



presented by

Luna Nova Music

and

Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Memphis, Tennessee

June 23-26, 2010

History of the Belvedere Chamber Music Festival

Since its formation in 2002 under the auspices of the Associated College of the South, the Luna Nova Ensemble has performed nearly one hundred concerts in colleges, museums, churches, and concert halls across the country. At the end of the ACS grant funding period, the ensemble became the core performing group of the newly-formed Luna Nova Music in Memphis, TN. Luna Nova achieved its status as a 501(c)3 organization in December 2006. In June 2007 Luna Nova Music, in cooperation with the Beethoven Club and Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church, inaugurated the Belvedere Chamber Music Festival. It is supported almost entirely by private donations. The purpose of the Festival is twofold: to provide the community free concerts of 20th and 21st century music performed by exceptionally fine musicians from around the country; and to support student composers and performers by giving them a opportunity to work closely with a professional new-music ensemble and with successful contemporary composers.

The Festival has as one of its components a student composition contest. This contest is supported and administered in cooperation with the Beethoven Club of Memphis. It is open to academic composers under the age of 30 from around the world. The contest attracts approximately forty entrants. Each year the winners have paid their own way to travel to Memphis to participate in the Festival. They have come from universities in Italy, Taiwan, Australia, and China as well as from Indiana University, the Berklee School of Music, the University of Arizona, the Eastman School of Music, the University of Missouri at Kansas City, and Duke University in this country.

The Belvedere Chamber Music Festival is unique in Memphis in that it is the only private chamber series devoted entirely to contemporary art music performance and composition. It is also one of the few chamber music events available to Memphis concertgoers in the summer. It has found a niche in which to develop and expand.

The Tiffany Windows Project

Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church is the home of seven magnificent Tiffany stained glass windows that date back to 1889. These windows are thought to be the largest collection of Tiffany windows in a parish church in the South, and window scholars recognize them as prime examples of the Tiffany palette. (See www.gracestlukes.org/tiffanywindows/) To celebrate this treasure Luna Nova Music commissioned five composers to write new works inspired by the windows. These will be premiered during this year's Festival. The composers are:

John Baur, *Tiffany Annuciation* (flute, clarinet, bassoon, horn, cello, piano)

James Carlson, *Ascension* (organ)

Andrew Drannon, *Ascension* (organ)

Robert Patterson, *Windows for Children* (violin, horn, clarinet, bassoon, organ, singers)

Mark Volker, *Sculpted Light* (flute, clarinet, bassoon, horn, piano, and cello)

The performances will be distributed over the evening concerts during the festival. After the Festival recordings of the pieces will be available on the Grace-St. Luke's website (www.gracestlukes.org) and on the Luna Nova website (www.lunanova.org/audio.html).

Concert I

Wednesday, June 23, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Madrigal Sonata (1942)

Bohuslav Martinu
(1890-1959)

Poco allegro
Moderato

Susanna Perry Gilmore, violin • John McMurtery, flute • Adam Bowles, piano

Remembering Paris with Nostalgia (2009)

Persis Vohar
(b. 1937)

Susanna Perry Gilmore, violin • Adam Bowles, piano

Oiseau Miró (2001)

James Romig
(b. 1971)

John McMurtery, flute

Cinq mélodies populaires grecques (1907)

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

- I. Le réveil de la mariée (The Song of the Bride)
- II. Là bas, vers l'église (Yonder by the Church)
- III. Quel gallant m'est comparable? (What Gallant Compares with Me?)
- IV. Chanson des cueilleuses de lentisques (Song of the Herb Gatherers)
- V. Tout Gai! (Full of Fun!)

