

# GENGHIS BARBIE



**G**ENGHIS BARBIE, the leading post post-feminist feminist all-female horn experience, is the most innovative and energizing chamber ensemble of its generation and beyond. With a combined 24 years of conservatory training, Genghis Barbie delivers to you a visceral and unadulterated musical adventure. Performing arrangements of pop music from the 70's, 80's, 90's, 00's and today, they are the most versatile and expansive group on NYC's classical/pop/rock/jazz/indie/alternative/punk/electro-acoustic scene. Genghis Barbie was incepted in a unique moment of ingenuity when Freedom Barbie, Cosmic Barbie, Velvet Barbie and Attila the Horn converged and vowed to create distinctive, interactive and personal performances. In addition to their busy New York City performing schedule, Genghis Barbie recently performed as Contributing Artists at the 2011 International Horn Society Symposium in San Francisco and performed Schumann's Konzertstück with the Southern Methodist University Wind Ensemble. In May 2012, they will premiere a new work commissioned by the New York Youth Symphony in Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall. As educators, they have toured numerous universities, presenting workshops, masterclasses and lectures on musical entrepreneurship. They have released two studio albums, the self-titled debut album Genghis Barbie, and the newly released holiday album Genghis Barbie: Home for the Holidays on Sublyme Records. Genghis Barbie aspires to appear on the Ellen DeGeneres show within one calendar year.

## VELVET BARBIE

**Danielle Kuhlmann, aka Velvet Barbie**, has traveled the world, performing in symphony orchestras and chamber music concerts throughout North America, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Australia. After growing up in Seattle, Washington, she completed her undergraduate studies with Jerome Ashby at the Juilliard School and pursued graduate studies at Rice University with Bill VerMeulen. Currently a freelance musician in New York, she has performed with the New York Philharmonic, Seattle Symphony, Houston Symphony, Brooklyn, Long Island and Westchester Philharmonics, American Ballet Theater and the Orchestra of St. Luke's. An avid interpreter of new music, she is Principal Horn of the American Composers Orchestra, and performs regularly with Metropolis Ensemble and the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE). She has been a featured soloist with the Seattle and Manila Symphony Orchestras and the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, where she is Principal Horn. In addition to classical performances, Ms. Kuhlmann can be heard playing various Broadway shows in New York, as well as many television, video game and major motion picture soundtracks.



Ms. Kuhlmann is devoted to philanthropic work and has spent three summers in the Philippines volunteering for the group Cultures in Harmony, a New York based NGO that promotes cultural diplomacy through music. The group works with both professional and student-level musicians as well as indigenous tribal youth to build bridges of understanding between many worlds. In January of 2011, she volunteered in Kabul, Afghanistan, teaching music at the Afghanistan National Institute of Music.

In her spare time, Ms. Kuhlmann makes jewelry and sings in the Brooklyn-based rock band Tatters & Rags.

## FREEDOM BARBIE

Praised by the New York Times for her “consistently beautiful horn playing”, **Alana Vegter, aka Freedom Barbie**, is a graduate of The Juilliard School in New York where she currently resides and actively performs. Alana was most recently a fellow of The

Academy—A Program of Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School, and the Weill Music Institute. To this end, Vegter continues to regularly perform chamber music at Carnegie Hall. Her two-year fellowship was chronicled in a full length New York Times article in June of 2009. Highlights from her fellowship include the Carnegie Hall premiere of the Ligeti Horn Trio and a professional concert residency at The Niemeyer Cultural Center in Asturias, Spain.

Vegter received her Bachelors of Music from DePaul University in the studio of Jon Boen and her Masters of Music from the Juilliard School under the tutelage of Julie Landsman. She concertizes worldwide in both chamber and orchestral settings, and performs regularly with her woodwind quintet, Sospiri Winds, The Jupiter Chamber Players, and The Metropolis Ensemble. In addition, she has played with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, The Orchestra of St. Luke's, The Knights Chamber Orchestra, International Contemporary Ensemble, and CityMusic Cleveland. She has performed in both orchestral and chamber music settings with the Spoleto Festival USA, Pacific Music Festival (Japan), Chamber Music Northwest (Portland, Oregon), Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Germany), The Verbier Festival Orchestra, The Juilliard Orchestra, and The Aspen Music Festival.



