Shahrokh Yadegari is a composer, sound designer, and producer who performs his music and presents his sound designs internationally. He holds a B.S. in electrical engineering from Purdue University, an M.A. in media arts and sciences from MIT’s Media Lab, and a Ph.D. in music from UC San Diego, where he is currently head of design for the Department of Theatre and Dance. Yadegari composed Through Music in response to an invitation from Larry Rinder to create new music honoring the legacy of his grandfather, Cantor Rueben R. Rinder (1887–1996). This work continues a centuries-old dialogue between Jewish and Islamic musical traditions, blending singing in Hebrew, Persian, and English with classical Persian and Jewish music. Yadegari weaves together these diverse themes and sources using an original software program designed to produce an ever-shifting, multilayered effect.

Ann Hamilton trained in textile design at the University of Kansas, and later received an M.F.A. from Yale University. Her work, which includes installations, photographs, videos, performances, and objects, often explores the relationship between the visual and oral and written language. Galápagos Chorus draws on Hamilton’s experiences in the Galápagos Islands, where she traveled as part of the research phase of the BAM/PFA exhibition Human/Nature. On the islands, the artist observed many of the animals for which the remarkable area is known, including land iguanas, finches, sea lions, and tortoises; she returned home thinking about such concepts as buoyancy and balance in relation to human life and natural landforms. In response, she created a poetic text that inventories the animals and plants of the Galápagos, citing population figures and incorporating words from Charles Darwin’s famous texts about the islands.

Oliver Ranch, the Sonoma County ranch of Steve Oliver and his wife Nancy, contains one of the most ambitious private collections of site-specific sculpture in the United States. In addition to Ann Hamilton, artists include Bill Fontana, Andy Goldsworthy, Jim Melcher, Bruce Nauman, Martin Puryear, Jim Jennings, Fred Sandback, Richard Serra, and Ursula Von Rydingsvard.

The Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAM/PFA) is the visual arts center of the University of California, Berkeley, one of the nation’s leading universities. Through art and film programs, collections, and research resources, BAM/PFA engages audiences from the campus, community, and beyond. BAM/PFA’s collections and programs are distinguished by artistic excellence and innovation, intellectual exploration, and social commentary.

BAM/PFA

Tower Sounds
ANCIENT MUSIC AND MEDIA MIX
SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2009
OLIVER RANCH, GEYSERVILLE
BAM/PFA extends its sincere gratitude to the generous members of the Tower Sounds Host Committee:

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Special thanks to the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund for their generous support in honor of Cantor Reuben Rinder.

Thanks to Nancy and Steve Oliver for their support of the performance.

Additional thanks to Meyer Sound for providing audio services for this event. Wines by Cameron Hughes Wine, thanks to Cameron Hughes and Jessica Kogan.

EVENING PROGRAM

5 p.m.
Live performance of Through Music
Composed by Shahrokh Yadegari
Shahrokh Yadegari, Lila
Kate St-Pierre, Vocals
Dmitris Mahlis, Oud
Siamak Shajarian, Vocals
Keyavash Nourai, Violin
Satnam Ramgotra,Tabla

The Tower at Oliver Ranch

6:30 p.m.
Dinner
Participatory reading of Galapagos Chorus
Composed by Ann Hamilton

Tavera Santi