Esther Gray, soprano • Wesley Emerson, piano

Windows for Children (2010) (Tiffany Project premiere)

Robert G. Patterson
(b. 1957)

- I. Nativity – “Away in a Manger”
- II. Carpenter – “Jesus, Thou Divine Companion”
- III. Teacher – “Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”
- IV. Savior – “Jesus, Tender Shepherd Hear Me”

Susanna Perry Gilmore, violin • Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet
Jennifer Rhodes, bassoon • Wesley Emerson, organ
Maggie Gill, Esther Gray, Debbie Smith, Caitlin Smith, sopranos

Concert II

Thursday, June 24, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Carol Rodland, viola
Catherine Rodland, organ

Concert Piece for Viola and Organ (2003)

John Weaver
(b. 1937)

Incantation for Sola Viola (viola version 2006)

Augusta Read Thomas
(b. 1964)

A Proclamation (1976)

Daniel Pinkham
(1923-2006)

Sonata da Chiesa for Viola and Organ (1988)

Daniel Pinkham

Adagio; Allegro
Andantino
Presto; Adagietto
Giocoso

Sonata in D Major, BWV 1028

(originally for Viola da Gamba and Harpsichord)

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Adagio
Allegro
Andante
Allegro

Ascension (2010) (Tiffany Project premiere)

James Carlson
(b. 1970)

Three Hymns for Viola and Organ (2009)

John Weaver

Wondrous Love
Land of Rest
Foundation

Concert III

Friday, June 25, 3:30 p.m.

When the Heart Starts Singing (2008)

James Carlson
(b. 1970)

Daniel Gilbert, violin
Andrew Drannon, piano

Transparencies (2004)

James Romig
(b. 1971)

Hymn to God in My Sickness (2009)

(based on a poem by John Donne)

Melissa Hill
(b. 1989)

Esther Gray, soprano
Craig Hultgren, cello

Suite, No 3 – 3rd movement “Jeu”

Darius Milhaud
(1892-1974)

Daniel Gilbert, violin
Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet

Suite, Op. 18c

Raymond VunKannon
(b. 1931)

- I. Prelude
- II. Interlude
- III. Postlude

Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet
Jennifer Rhodes, bassoon
Robert Patterson, horn

Rhapsody No I for Violin and Piano, Sz. 87 (1928)

Bela Bartok
(b. 1881-1945)

- I. Moderato
- II. Allegretto moderato

Daniel Gilbert, violin
Joan Gilbert, piano

Concert IV

Friday, June 25, 7:30 p.m.

Songs

Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Simple Gifts
The Pretty Horses
The Dodger
Zion's Walls
Long Time Ago
At the River

Diane Thornton, contralto
Adam Bowles, piano

Sculpted Light (2010) (Tiffany Project Premiere)

Mark Volker
(b. 1974)

John McMurtery, flute • Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet • Jennifer Rhodes, bassoon
Robert Patterson, horn • Craig Patterson, cello • Adam Bowles, piano

Seis Cosechas (Six Harvests) (2004)

David Vayo
(b. 1957)

Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet
Jennifer Rhodes, bassoon
Adam Bowles, piano

Moments (2010)

2010 Beethoven Club Student Composition Contest, 2nd Place

Tonia Ko
(b. 1988)

- I. Momentum
- II. Légèreté on two cadences by Couperin
- III. Interlude
- IV. Crossing Paths
- V. Momento

John McMurtery, piccolo
Mark Volker, guitar

Dorchester Tropes (2009)

Daniel Lentz
(b. 1942)

- I. Mesatossec
- IV. Pocapawnet

Andrew Drannon, piano

Concert V

Saturday, June 26, 3:30 p.m.

Intertwined (2010)

Mark Volker
(b. 1974)

Mark Volker, guitar

The Storm (2009)

Alex Taylor
(b. 1988)

Adam Bowles, piano

Arguments with myself (2009)

Todd Gabriel
(b. 1959)

Craig Hultgren, cello

Evocations for Oboe (1964)

Henri Tomasi
(1901-1971)

- I. Peruvienne
- II. Nigerienne

Melissa Hill, oboe

Lazy Sunday (2010)

Timothy Rosko
(b. 1989)

Adam Bowles, piano

Many Hands; One World (2010)

Kristen Evans
(b. 1989)

- I. A World Unknown
- II. Weight of the World
- III. Together as One

Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet • Jennifer Rhodes, bassoon
Robert Patterson, horn • Adam Bowles, piano

Discovery Quintet (2010)

Will Padgett
(b. 1991)

- I. Cards
- II. Hidden Passage
- III. A World of His Own

John McMurtery, flute • Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet • Melissa Hall, oboe
Jennifer Rhodes, bassoon • Robert Patterson, horn

Concert VI

Saturday, June 26, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Ascension (2010) (Tiffany Project Premiere)

Andrew Drannon
(b. 1984)

Andrew Drannon, organ

Sprite's Flight (2009)

Dan Lazarescou
(b. 1953)

Flight 1 Moderato
Flight 2 Vivo
Flight 3 Allegretto
Flight 4 Moderato

Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet
Jennifer Rhodes, bassoon
Robert Patterson, horn

Tiffany Annunciation (Tiffany Project Premiere)

John Baur
(b. 1947)

John McMurtery, flute • Nobuko Igarashi, clarinet • Jennifer Rhodes, bassoon
Robert Patterson, horn • Craig Hultgren, cello • Andrew Drannon, organ

Toward the Sea (1981)

Toru Takemitsu
(1930-1996)

I. The Night
II. Moby Dick
III. Cape Cod

John McMurtery, alto flute
Mark Volker, guitar

Hebdomas Squatinae [shark week]

2010 Beethoven Club Student Composition Contest, 1st Place

Ryan Jesperson
(b. 1981)

John McMurtery, flute
Craig Hultgren, cello
Adam Bowles, piano

Luna Nova Ensemble and Guest Artists

Pianist **Adam Bowles** is becoming increasingly active on the contemporary art-music scene, performing frequently in the Birmingham Art Music Alliance, Artburst, and similar venues for new music. Dr. Bowles is a native of Los Angeles who holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He obtained his Bachelor of Music degree at the Eastman School of Music, and received his Master of Music at the New England Conservatory of Music. His main teachers have been Milton Stern, Barry Snyder, Jacob Maxin, and Eugene and Elizabeth Pridonoff. He has also received periodic coaching with Richard Goode, Malcolm Bilson, and Seymour Lipkin. He is now an instructor on the Birmingham-Southern College Conservatory faculty where he teaches the two highest levels of music theory in addition to maintaining a studio of private students. At the college level he teaches Accompanying and both years of Keyboard Harmony for music majors. During the year Bowles frequently collaborates in recital with both students and faculty at BSC.

Andrew Drannon completed a M.M. degree in music composition under Kamran Ince at the University of Memphis. He holds a B.A. in music from Rhodes College, where he studied composition under Brandon Goff. He won first place in the Associated Colleges of the South Composition Contest in 2005 and the NITLE Composition Contest in 2006, and was twice named a finalist in the ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Competition. He participated in the 2007 International Summer Academy of Music in Michelstadt, Germany, and his works have been featured in master classes with Annie Gosfield, Claude Baker, and Stephen Paulus. He has received numerous piano and organ performance awards and performs in the Contemporary Chamber Players at the University of Memphis, where he has premiered chamber works by Kamran Ince, a multi-tracked open-form keyboard piece by Daniel Lentz, and works by student composers.

Wesley Emerson recently celebrated his 23rd anniversary as organist/choirmaster at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church. He is treasurer of Luna Nova Music and one of the founders of the Belvedere Chamber Music Festival. Wesley obtained his Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Tennessee at Martin where he studied with Allison Nelson, and received his Master of Music at the University of Memphis, where his primary teachers were John David Peterson and Shirley McRae.

Daniel Gilbert is a free-lance violinist currently residing in Memphis. He performs regularly with the Memphis Symphony and the Arkansas Symphony. He is the concertmaster of the Corinth Symphony in Mississippi and a former member of the Chicago Civic Orchestra. He received a Bachelor of Music degree in Violin Performance from Roosevelt University in addition to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music/Liberal Arts from Indiana University. He holds a Master of Music degree in Violin Performance from the University of Memphis. Mr. Gilbert has performed in music festivals in Colorado, Prague, Japan, and Corsica.

Joan Gilbert, Professor and Area Coordinator of Chamber Music/Collaborative Piano, performs in Europe and the United States as a recitalist, soloist with orchestra, and chamber musician. A founding member of the Philadelphia Trio, the Memphis Piano Trio, the Gagliano Trio, and the Bellarmine Trio, she has recorded for the Musical Heritage Society and for National Public Radio. Closely connected with the Prague International Chamber Music Festival, she has served as the administrative director of the festival as well as a performer and member of the chamber music faculty. A National Merit Scholar and member of Phi Beta Kappa, she received the Bachelor of Arts degree magna cum laude from Oberlin College, where she studied

piano with Jack Radunsky. In Italy, she studied with Guido Agosti at the Accademia Chigiana in Siena and at Rome's Conservatorio di Musica "Santa Cecilia." As a piano student of Sascha Gorodnitzki, Ms. Gilbert received the Master of Science degree from The Juilliard School and a Juilliard Scholarship for excellence in piano performance.

Susanna Perry Gilmore has been concertmaster of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra since 1997, maintains an active schedule of solo recitals and chamber music collaborations throughout the country. Ms. Gilmore currently serves as Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Violin at the University of Memphis and this summer will return to Interlochen Summer Arts Camp as the Valade Violin Fellow. She has been on the summer faculty of the Sewanee Summer Music Festival, Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts, Hot Springs Music Festival in Arkansas, Washington Island Chamber Music Festival in Wisconsin, and as an instructor of Celtic fiddle at the Memphis Suzuki Institute. Ms. Gilmore received her Bachelor's in Music at Oxford University in England and spent a year of post-graduate study at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, where she studied with violinist Yfrah Neaman. She received her Master's degree in Violin Performance at New England Conservatory under the instruction of James Buswell. Prior to her studies in England Ms. Gilmore studied with Christian Teal at the Blair School of Music and with Mimi Zweig at Indiana University. Ms. Gilmore has recorded for the Naxos, Dorian, Island and Cadre record labels.

Esther Gray is a graduate of the Indiana University School of Music in Voice Performance. She was recently seen in a four week run of Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris with Playhouse on the Square in Memphis. She was also seen there as Franca in The Light in the Piazza for which she was nominated for the 2009 Ostrander Award for "Best Supporting Actress in a Musical". Esther has performed the roles of Daisy in The Gypsy Princess, Sophie in Der Rosenkavalier, Echo in Ariadne auf Naxos, Adele in Die Fledermaus, Rosina in The Barber of Seville, and Susanna in The Marriage of Figaro. Esther has been seen with the Lyric Opera of San Diego, Harrower Opera Workshop of Atlanta and locally with the Jackson Symphony, Jackson Theatre Guild and the Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center, where she has served as musical director. She has a private vocal studio and is currently Director of the Innovation Choral Ensemble at Jackson State Community College.

For several decades, cellist **Craig Hultgren** has been a fixture on the scenes for new music, the newly creative arts, and the avant-garde. In recent years, he has performed solo concerts and chamber music in Rome, Boston, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Miami, Atlanta, Orlando, Denver, Memphis and San Antonio. A recipient of two Artist Fellowships from the Alabama State Council on the Arts, he was a member for many years of Thámyris, a contemporary chamber music ensemble in Atlanta. A cellist in the Alabama Symphony, he also plays in Luna Nova, a new music ensemble with a large repertoire of performances available as podcast downloads on iTunes. Hultgren is featured in three solo CD recordings including The Electro-Acoustic Cello Book on Living Artist Recordings. In 2004, the Birmingham Sidewalk Film Festival 48-Hour Scramble cited him for the best soundtrack creation for the film The Silent Treatment. For ten years, he produced the Hultgren Solo Cello Works Biennial, an international competition that highlighted the best new compositions for the instrument. He teaches at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, the Alabama School of Fine Arts and Birmingham-Southern College where he directs the BSC New Music Ensemble. He is a founding member and former President of the Birmingham Art Music Alliance and is currently Chair of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Youth Orchestras of Birmingham. Hultgren is a CAMA artist (Collaborating Artists Manifesting Adventure) with the St. Louis New Music Circle and will be presenting programs there for three seasons.

Nobuko Igarashi, a native of Memphis, is principal bass clarinetist with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra. She received the BM and MM degrees in clarinet performance from Indiana University at Bloomington. Her principal teachers at IU were Eli Eban and James Campbell. Ms. Igarashi has also studied with Howard Klug, Alfred Prinz, Hakan Rosengren and Dennis Smylie. She first joined Luna Nova as ensemble clarinetist at the 2007 Belvedere Chamber Music Festival.

John McMurtery is section flutist of the New York City Opera Orchestra. He has appeared as soloist with the New York Symphonic Ensemble, the Artemis Chamber Ensemble, the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra, and at the 2005 Lincoln Center Festival. In recent seasons, McMurtery toured extensively throughout Europe and Asia, performing in France, Germany, Austria, Italy, the Czech Republic, Japan, and Taiwan. Adding to his discography, he recorded for the NAXOS label as principal flutist on a collaborative disc of world premieres by award-winning composer Sean Hickey. During the 2006-07 school year, McMurtery was appointed Visiting Professor of Flute at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, and has also taught at Westminster Conservatory in Princeton, NJ. He graduated in 2005 from The Juilliard School with a Doctor of Musical Arts degree, where he studied with Jeanne Baxtresser, Julius Baker, and Robert Langevin. Previous teachers include Bart Feller at Rutgers University and Dr. Hal Ott at Central Washington University.

Jennifer Rhodes serves as principal bassoonist of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra. She holds Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees from the Juilliard School and a Bachelor of Music degree and Performer's Certificate from Eastman School of Music. Her major teachers are Frank Morelli and John Hunt. Before moving to Memphis, Dr. Rhodes enjoyed a busy freelance career in New York City where she performed with the Brooklyn Philharmonic, New York City Ballet and Opera Orchestras, and the American Ballet Theater Orchestra. An active chamber musician, she has performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and the North Country Chamber Players. She recently recorded Jonathan Dawe's woodwind quintet "Fractal Farm" on the Furious Artisans label and can also be heard playing principal bassoon on Itzhak Perlman's 1998 EMI recording "Concertos From My Childhood," accompanied by the Juilliard Orchestra.

Carol Rodland, violist, made her solo debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra at age seventeen. Praised by Fanfare for possessing a tone which is "larger than life, sweetly in tune, and infinitely variegated" and for her "delicious" playing, she presently enjoys an international career as a concert and recording artist and pedagogue. Recent performances have taken her throughout the Americas and Europe, and her solo recordings on the Crystal and Neuma labels have been critically acclaimed. A Fulbright Scholar, she holds degrees from the Juilliard School and the Musikhochschule Freiburg. She has held professorships at New England Conservatory, where she was recognized in 2005 with the "Krasner Award for Excellence in Teaching", at the Musikhochschule "Hanns Eisler" Berlin, at Arizona State University, and as guest faculty at the Juilliard School. In 2008 she was appointed to a tenured professorship at the Eastman School of Music.

Catherine Rodland, Artist in Residence in Organ and Music Theory at St. Olaf College, graduated cum laude with departmental distinction in organ performance from St. Olaf in 1987. She received her MM and DMA from the Eastman School of Music where she was a student of Russell Saunders. While at Eastman she received the prestigious Performer's Certificate and the Ann Anway Award for excellence in organ performance. Catherine is a prizewinner in the 1994 and 1998 American Guild of Organists Young Artists Competition, and 1994 Calgary International Organ Competition, and first prize in the 1989 International Organ Competition at

the University of Michigan. During the summer of 2002 Catherine had a concert tour of Germany giving performances in Berlin and Brandenburg. She co-authored the book "Choristers' Training Program" for the Royal School of Church Music in America, a manual for childrens' choir education. Her advanced childrens' choir toured England in the summer of 2001, singing services at Ely Cathedral, Ripon Cathedral, and York Minster.

An Artist Associate in the Department of Music at Davidson College, **Diane Thornton** has enjoyed high critical acclaim for her work in opera, as a concert artist, in recital, and as an advocate for contemporary music. A winner in the New York Center for Contemporary Opera International Opera Competition, she performed eight times with Piedmont Opera Theater; was repeatedly invited back to sing with Opera Carolina and Greensboro Opera; and performed, among others, with the Opera Company of Philadelphia, Gold Coast Opera, and Triangle Opera Theater. Her concert performances with orchestras include those with the North Carolina Symphony (PBS broadcast), the Charlotte Symphony, the Kansas City Symphony, the New England Symphonic Ensemble in Carnegie Hall, the National Chorale in Lincoln Center, and the Bach Aria Group. Thornton's interest in contemporary music led her to premiere opera roles through the American Center for Contemporary Opera and the Billings Institute for American Music; as well as premiering works (some written for her) through institutions such as the Penn Composers Guild, the Carolina Composers Symposium, the Davidson College Concert Series, The Shakespeare Concerts in Boston., and the Belvedere Chamber Music Festival. She has recorded music by Jennifer Stasack and Charles Ives for broadcast on WDAV Classical Radio. Ms. Thornton has also enjoyed performing recitals in the eastern portion of the United States, which has included collaboration with Luna Nova member Adam Bowles.

Festival Composers

John Baur was born in 1947 in St. Louis, and attended the College-Conservatory of Music of the University of Cincinnati, where he completed the Bachelors, Masters and Doctoral degrees in composition. His major teachers during that time were Paul Cooper and Jenő Takács. Baur has taught at Tulane University in New Orleans where he was instrumental in establishing the contemporary music series, First Monday. While at the University of Memphis he has directed the New Music Festival since 1984, now titled Imagine Festival, as well as participating in and directing numerous contemporary concerts outside of the festival. He is currently the Coordinator of Composition and Theory, and the Associate Director for Graduate Studies of the Scheidt School of Music, at the University of Memphis.

James Carlson has composed works for dance, chorus, orchestra, voice and chamber ensembles. Carlson's works have won numerous awards and have been performed at the New Music Days Festival in Gothenburg, Sweden, the North Carolina Dance Festival, the "Old Links to New Music" Festival at Otterbein College and the Oregon Bach Festival Composers. He has composed for the Ways-and-Means Dance Company, the UT Dance Company, and Circle Modern Dance. He is the co-founder of Art Moves, a site-specific biannual dance production at the Knoxville Museum of Art and serves on the steering committee of the TVUU Church Performing Arts Series. Carlson holds degrees from Duke University (Ph.D.), the New England Conservatory (M.M.), and Central Washington University (B.M.). Winner of a Frank Huntington Beebe grant, he studied with Arne Mellnäs for a year in Stockholm, Sweden. He lives in Knoxville, TN and is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Sewanee.

Dan Lazarescou (b. 1953) was born in Romania. After receiving his first degree (MS) in electrical engineering, Mr. Lazarescou spent over 20 years working in avionics, robotics, automation systems and the airline industry. He served in different roles ranging from computer engineer to vice president of flight operations systems. In 2002 Mr. Lazarescou decided to return to school and resume the music training that had been interrupted in his teen years. He studied music composition at Richland College with Dr. Jerry Wallace and at Southern Methodist University (SMU) with Dr. Kevin Hanlon, Dr. Robert Frank, and Dr. Martin Sweidel, completing the degree program in music composition summa cum laude. Mr. Lazarescou has been elected a member of the National Music Honor Society of Pi Kappa Lambda. He is also a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP), the Society of Composers, Inc., and of the American Composers Forum. Mr. Lazarescou's works include pieces for symphonic orchestra, wind ensemble, violin concerto, string quartet, woodwinds trio, voice, piano, clarinet, saxophone, small jazz combo, dance, and film music, including the music for a short film selected at Dallas International Film Festival 2010. Mr. Lazarescou's violin concerto Two Maria received the 1st prize at the 2010 SCI/ASCAP composition competition Region VI and was selected for the next national phase.

Robert G. Patterson holds a doctorate in composition from the University of Pennsylvania. His mentors include George Crumb, John Baur, and Don Freund. His compositions have been performed from South Africa to Norway and Spain to Seattle. Among the awards he has received are the 2004 National Symphony Orchestra Residency Commission, 1999 University of Michigan Bands Commission and the 1994 International Composition Prize from the City of Tarragona in Spain. He has played the in the Memphis Symphony Orchestra since 1994. He has performed in new music festivals with Luna Nova since its beginning in 2002.

James Romig composes solo, chamber, and large-ensemble works that have been performed throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. He holds degrees from the University of Iowa (MM, BM) and Rutgers University (PhD). Compositional studies with Charles Wuorinen instilled in his musical aesthetic a deep regard for iterative structure and self-similar form, while theoretical studies with Milton Babbitt reinforced the notion of multi-level correlation of rhythm and pitch. Interaction with the natural world through hiking and photography has engendered an interest in fractals and chaotic systems, while influences as diverse as Paul Klee, Brian Ferneyhough, and Haruki Murakami have inspired the creation of multivalent artworks that provide performers and audiences with numerous potential cognitive pathways and manners of appreciation. Recent guest-composer visits include Northwestern University, Columbia University, the Cincinnati Conservatory, Juilliard, the American Academy in Rome, and Petrified Forest National Park. He is associate professor at Western Illinois University.

David Vayo (b. 1957) teaches composition, improvisation and contemporary music at Illinois Wesleyan University, where he also is Coordinator of New Music Activities. His degrees are from The University of Michigan and Indiana University. Vayo has received awards from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, ASCAP, the Koussevitzky Music Foundations, and the American Music Center, among others. Almost four hundred performances and broadcasts of his compositions have taken place, including performances at the International Trombone Festival, the Grand Teton Music Festival, the Thailand Composition Festival, and three World Music Days of the International Society for Contemporary Music. Vayo is also active as a pianist performing contemporary music, jazz and free improvisations.

Persis Vehar is currently in her 11th year as Composer-in-Residence at Canisius College, and regularly makes presentations at such colleges and universities as State University of New York Colleges at Fredonia, Buffalo and Potsdam, Pittsburg State University (Kansas), Austin-Peay State

University (Tennessee), Wake Forest University (North Carolina), and the Eastman School of Music. She holds a Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Theory from Ithaca College and a Master of Music Degree in Piano Performance from the University of Michigan, and had three years' post-graduate study in New York City. Her private composition studies were with Warren Benson, Ross Lee Finney, Roberto Gerhard and Ned Rorem. She had additional advanced composition workshops with Milton Babbitt, John Cage, Leon Kirchner, Roger Sessions and Jacob Druckman.

Since completing his composition studies at the University of Chicago in 2003, **Mark Volker** has developed a growing reputation as a versatile composer and guitarist. His music has been performed and recorded by many prominent performers including the Contemporary Chamber Players, eighth blackbird, the Pacifica String Quartet, Musica moderna Poland, the Pinotage ensemble, the New York New Music Ensemble, the Gryphon Trio, the Kiev Philharmonic, the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes, So Percussion, Luna Nova, the Orquesta de Baja California, the Society for New Music, and the Boston Brass. His music has also been and featured at many major music festivals and conferences. He has received awards from ASCAP, SCI, ERMmedia, and Meet the Composer. In addition, Mark has premiered over a dozen works for guitar. Later this summer, Centaur records will release *Elemental Forces*, a collection of Mark's recent works inspired by natural phenomena. Having taught for several years at Colgate University, Mark recently joined the faculty of the Belmont University School of Music (Nashville, TN) as coordinator of composition activities.

Raymond Vunkannon was born and raised in Memphis, TN, where several generations of his family were professionally active in music. He received his early instruction in music at Memphis' Humes High School and the Dixie Music Camp in Monticello, AR. Following graduation he attended Yale University and received B.A., B. Mus. And M.Mus. degrees. He then spent three years as assistant director of the Yale Band and performed in New Haven, Bridgeport and Fairfield, CT. From 1958-96 he taught at Hofstra University, retiring as Emeritus Professor of Music.

Student Composition Contest Winners

1st Prize

Ryan Jesperson (b. 1981) is a composer whose music is steeped in the modern practice of blurring genres and skewing expectations. Ryan holds degrees from Washington State University and The Hartt School, and is currently pursuing his doctorate at the University of Missouri-Kansas City where he is a Chancellor's Doctoral Fellow. A winner of multiple awards and prizes, most recently the 2009 British Trombone Society Composition Contest and the 2009 KC Chorale Composition Competition, Ryan's compositions have been performed across North America and Europe, with recent performances in New York, Montreal, Sweden, Romania and the UK. Ryan is published through Sound Music Publications, Warwick Music, and his own imprint, Jazzperson Music. For more information please visit www.ryanjesperson.com.

2nd Prize

Born in Hong Kong in 1988 and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii, **Tonia Ko's** music reflects and embraces her multi-cultural upbringing. She recently completed her undergraduate degree at the Eastman School of Music, graduating with highest distinction. Her principal teachers include Robert Morris, Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon, David Liptak, and Shulamit Ran. Her compositions have been performed by ensembles including the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, New York Treble

Singers, Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus, and the Vancouver Miniaturist Society. Her orchestral piece Afterfalls was selected for performance by the Eastman Philharmonia in November 2009. In addition, the celebrated Eastman Wind Ensemble will premiere her new work in 2011. She has participated in festivals such as the American Conservatory at Fontainebleau, Brevard Music Center, UNL Chamber Music Institute and Warren Benson Forum for Creativity. Tonia is a three-time recipient of the Lois Lane Prize awarded by the Eastman composition department. This fall, she will begin her graduate studies at Indiana University, where she will also serve as the Assistant Director of the New Music Ensemble.

Festival Student Composers

Kristen Evans is a junior Music Theory-Composition major at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. She has had a keen interest in music ever since she started taking piano lessons at the age of five. She first became interested in music composition while attending high school at Main Street School of Performing Arts where she had the opportunity to write for various solo instruments and small ensembles. Kristen has composed a variety of pieces that she has performed at school and church events. She is excited to finally be premiering one of her pieces in a professional setting. Kristen is hoping to pursue a film-scoring career following college. She would like to thank the Luna Nova New Music Ensemble and the Undergrad Research Opportunity Program through the University of Minnesota-Duluth for making this opportunity possible.

Melissa Hill is an undergraduate at music student at Belmont University in Nashville. She is an oboist and a composition student of Prof. Mark Volker.

Will Padgett is a sophomore at Belmont University in Nashville. He is a pianist who is interested in performing both jazz and classical music. In addition, early on he became interested in composition and in arranging the music of others. At Belmont, he is a composition student of Prof. Mark Volker.

Timothy Rosko, a native of Birmingham, AL, is a junior at Belmont University in Nashville. His primary instrument is voice and secondary is piano. In addition to performing he is also a composer who is interested in commercial music and eventually would like to go into college teaching.

Alexander Taylor graduated from Sewanee, The University of the South, in May 2010 with B.A.s in Music (composition concentration) and German. He performs on electric guitar and piano. At Sewanee his study of music theory and composition lead to an interest in pursuing a graduate degree in composition or film music.

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