# ATTILA THE HORN

**Rachel Drehmann, aka Atilla the Horn**, earned a Bachelor of Music from the University of Minnesota studying with Wayne Lu and Charles Kavalovski, as well as a Masters of Music from Manhattan School with Jerome Ashby. Rachel has performed as Principal horn of the National Symphony of the Dominican Republic and with the Santo Domingo Music Festival Orchestra. She performed Ligeti's Horn Trio at the Hungarian Cultural Institute in 2008 and was the solo horn in Shakespeare in the Park's Euripides' 'The Bacchae' in 2009.

She is a member of Tilt Creative Brass Band, Banda de Los Muertos, Chamber Orchestra of New York and a former member of the indie rock band A Whisper In The Noise. As a soloist, Rachel has performed Strauss' Horn Concerto No. 1 with the Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra, and through the IHS Meir Rimon Commissioning Fund, commissioned and premiered a piece by John Clark. As an active NYC freelancer, she has performed with orchestras such as American Symphony Orchestra, Albany Symphony, Northeast Pennsylvania Philharmonic, The Knights, Metropolis Ensemble and subbed on numerous Broadway shows. Most recently, she is working with Ann Ellsworth performing a series of Baroque concertos for two soprano horns.

Along with her busy performing schedule, she also enjoys managing NYC's Salchow & Sons Bowmaking shop.



# COSMIC BARBIE

**Leelanee Sterrett, aka Cosmic Barbie**, is a Northern Michigan native and grew up in a musically enthusiastic family. After attending Interlochen Arts Academy, she earned degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, as a student of Douglas Hill, and the Yale School of Music, with William Purvis.

From 2010 to 2012, Leelanee was a fellow of The Academy -- a program of Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School, and the Weill Music Institute in partnership with the New York City Department of Education. During her time as a fellow, Leelanee performed regularly on the stages of Carnegie Hall and at venues such as (Le) Poisson Rouge and The Greene Space, but also in numerous public school auditoriums and community centers throughout the five boroughs. She also worked closely with elementary school students in Queens, bringing professional-level performance and pedagogy to young musicians. Leelanee's involvement in the Academy has shaped and strengthened her conviction that musicians must seek out engaging and creative ways to reach audiences beyond the traditional concert hall.

As an orchestral performer, Leelanee appears frequently with the New York Philharmonic. She has been a member of the New Haven Symphony, and the La Crosse and Fox Valley Symphonies in Wisconsin. Her playing experience includes summers spent at the Tanglewood Music Center, the Pacific and Sarasota Music festivals, and the National Orchestral Institute.

Leelanee enjoys life in Brooklyn with her husband Joe, an electric bassist, tuba player and all-around rockstar.



# PERFORMANCE PACKAGES

Genghis Barbie offers a wide range of packages to cater to your specific program's needs. Our versatile talents will bring a unique experience to your school.

## **Concerts:**

A Genghis Barbie concert is like no other. Combining professional-quality performance with interactive and innovative style creates a one-of-a-kind experience for all. Our programs run an hour and a half including commentary and intermission. Our repertoire ranges from classical arrangements to contemporary pop hits. We have also performed Schumann's Konzertstück for 4 Horns with the SMU Wind Ensemble and are available for solo appearances. No matter what the music, the highest level of playing remains paramount.

## **Workshops:**

Genghis Barbie is one of the most creative and successful new chamber ensembles in the classical genre. In just over a year we have had over 150,000 YouTube views, numerous tours, concerts, television and radio appearances, a Carnegie Hall solo premiere in the works and features in both the New York Times and the International Horn Society's "Horn Call." We can offer a wide range of workshops for your horn, brass, or instrumental program.

