Great War* and an opening night reception.

Chapel – Thompson Library – Jade Room in Taylor Hall – Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center (reception location)

27 Friday – 7:00pm Raising Healing Voices

With a focus on creative healing, a panel of guests with varied experiences will discuss how they use music, therapy, and narratives in their work. Christine Radman, an accomplished opera singer, health attorney, and speech pathologist whose private practice focuses on "the diagnosis and treatment of vocal problems experienced by professional voice users," will be joined by clinical social worker, Shanna Richey, and Vassar College student, Joseph DeGrand '17. The panel will be moderated by Vassar's own Michael Jones, a former music therapist who currently serves as the Assistant Director for Alumnae/i Outreach and Partnerships in the Office of Career Development.

The Rosenwald Film Theater,

Vogelstein Center for Drama and Film

28 Saturday – 11:00am Raising Professional Voices

Join us for a professional development workshop for young people in the arts. Learn from Vassar's experienced performers and artists how to begin to market your skills as you transition from college student to young professional. Representatives from the Art, Dance, Drama, and Music departments will share their experience and expertise. Bring your resume to this workshop!

Ely Hall, Aula

28 Saturday – 8:00pm First Honorary Adene and Richard Wilson Concert

To celebrate Dee Wilson's inspired direction of Modfest and professor emeritus Richard Wilson's 50 remarkable years of teaching and making music at service to Vassar College, the Music Department is honored to host its first annual "Adene and Richard Wilson Concert." This concert features music by Vassar composers including *Sylvia Songs* and the *Jitterbug Waltz* by Susan Botti, *Duo Variations for double bass and harp* by Jonathan Chenette, Annea Lockwood's *I Give You Back*, and Richard Wilson's *Dithyramb for Oboe and Clarinet and Gnomics for Flute, Oboe, and Clarinet*. Performers include the first Affiliate Chamber Ensemble of Carnegie Hall, Decoda, and guests including Sooyun Kim, *flute*; Stuart Breczinski, *oboe*; Moran Katz, *clarinet*; Anna Elashvili, *violin*; Siwoo Kim, *violin*; Yves Dharmaraj, *cello*; and Brian Ellingsen, *bass*. Vassar faculty members include Susan Botti, *soprano*; Ashley Jackson, *harp*; and Mary Nessinger, *mezzo-soprano*.

Skinner Hall of Music

29 Sunday – 3:00pm
Thomas Sauer, piano

Featuring Haydn's *Sonata in C Major*, Beethoven's *Sonata in C minor, Op. 111*, selections from Hans Abrahamsen's *Études*, and Stephen Harke's *Sonata*.
Skinner Hall of Music

1 Wednesday – 3:30pm
Music Words, Dance and Images

A tradition since 2010, students of the Music, English, and Art Departments come together to present poetry, photography, and chamber music, featuring compositions by David Alpher, Jacques Ibert, and Derecskei Andras.
Villard Room, Main Building.

2 Thursday – 7:00pm
Connecting Voices

Artist Ann Daly will discuss her ongoing collaboration with Spanish musician Álvaro Marcos. Marcos has been instrumental in connecting Daly with the Madrid punk scene which experienced an explosive shift following Franco's Death in 1975. The pair will be speaking about the nature of their creative collaboration and the many successes and challenges that come from solidarity building with strangers. This talk will be moderated by Professor of Music Justin Patch and Professor of Political Science Katherine Hite, who is collaborating with the artistic duo in her upcoming seminar, "The Politics of Memory."

Afterwards, workshop members will be invited to find their own collaborative partners for the semester to think about solidarity and collaboration at Vassar. Thinking to campus, community, national, and transnational conflict and movements—we hope this evening will provide insight on how creative activism can look at Vassar.

Old Bookstore, College Center

3 Friday – 7:00pm
Dance Performance: Vassar Repertory Theatre

Vassar Repertory Dance Theatre performs works selected from the current repertory, created by faculty members, Steve Rooks, Kathy Wildberger, and Abby Saxon, as well as guest choreographer David Dorfman. The evening will also feature student choreography. For reservations write to dancetix@vassar.edu or call the Dance office at (845) 437-5541.

Frances Daly Fergusson Dance Theater, Kenyon Hall

4 Saturday – 7:00pm
Concert by the Vassar Ensembles

The Vassar College Orchestra performs *A Child's London* by Professor Emeritus Richard Wilson. The Madrigal Singers perform settings of *Ubi caritas* by Duruflé, Meador, and Gjeilo, *There are some men* by Philip Glass with text by Leonard Cohen, and Ysaye Barnwell's *Wanting Memories*.

Eduardo Navega, Drew Minter, *conductors*.
Skinner Hall of Music

4 Saturday – 8:30pm
Cabaret Night

Students from the Music Department perform classics from the American Songbook. An intimate exploration of songs by the Gershwins, Ellington, Porter, Sondheim, Berlin, Bolcom, Ahrens and Flaherty, Stephen Schwartz, and more.
David Alpher, *piano* and Jennie Litt, *director*.
Skinner Hall of Music

5 Sunday – 3:00pm
Raising Voices:
An Afternoon with Audra McDonald

Audra McDonald, *soprano*, Mia Mask, *Professor of Film on the Mary Riepmann Ross '32 Chair*

Broadway superstar Audra McDonald visits Vassar for an afternoon of music and reflection. The versatile National Medal of Arts winner is one of the country's most decorated performers, and her vast talent, insight, wit, and outspokenness about the human condition make her a beloved figure to a wide audience. Ms. McDonald will perform some of her favorite works with music director, Andy Einhorn, and later sit down with faculty member, Mia Mask, for a conversation on some of her most passionate causes.

Skinner Hall of Music

Please note: this is a reserved seating program. Online reservations are required. Visit the Music Department website for additional information and a link to Tix.com. Reservations will be open on January 16, 2017.



2 February