

1  
EXHIBIT

September – November

# LANDSCAPES

**John Shultz**  
Artist

John Shultz grew up in Plymouth, Michigan, and moved to Ann Arbor after graduating from New York University in 1978 with a BA in Journalism and Photography. He soon opened a photography studio specializing in portraiture. In the late 1980's, John began to offer photo silkscreens to his customers. This became a popular medium for him and offered him the opportunity to work with color, paint, and composition. John gave up silkscreen portraiture and began working exclusively with oils, pastels, and digital fine art from photos that he had taken from travels around the world.



"I'm infatuated with colors."

PERFORMANCE  
**2**

**Sunday, October 8**

# RISING TIDE: THE CROSSROADS PROJECT

**Dr. Robert Davies**  
Physicist

**FRY STREET  
QUARTET**

**Robert Waters**  
Violin

**Rebecca McFaul**  
Violin

**Bradley Ottesen**  
Viola

**Anne Francis  
Bayless**  
Cello

The Crossroads Project is science storytelling, exploring our changing world through performance art — diverse artists weaving together music, imagery, and the spoken word... connecting us to the wonder of our world and examining our place within it.

The Crossroads Project: Rising Tide has given dozens of performances in three different countries. Its fresh approach to communicating society's sustainability challenges draws upon all the senses with a unique blend of science and art and has been featured on NPR's All Things Considered, as well as in publications by Yale Climate Connections, Reuters, and the New York Times. In 2020 Rising Tide was made into a feature film.







**January – March**

## MOTAWI TILEWORKS

**Nawal Motawi**  
Owner and  
Artistic Director

We are very proud that one of the foremost ceramics studios in the country is based in Ann Arbor. Motawi hand-crafted art tiles are sold online worldwide and in shops across the country. Recognized by Forbes magazine as a Small Giant (a company that chooses to be great instead of big), Motawi maintains an intentional, positive, and human-centered workplace culture for its staff of more than 40.

The exhibit at First Presbyterian will trace the creative process of producing an art tile, from creating designs, etching them into plaster molds, bisque-firing, glazing, then firing again. An array of tile designs will be on display. Additionally, an interactive workshop that will invite interested parties to create a tile themselves is being scheduled during the first quarter of 2024. Please watch for further updates on this exciting creative opportunity!

4  
PERFORMANCE

**Sunday, February 18**

# NATIONAL ARAB ORCHESTRA TAKHT ENSEMBLE

**Michael Ibrahim**  
Music Director

The National Arab Orchestra Takht Ensemble (NAOTE) was founded in 2010 as the NAO's premiere traditional ensemble performing some of Arab music's finest classical repertoire. The NAOTE performs classical and contemporary Arab music otherwise known as tarab music. Tarab music is characterized by its melodic modes known as maqamat (sing. maqam) and complex rhythmic modes (iqa'at). The essence of Takht's music lies in the art of heterophony, a style where musicians play similar melodic passages but with their own spontaneous twists, infusing the music with subtle nuances and ornaments.



*National* **ARAB  
ORCHESTRA**



5  
EXHIBIT

April – June

## THE ARTWORK OF HE QI

**He Qi**  
artist

Currently a California resident, He Qi studied at Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing Art Institute in China and Hamburg Art Institute in Germany. He is currently an Artist-in-Residence at Fuller Theological Seminary (CA) and a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Art Institute of RUC (Renmin University of China, Beijing).

He was the first among Mainland Chinese to earn a Ph.D. in Religious Art after the Revolution (1992). He received his Honorary Doctor degree from Australia Catholic University in Melbourne. He is also a member of the China Art Association and a former council member of the Asian Christian Art Association. He received the 20th Century Award for Achievement in Religious Art Theory and Christian Art Creation from IBC in Cambridge, UK.







His art works have been displayed in museums, galleries, universities, and churches in New York, San Francisco, Berkeley, Chicago, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Birmingham, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Hartford, Elizabethton, Richmond, Tokyo, Kyoto, Hong Kong, Nanjing, London, Oxford, Gevena, Aachen, and St. Petersburg.

His art works have been featured in numerous newspapers and magazines including Washington Post, Christianity Today, Far Eastern Economic Review, Hong Kong Cable TV, BBC-UK, ABC-Australia, Copenhagen Daily (Denmark), Bet Binnenhof Daily in the Netherlands, China "Fine Art", Xinhua News Paper, Princeton Post, Minnesota Monthly, Saint Paul Pioneer Press, Star Tribune, WCCO TV, etc. He has been invited by universities and seminaries, such as Yale Divinity School, Princeton Theological Seminary, New College and Regent's Park College of Oxford (UK), Toronto University (Canada), Wheaton College (IL), Luther Seminary (MN), Theological Seminary in San Francisco (CA), St. Olaf College (MN), Drew University (NJ), Samford University (AL), Milligan College (TN), Nanjing University, Renmin University of China, and Alliance Bible Seminary (Hong Kong) to be a visiting professor and artist-in-residence and to do lectures and art exhibits.



**Sunday, April 14**

## HAI XIN WU AND ZHIHUA TANG

### **Hai Xin Wu**

Assistant  
Concertmaster, Detroit  
Symphony Orchestra  
Walker L. Cisler/Detroit  
Edison Foundation  
Chair

### **Zhihua Tang**

Associate Professor  
in Collaborative  
Piano, Michigan State  
University College of  
Music

Two extraordinary musicians, who are also husband and wife, are delighted to share this all-too-rare opportunity to collaborate in a program of music for piano and violin.

Praised for his “spectacular playing” by the String Magazine, Chinese-born violinist Hai Xin Wu joined the Detroit Symphony Orchestra violin section in 1995 and was appointed Assistant Concertmaster in 2004. In addition to performing with the DSO, Wu regularly plays with various chamber groups, including the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings and the Cuttime Players.

Zhihua Tang has enjoyed an active worldwide performing career and has been praised for her extraordinary and profound artistry. She has held teaching positions at Alma College, Central Michigan University, Eastern Michigan University, and the University of North Dakota.





# OUR VISION

The Open Doors Creative Arts Series at First Presbyterian Church is informed by the following guiding principles:

- Celebrate God's creation using a variety of forms of creative expression, i.e., music, art, dance, spoken word, and other means of engagement.
- Honor our roots as a religious institution and seek to emphasize the Glory of God—in its infinite manifestations—in our offerings.
- Showcase local talent—from within the church and beyond—appreciating the variety of talent that exists in SE lower Michigan.
- Champion true collaboration and inclusion by not only extending invitations to individuals and groups outside the church but by providing a voice in all aspects of the collaboration.
- Extend the boundaries of our existing programming, allowing others' talents and experiences to enrich those of our own congregation.
- Serve and represent the breadth of the First Presbyterian community, i.e., children and families, teens, young professionals, and students, as well as those who would traditionally be drawn to a church concert.
- Become a robust actual and virtual sanctuary, welcoming and accepting all people: broadly inclusive, hospitable, fully accessible, and cultivating diversity.

## **Open Doors Creative Arts Team:**

Bradley Taylor (chair)

Marilyn Meeker (vice-chair)

Jeff Colton

Lisa Danielson

Heidi Hess-Willis

Brent Ivey

Henry Johnson

Sheryl Powell

Dave VanderMeer





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