

an opera of love, courage & modern art

...OPPOSED TO
THE VISION OF
DESTRUCTION
IS...
THE VISION OF
CREATION.

GORKY'S DREAM GARDEN

Sat. Sept. 7, 2019

2 PM

Pre-Concert Spectacle:

1:30

NEWARK
MUSEUM

“Forceful and intricate...an inspired touch”
(The New York Times on previewed excerpt)

80-minutes, no intermission

*a brief Post-Concert Spectacle & open-mic
Conversation with special guests will follow*

FREE with Museum Admission

newarkmuseum.org
(973) 596-6550

an immersive experience
of art, music, sung & spoken word,
dance, video & fashion +
birds & an interactive wishing tree

GORKY'S DREAM GARDEN tells the story of artist **Arshile Gorky** whose Newark Airport Murals commissioned in the 1930's by the WPA stand tall today like beacons of innovation at the Newark Museum. A survivor of the Armenian Genocide of 1915, Gorky blazed into the dynamic art world of pre-and post-World War II New York City, until events led him to...the dream garden. Traversing the heartache, tragedies and triumphs of the artist, the spellbinding psycho-drama examines our connection to family, the imagination and the world. In this **PREMIERE PREVIEW production** designed for the elegant architectural space of the Museum's Billy Johnson Theater, quick cutting and opulently orchestrated tableaux vivants unfold for surround site and sound.

Michelle Ekizian, composer, writer, orchestrator, montage video, additional costumes

Brent Barrett, Broadway leading man (as the artist, the mysterious **Arshile Gorky**)

Hasmik Mekanejian, operatic contralto (the spirit of Gorky's beautiful young martyred mother, **Shushan**)

Karen Lubeck, lyric coloratura soprano (as Gorky's perky ingénue American wife, **Agnes**)

Adela Maria Bolet & John Sannuto, actors of stage & screen (as **The Art Whisperers**)

Special Guest Singer TBA, (as the Chekhovian **Black Monk**)

Palisades Virtuosi: Ron Levy, piano, **Margaret Swinchoski**, flute, **Don Mokrynski**, clarinet

The Art of Motion Dance Theatre: Lynn Needle, director & choreographer with: **Janette Dishuk**,

Michael Crawford, **Marcos Velasquez**, **M.A. Taylor**

Vahakn Arslanian, visual artist for the *Wishing Tree* and *Birds*

Hrair Hawk Khatcherian, photographer of the ancient Armenian lands

Annie Hickman, principal costume design & construction

Sean Yoo/NV Factory, sound design

Shirley Thomas, Newark Museum advisor