



STANDING ROOM ONLY

« **Cradle of Filth** performs with CKY, Gwar and Vains of Jenna at Rams Head Live, at 20 Market Place in Baltimore. Show starts at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$27.50. For more information, call 410-244-1131.

LISTENING POSTS

✓ **Peabody Jazz Quartet**
An Die Musik, 409 N. Charles St., Baltimore; 7:30 p.m.; \$5 to \$8; 410-385-2638

Open Mic Night
The 8x10, 10 E. Cross St., Baltimore; 7 p.m.; \$3; 410-625-2000

Frank Florence
Claddagh Pub, 2918 O'Donnell St., Canton; 10 p.m.; Free; 410-522-4220

Altered Mike
Judge's Bench Pub, 8385 Main St., Ellicott City; 8 p.m.; Free; 410-465-3497

Tom Reyes
Holiday Inn Select, 2004 Greenspring Drive, Timonium; 7 p.m.; Free; 410-252-7373

DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT

DISCUSSION

Andrea Robbins and Max Becher: Artist Talk — 7 p.m.
MICA, 1301 Mount Royal Ave., Baltimore; Free; 410-225-2300

THEATER

Corpus: Stories about the Body — 7 p.m.
Centerstage, 700 N. Calvert St., Baltimore; \$12 to \$15; 410-332-0033

EXHIBIT

Works by Bill Schmidt — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Gallery 209 at Maryland Hall, 801 Chase St., Annapolis; Free; 410-269-1087

Husband and wife make sweet music

There's no one word to describe the sound of husband-and-wife musical duo King Lewman.

"One day we tried to get our producer, Spencer Capier, to describe our music," guitarist-songwriter Lance Lewman said. "He says, 'Well, it's acoustic pop. And folk. And blues. And country.' And we were like, 'There you go!'"

"It's pretty much everything you can think of outside of classical," singer-songwriter Kristan King-Lewman said. "And actually, [we have] some have classical influences."

The pair, who reside in Ellicott



Lance Lewman and Kristan King-Lewman. — Courtesy photo

City, met in 1982 and began collaborating immediately. Ultimately, King Lewman isn't searching for fame and fortune. "Primarily, we are looking to be songwriters," Lance said. "We want people to come to us for songs. I think that's sort of

IF YOU GO

King Lewman

» **Venue:** Gordon Center for Performing Arts, 3506 Gwynnbrook Ave., Owings Mills
» **When:** 7:30 tonight
» **Tickets:** \$10
» **Info:** www.kinglewman.com

where we are headed."

Now working on their third and shortest album, tentatively titled "Going Somewhere," the Lewmans hope to release the CD by Christmas. "I think this one is really going to be something," Lance said. "It sounds great." — *Emily Campbell*

SOUNDS » BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Innovation

up close and accessible

By **Emily Cary and Marie Gullard**
Examiner Correspondents

When Maestra Marin Alsop mounts the podium to conduct the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra on Thursday, she will become the central figure in one of the most important events in 21st-century music.

Even before being named the first female artistic director-conductor of a major American symphony orchestra, she ushered in a golden era that captures hitherto reluctant audiences. Her opening program, the Mahler Symphony No. 5 and "Fearful Symmetries" by John Adams, reflects her power and daring on the podium.

"I chose these works because I like to do something standard together with something new to give listeners a fresh perspective," Alsop said.

"John Adams was greatly influenced during his life by pop music and the Big Band sound," she added. "'Fearful Symmetries' uses a synthesizer and percussion that were common in the '70s disco music. Mahler used the current pop music of his time in the same way. The Jewish klezmer band themes hark back to his childhood. His third movement is influenced by the Ländler, an exuberant Austrian folk dance in waltz time."

Ever since Alsop's commanding 12-year tenure as music director of the Colorado Symphony, the student of Leonard Bernstein has been hailed as one of the major conductors worldwide. Unique among today's conductors for her personal and professional relationships with the greatest American composers of our time, she has established Composers in Conversation, a Theatre Project event in which 10 contemporary composers discuss their respective works before a performance.



Adams

"In framing the season, my goal [is] to give people the music they know and love in a new context," Alsop said. "The composers we have invited to join the BSO [this] season are, in my mind, today's Beethovens. Their onstage and offstage participation throughout 2007-2008 offers audiences a rare opportunity to experience a raw and deeply personal interpretation of their music."

This new context includes the unique opportunity for patrons to engage in a series of discussions with a featured composer before enjoying the piece in performance. Of the scheduled 11 Composers in Conversation programs, Alsop will be on hand as moderator for seven, with Dale Keiger, senior writer for the Johns Hopkins Magazine, moderating the rest.

As the first guest speaker, Adams began a two-week residency with the BSO several days ago. In addition to preparing the audience to understand and enjoy "Fearful Symmetries," he chatted about the BSO's second concert next weekend, when he celebrates his 60th birthday by conducting two of his pieces, "My Father Knew Charles Ives" and "The Wound-Dresser." He also conducts Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, the first of the composer's nine symphonies to be played by the BSO this season.

"I wanted to use the [Beethoven's nine] symphonies as a way to connect with regular listeners who love that music and pair them with contemporary works to help new listeners find reason to connect," Alsop said.

"'Fearful Symmetries,' Adams said, is "almost maddeningly symmetrical. ... Phrases line up end to end, each articulated by blazingly harmonic changes and an insistent chugging pulse." His score calls for a synthesizer, keyboard sampler and quartet of saxophones.

In another BSO first, the Thursday concert will be broadcast live on XM Classics (XM 110 Satellite Radio) from the Music Center at Strathmore.

"This opening weekend really exemplifies what Marin is doing with the [new] season," said Jeremy Rothman of the BSO. "Both locally with our Composers in Conversation series, and nationally through our live broadcast ... Marin and the BSO are reaching out to make the orchestra and classical music more accessible."

IF YOU GO

Composers in Conversation:

John Adams
» **Venue:** Theatre Project, 45 W. Preston St., Baltimore
» **When:** 7:30 p.m. Wednesday
» **Tickets:** \$10
» **Info:** 410-783-8000, www.baltimoresymphony.org

OPENING NIGHT! The Maestra Begins

» **Venue:** The Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda
» **When:** 8 p.m. Thursday. Live broadcast on XM Satellite Radio (XM Classics, Channel 110)
» **Tickets:** \$64 to \$84
» **Info:** 877-BSO-1444, www.baltimoresymphony.org

» **Venue:** Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, 1212 Cathedral St., Baltimore
» **Time:** 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday
» **Tickets:** \$37 to \$57
» **Info:** 410-783-8000, www.baltimoresymphony.org

Maestra Marin Alsop