### **Workshops we offer include:**

- Making a Career: Options from freelance to the symphony orchestra
- Entrepreneurship in Today's Business: How to successfully create and market your new venture.
- Taking Auditions: The preparation and follow-up necessary for audition success.
- Ensemble Playing: How to communicate and rehearse to achieve your ensemble's full potential.

...and more! The four women of Genghis Barbie have an incredible range of experience and expertise in the music world. We can work with you to present a workshop that speaks to the needs of your community.

## **Masterclasses:**

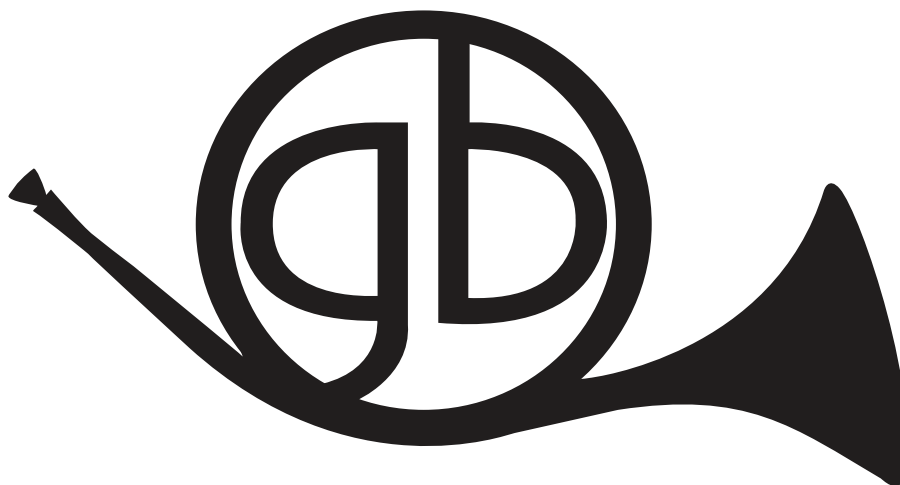
With a combined 24 years of conservatory training, the members of Genghis Barbie have studied with some of the world's top players. Each Barbie brings a new perspective on preparing solo, ensemble and audition repertoire. We can work with individuals or ensembles in a public setting for the full benefit of everyone involved.

## **Private lessons/coachings:**

Genghis Barbie additionally offers private lessons to individuals or groups who want to take advantage of the many perspectives and insights we have to offer. Private lessons are to be paid by the individuals or ensembles at \$60/hour.

## **Book With a Partner!**

Consider pairing with other schools and organizations in your area to help bring Genghis Barbie to your students and community!



# TESTIMONIALS

What other presenters have said about the unique experience that Genghis Barbie brought to their community.

## “Genghis Barbie’s

stay at Southern Methodist University was beneficial to all. Besides playing an exciting Konzertstucke with the Wind Ensemble for a sizable audience packed with horn players, they gave an instructive mini concert/masterclass that explained their philosophy of finding new avenues in which to perform. Their original music is captivating and unique. At another class, this one designed to emphasize entrepreneurship in music, they spoke compellingly and informatively about their experiences in starting a successful new group in difficult times. All in all, their visit to SMU was immensely successful.”

—**Gregory Hustis, Principal Horn, Dallas Symphony and Professor of Horn at Southern Methodist University**

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“Genghis Barbie gave what was hands-down the best concert of the entire semester. The hall was standing-room only and the energy from the Barbies was incredible! Definitely one of the musical highlights of the year. What an experience!”

—**Bill DeJournett, Associate Director of Bands at University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS**

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“Genghis Barbie brought a shouting, cheering, standing-room only crowd to their feet during their performance at Mansfield University. Never has a group had such an enthusiastic response from the students and community members that filled the hall. People are already asking when the group can come back! Also, the impact that the masterclass and entrepreneurship discussion had on my students has been equally spectacular. We were all impressed by the perception, enthusiasm, knowledge, and presentation that the Barbies brought to Mansfield. We can’t wait to do it again!”

—**Rebecca Dodson-Webster, Professor of Horn at Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA**