

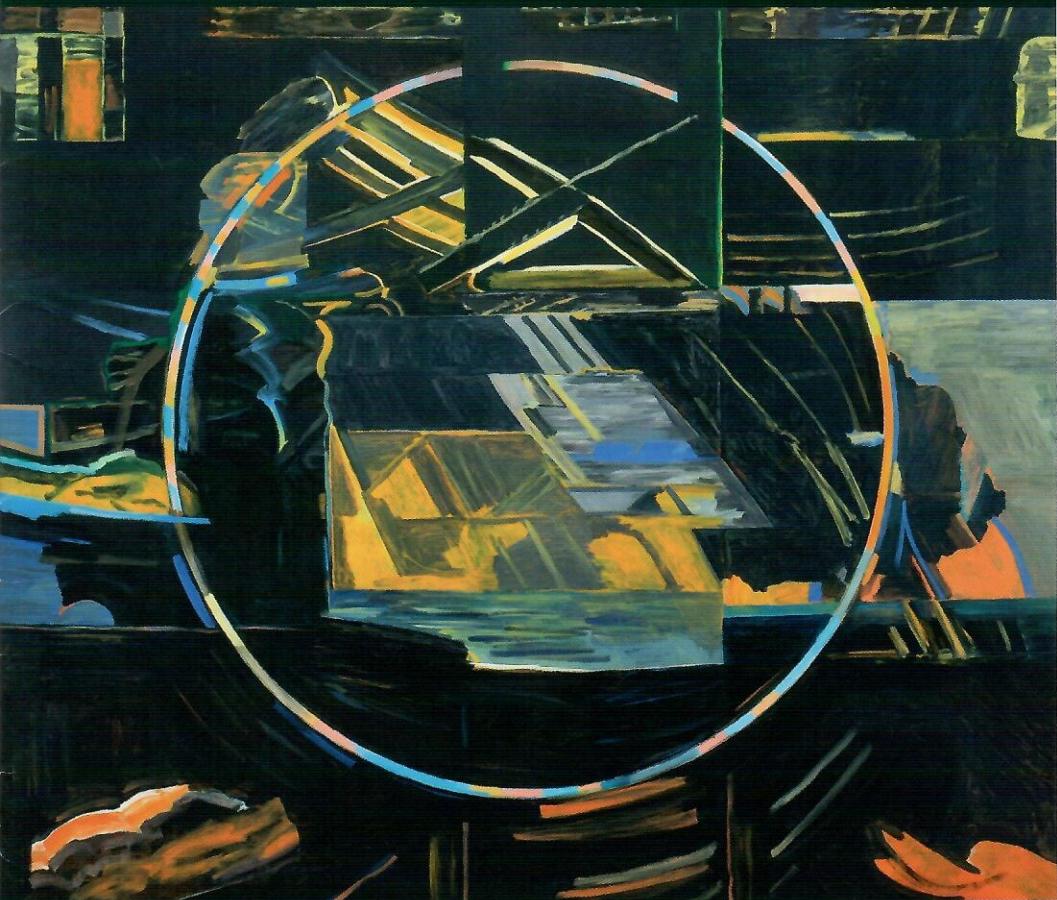
40th Annual

FESTIVAL OF NEW AMERICAN MUSIC

NOVEMBER 3–12, 2017
FREE ADMISSION

Stephen Blumberg, Artistic Director

David A. Wells, Co-Director



"earth island: facing east," 2013-2014, Tom Monteith, acrylic on canvas, 100.5 x 120 inches
photo by Bruce Clarke, Academic Technology and Creative Services, Sacramento State



SACRAMENTO
STATE



SCHOOL
OF MUSIC

40th Annual

FESTIVAL OF NEW AMERICAN MUSIC

Friday, November 3

- 10am** Composer's Forum: James Hartway (CPS 205)
- 11am** Composer's Forum: Steven Snowden (CPS 209)
- 11:15am** In-School Performance: line upon line percussion (RAHS)
- 3pm** Master Class: line upon line percussion (CPS 151)
- 8pm** **Gala Performance: David Tanenbaum, guitar; line upon line percussion; Citywater with guest harpist Jennifer Ellis (CCH)**
Works by Sérgio Assad, Caleb Burhans, Lou Harrison, Aaron Jay Kernis, Jessie Marino, Angélica Negón, Sam Pluta, Steven Snowden

Saturday, November 4

- Noon** Master Class: Mayumi Hama and Chris Froh, marimba duo (UCD)
- Noon** **Citywater with guest harpist Jennifer Ellis; University Symphony Orchestra, Thomas Derthick, conductor, with guest harpists Beverly Wesner-Hoehn and Kerstin Allvin (CCH)**
Works by Doug Balliet, Caleb Burhans, Elliot Cole, Jessie Downs, James Hartway, Brian Adam McCune, Angélica Negón, Dan Welcher
- 3pm** **Jennifer Ellis, harp, with members of Citywater: Music by Students and Alumni (CPS 151)**
Works by Dorothy Curtis, Kathryn Edom, Jeffrey Graham, Travis Maslen, Nick Micheels, Ian Podtetenieff, Charles Sykes
- 7pm** Pre-Concert Talk: Steven Snowden (CPS 151)
- 8pm** **line upon line percussion (CCH)**
Works by Rick Burkhardt, Jason Federmeyer, Andrew Greenwald, Steven Snowden

Sunday, November 5

- 3pm** **Faythe Vollrath, harpsichord and Rozbeh Nafisi, composer/santur with visual artist Sarah Granett (CPS 151)**
Works by Emma Lou Diemer, James Dorsa, Sunny Knable, Rozbeh Nafisi, Karen Tanaka
- 8pm** **David Tanenbaum, guitar (CCH)**
Works by Sérgio Assad, Dusan Bogdanovic, Peppino D'Agostino, Lou Harrison, Aaron Jay Kernis, Terry Riley, Elias Tanenbaum

40th Annual
**FESTIVAL OF NEW
AMERICAN MUSIC**



**Jennifer R. Ellis, harp, with members of Citywater:
Music by Students and Alumni**

Jennifer R. Ellis, harp

Citywater
Cathie Apple, flute
Milun Doskovic, clarinet
Ben Prima, percussion
Timothy Stanley, cello

With guest artists:
Erina Saito, piano
Sandro Ladu, violin

**Sacramento State
Capistrano Hall 151
November 4, 2017
3:00 pm**

PROGRAM

Hush (2017)* Kathryn Edom

Jennifer R. Ellis, harp
Ben Prima, vibraphone

Feather River Revenants (2017)*..... Jeffrey Graham

Milun Doskovic, clarinet
Jennifer R. Ellis, harp
Timothy Stanley, cello

Trio for Violin, Cello, and Harp (2017)* Travis Maslen

Jennifer R. Ellis, harp
Sandro Ladu, violin
Timothy Stanley, cello

The Hallucinogenic Toreador (2017)* Charles Skyes

Jennifer R. Ellis, harp
Erina Saito, piano

The Promise of No Tomorrow (2017)*..... Ian Podtetenieff

Cathie Apple, flute

Jennifer R. Ellis, harp

Erina Saito, piano

Rhapsody (2017)*..... Nick Micheels

Cathie Apple, flute

Sandro Ladu, violin

Ben Prima, marimba

Jennifer R. Ellis, harp

Patina (2017)*..... Dorothy Curtis

Milun Doskovic, clarinet and brake drum

Timothy Stanley, cello and brake drum

Jennifer R. Ellis, harp and brake drum

*World Premiere



PROGRAM NOTES

Kathryn Edom: *Hush* (2017)

Hush, was written for Dr. Jennifer Ellis and Ben Prima, the percussionist of the new music ensemble, citywater. The piece was commissioned by Jennifer, in an attempt to create more solo and chamber ensemble repertoire for harp. My idea was to create a very lyrical piece, taking advantage of the sustained quality of both the harp and vibraphone. The silence is just as important as the sound, creating openness that was a foundation of the development of the piece. It is also very free, in my hopes to create an organic interaction between the two players.

Kathryn is a third-year composition student, in her second year studying with Dr. Stephen Blumberg, and hopes to graduate Spring of 2019. She is a percussionist by trade, and has written a multi-percussion duet called *Rainmaking*. She is also currently working on a five-movement suite for solo unaccompanied flute.

Jeff Graham: *Feather River Revenants* (2017)

Feather River Revenants is a piece for clarinet, cello, and harp. Inspiration for the piece began at a master class for composers about harp by Ms. Jennifer Ellis. The original musical idea came from what happens to be the first two measures of the piece. From those two measures came the feeling of flowing water and ethereal presence. From that feeling came the clarity of how to accentuate it—by adding clarinet and cello. Each of the three instruments carry a unique sound, but also an inherent smooth quality that lends itself to the music.

Jeff Graham is an undergraduate senior in the School of Music at Sacramento State pursuing his Bachelor of Music degree in Music Theory/Composition. In addition to his interest in composition he enjoys playing piano, arranging, teaching, discovering music he's never before heard, and the life-long pursuit of knowledge. He lives in Yuba City with his beautiful and talented wife, Helen, and their young son, Malik.

Travis Maslen: *Trio for violin, cello and harp* (2017)

I would like to thank Jennifer Ellis for helping me understand how to compose for harp, and I appreciate Citywater for their performance. I would also like to thank Scott Perkins for his guidance and Stephen

Blumberg for the opportunity to be part of FENAM. *Trio* is an energetic piece of music consisting of three parts: dramatic, lyrical, and aggressive. The first section disperses the short melody between the three instruments, as they take turns stating the theme in their own way. The second section is labeled gentle and free, and a new theme emerges as a solo harp passage. The body of the second section emphasizes lyricism as the phrasing rises and falls to a gentle close. The last section is led by the violin in an improvisatory-like style. The last few moments of the piece reflect on the first section, only to end dramatically and abruptly.

Travis Maslen graduated from California State University, Sacramento, with an undergraduate degree in music. He is currently enrolled in the School of Music's graduate program, where he studies composition under Scott Perkins. He works at Christian Brothers High school, and enjoys spending his spare time composing and arranging for his student ensembles.

Charles Sykes: *The Hallucinogenic Toreador* (2017)

The Hallucinogenic Toreador is a duet for piano and harp inspired by the painting of the same name by Salvador Dali. Each musical idea represents an element within the painting, starting from the top right with Gala's floating head and ending with Dali as a child in the bottom right. The goal for this piece was to capture both the emotional and geometrical elements of this painting, all while keeping to my own music style. Enjoy!

Charles Sykes was born May 15, 1992, in Riverside, California. He has written a number of pieces for piano and small ensembles, and is currently working on a large orchestral piece as his thesis project. His most recent completed work, *The Hallucinogenic Toreador*, was completed on September 16, 2017, and it has yet to be premiered. This is a duet for piano and harp, with a performance time of approximately five minutes and thirty seconds.

Ian Podtetenieff: *The Promise of No Tomorrow* (2017)

The Promise of No Tomorrow is a chamber work for flute, harp, and piano. The title is meant to reflect the idea that the past cannot be changed, and there's no promise of the future. We are only given today,

and the tools to make the most of it to the best of our capability. The music is meant to reflect how we often perceive tomorrow, and the emotional associations with such. With various interjections between the three instruments, the piece flows from feelings of hopeful to hopelessness, utilizing a double harmonic major scale in the middle before transitioning to a sweeping Lydian section. The piece ends just as it begins: with the harp playing solo material, finally ascending to a high G flat, with the piano joining it upon arrival.

Ian Podtetenieff (b. 1991) is a former student of the Sac State School of Music. He studied under Prof. Stephen Blumberg, and graduated with his Bachelors of Music in Theory and Composition in spring of 2016. Ian currently lives in the Tehama County area, working for the Department of Education.

Nick Micheels: *Rhapsody* (2017)

Rhapsody is an exploration of texture and mood. The accessible melodic material presented by the harp is often enveloped and elongated by shadow-like utterances of the flute and violin. The marimba serves as an intermediary between these distinctions, binding the shade to its subject to create dimension. This relationship is present throughout most of the piece, broken notably only by a brief passage of disjointed and independent figures, simultaneously echoing and contradicting the introductory material. The subject-shadow relationship abruptly reclaims its dominance to bring the piece to its subtle conclusion.

Rhapsody is dedicated to Jennifer Ellis, with special thanks to the members of Citywater, and to Stephen Blumberg for all of their support and this opportunity.

Nicholas Micheels received a BM in music theory and composition at California State University, Sacramento in 2016 under Dr. Stephen Blumberg. His music is texturally rich and employs coloristic devices to depict distinct imagery. Micheels has been commissioned by faculty and students in the department of Theatre and Dance at CSUS, and twice has composed works under a collaborative research grant offered by the university. He is the winner of the 2015 FeNAM Student Composers Competition and his work has been premiered at the

Crocker Art Museum. Micheels plans to attend graduate school to further pursue composition.

Dorothy Curtis: *Patina* (2017)

It is common for objects and structures made of metals like copper and bronze to slowly develop a teal or greenish “patina” film on their surface. This effect is the result of oxidation and exposure to the natural elements over time. Take, for example, the greenish color that old pennies will sometimes develop, or the teal color of metal roofs or drainpipes on old buildings and statues. This piece follows the natural patina process – from the creation of a metal structure, through the oxidation process, and ending with the formation of the patina. This piece is dedicated to a late friend of mine – Rags Murtagh. He was a colleague of mine here at the Sacramento State School of Music, a fellow composer, and a passionate musician. I had a limited amount of time to write “Patina” and I considered giving up on the task several times. However, my friend Rags was a very determined and encouraging individual and I knew that he would have wanted me to finish the piece. So, in light of his unexpected passing in August, I honored him by finishing this piece.

Dorothy Curtis graduated in May of this year from the Sacramento State School of Music with her Bachelor of Music degree in Theory and Composition, summa cum laude. She studied composition with Dr. Stephen Blumberg and piano with Dr. Lorna Peters and, in 2016, she joined the National Music Honor Society - Pi Kappa Lambda. Dorothy is currently exploring the possibility of graduate school. In addition to composition, Dorothy is also a dancer and choreographer. Having been a ballet instructor for numerous years, she finds a strong connection between composing and choreographing. She gravitates towards writing music that evokes a mood, image, action, feeling, or scene and she believes that her background in dance has influenced a desire for her music to often represent something visual or physical.

JENNIFER R. ELLIS

Committed to pushing the boundaries of harp performance, Dr. Jennifer R. Ellis (D.M.A. University of Michigan, M.M. Cleveland Institute of Music, B.M. Oberlin) has performed over fifty premieres. She was the

first ever harpist to be named a One Beat Fellow, a fellowship through Found Sound Nation and the U.S. State Department. She was also the first ever harpist to attend Bang on a Can, Fresh Inc., and Splice summer festivals. She received the Alice Chalifoux Prize, Rackham Centennial and Graduate fellowships, AT&T Foundation and Conservatory Deans' scholarships, and holds prizes in the Ann Arbor Society for Musical Arts, Coeur d'Alene Young Artists, LMC of Seattle, and Inez Stafford competitions. She has played with the Kerrytown Fringe at the Edge, Britten Pears, Piccolo Spoleto Festival, Spark Festival, American Wind Symphony Orchestra, National Orchestra Institute, and Texas Music Festival. She performs with saxophonist Jonathan Hulting-Cohen in the contemporary Admiral Launch Duo, three-time Avaloch residents awarded a UMass FRG/Healy grant for their debut recording set to release on Albany in 2017. She performed the premiere recording of Steve Horowitz's Entertainment Tonight and has published in *The American Harp Journal* and *Harp Column Magazine*. Equally at home in acoustic and electroacoustic performance, her work with the IRCAM's motion sensor technology at the Atlantic Music Festival resulted in the premiere of *Weav-Weav-Weaving for Harp and Interactive Electronics*, a work later showcased by Sound of Late, Listening to Ladies, Composers Circle, and Splice. An inaugural UM Engaged Pedagogy Initiative Fellow, she trained in community-based learning and collaborates on a variety of community engagement projects. In addition to teaching harp and eurhythmics, she is an in-demand clinician on learning to write for harp, the business of music, community engagement; she averages a dozen university master classes/guest workshops per season. She is on faculty at San Francisco Conservatory of Music's Preparatory and Adult Extension programs and the Diablo Valley Arts Academy. She is also a 2017-2018 Artist-in-Residence at UC Davis. www.harpellis.com

CITYWATER

Hailed by Edward Ortiz as "a top-flight interpreter of contemporary classical music," Citywater is Sacramento's own modern chamber ensemble.

Comprising flutist Cathie Apple, clarinetist Milun Doskovic, percussionist Ben Prima, pianist Jennifer Reason, and cellist Timothy Stanley; Citywater strives to charm and challenge its audiences with the newest music written.

Establishing itself as one of Sacramento's premiere chamber ensembles, Citywater performs regularly on the Festival of New American Music, was invited to celebrate the grand re-opening of the Crocker Art Museum by performing a new work written for the occasion, and was recently appointed as the ensemble in residence at the Sacramento State music department. For FeNAM 2017, we're joined by Erina Saito (piano) Sandro Ladu, violin.

ERINA SAITO

Erina Saito is an artist who interprets the music with sensitive colors and emotions throughout her passionate and captivating performances. A native of Tokyo, Japan, Ms. Saito is a soloist and collaborative pianist who performs in the greater Sacramento area. International appearances include Japan, the United States, and the Orfeo International Music Festival in Italy. She recently performed in Switzerland this summer 2017 at the Talis Festival and Academy receiving a full scholarship.

Ms. Saito was featured as a soloist to perform Greig Piano Concerto with Sacramento State Summer Symphony and Sierra College Wind Symphony. She was also chosen to perform as a soloist and also as a collaborative pianist in the very first Alumni Concert Series at Sacramento State School of Music in 2015. In addition, she is regularly invited to perform there in various concerts such as a guest alumni performer at the Piano Day, various classes, piano studio concerts, etc. Ms. Saito is currently a faculty member at Sierra College's Music Department. She is also a member of the National Music Honor Society, Pi Kappa Lambda and the Music Teachers Association of California.

Ms. Saito began studying piano at the age of 4 and composition at the age of 7 under Saori Shudo who is a member of Chiao's "B", singer/songwriter duo. She received her Masters degree in Piano Performance at Sacramento State School of Music where she studied with renowned teachers including Dr. Lorna Peters, Kirsten Smith, and Richard Cionco. In addition, she has studied with Dr. Natsuki Fukasawa, and Kumiko Ishidaira, and has performed in numerous master-classes with acclaimed pianists including Richard Goode, Geoffrey Burleson, Brian Ganz, Natalya Shkoda, Michael Rickman, Vladimir Khoklov, and Evelyn Chen.

Throughout her childhood in Japan she has received numerous compositional prizes including a trip to Finland for her very first composition. Since her arrival to the United States, Ms. Saito has won numerous scholarships and awards. For instance, she was the winner of the Sacramento State Concerto Competition in 2012 and received an honorable mention of the UC Davis Concerto Competition in 2013. She was also the first prize-winner of the Student Performance Artist Competition for the Festival of New American Music at Sacramento State in 2012 for playing Richard Cionco's composition "Four Postcards" in which "R street" was dedicated to her. In addition, she was the winner of the same Student Performance Artist Competition the previous year 2011, and a Saturday Club Scholarship winner in 2010, as well as the winner of the Student of the Year Award for Sierra College's Music Department in 2008.

Ms. Saito has also performed with the Sacramento Philharmonic, the California Youth Symphony, Camellia Symphony Orchestra, and the Sacramento State Symphony Orchestra. As a collaborative pianist of The Paper and Blood Quartet, her group won 1st prize for the A.J. and Susi Watson Student Chamber Music Competition Scholarship. The previous year, her piano trio, Spaghettorio, was announced as the honorable mention of the same competition. Ms. Saito has also actively performed in master-classes for renowned chamber music groups, such as the L.A. Piano Quartet, the Ahn Trio, and the JACK Quartet.

SANDRO LADU

Sandro Ladu attended the University of Nevada Las Vegas where he studied with Byron Tauchi and Weiwei Le. During this time he was a participant of the Brevard music festival and was a recipient of the Liberace string quartet scholarship and the Arts Bridge scholarship. Sandro completed graduate studies at California State University Sacramento where he studied with Ian Swensen. During this time he was a multiple time winner of the Aj and Susanna Watson chamber music competition and the Saturday Club Scholarship. He recently placed 2nd place in the Fresno Musical Club Bell T. Richie competition and recently played in Fresno's Young Artist Spotlight live radio concert. Sandro is a violinist in the North State Symphony as well as Townsend Opera players.

Sandro currently teaches in elementary schools through the Sacramento Youth Symphony's El Sistema inspired string program Overture. Sandro is a frequent performer at the Music at Noon concert series and will be playing there in January.

Monday, November 6

- 10am** In-School Performance: Mayumi Hama and Chris Froh, marimba duo (NCS)
- 10am** Composer's Forum: Jeffrey Hoover (CPS 205)
- 11am** Composer's Forum: Scott Perkins (CPS 223)
- Noon** In-School Performance: Faculty Reed Quintet (ARC)
- Noon** **Jacqueline Hairston, piano with Robin Fisher, soprano and Laurel Zucker, flute: The African Diaspora and American Music Today (CRC)**
Works by Margaret Bonds, Jacqueline Hairston, Camille Nickerson, Hale Smith, William Grant Still
- 1:30pm** **Concert/Lecture: Robert Pollock, piano (CCH)**
Works by Edward T. Cone, Shinhee Park, Robert Pollock
- 4pm** Young Festival Performers Master Class: Robert Pollock, piano (CCH)
- 6pm** **Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States (SCC)**
Works by Kyong Mee Choi, Elainie Lillios, Dennis H. Miller, Sylvia Pengilly, John Villegas
- 7pm** Pre-Concert Talk: Jeffrey Hoover and Scott Perkins (CPS 209)
- 8pm** **Festival Ensemble Concert (CCH)**
Works by David Biedenbender, Valerie Coleman, Jeffrey Hoover, Scott Perkins, Allen Shearer, Gernot Wolfgang, Laurel Zucker

Tuesday, November 7

- 9am** In-Class Performance: Lois Herbine, piccolo (CPS 209)
- 10:30am** In-Class Performance: David Tanenbaum, guitar (CPS 223)
- Noon** **Keynote Address: Self-Determination for a 21st-Century Musician, Gabriela Lena Frank, composer (CCH)**
- 1:30pm** Master Class: David Tanenbaum, guitar (CPS 209)
- 7pm** Pre-Concert Talk: Howard Hersh (CPS 209)
- 8pm** **Lois Herbine, piccolo; Jooyoung Kim, piano (CCH)**
Works by Michael Daugherty, Daniel Dorff, Cynthia Folio, Joseph Hallman, Howard Hersh, Vincent Persichetti

Key to locations:

ARC	American River College
CAM	Crocker Art Museum†
CCH	Capistrano Concert Hall*
COHS	Cosumnes Oaks High School‡
CPS	Capistrano Hall*
CRC	Cosumnes River College
FLC	Folsom Lake College

NCS	Natomas Charter School‡
RAHS	Rio Americano High School‡
SCC	Sacramento City College
UCD	UC Davis

* Sacramento State

† Museum Admission Required

‡ In-School Performance, not open to the general public

Wednesday, November 8

- 10am** Composer's Forum: Howard Hersh (CPS 205)
- 10:30am** In-School Performance: American Contemporary Music Ensemble (COHS)
- 11am** Composer's Forum: Gabriela Lena Frank (CPS 209)
- 4pm** **Student Artists Performance Competition (CPS 151)**
- 7pm** Pre-Concert Talk: Gabriela Lena Frank, Beatrice Ferreira, Gilbert Galindo, Ethan Helm, Lisa Neher, Garrett Schumann, Matt Taylor (CPS 151)
- 8pm** **Mayumi Hama and Chris Froh, marimba duo (CCH)**
Works by Gabriela Lena Frank, Beatrice Ferreira, Gilbert Galindo, Ethan Helm, Lisa Neher, Garrett Schumann, Matt Taylor

Thursday, November 9

- Noon** In-School Performance: Citywater with Guest Harpist Jennifer Ellis (FLC)
- 4pm** **Student Composers Performance Competition (CPS 151)**
- 7pm** Pre-Concert Talk: Members of the American Contemporary Music Ensemble (CPS 151)
- 8pm** **American Contemporary Music Ensemble (CCH)**
Works by Timo Andres, Caleb Burhans, Clarice Jensen, Ben Russell, Caroline Shaw

Friday, November 10

VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY OBSERVED (NO EVENTS)

Saturday, November 11

- 10am** Master Class: Daedalus String Quartet (CPS 151)
- Noon** **Young Festival Performers Recital (CCH)**
- 2pm** Master Class: Gilbert Kalish, piano (CPS 151)
- 8pm** **Daedalus String Quartet (CCH)**
Works by Josh Hey, Fred Lerdahl, Missy Mazzoli, Anna Weesner

Sunday, November 12

- 3pm** **Andrew Blanton, composer/percussionist/electronics (CAM)**
Works by Andrew Blanton
- 8pm** **Gilbert Kalish, piano (CCH)**
Works by George Crumb, Perry Goldstein, John Harbison, Charles Ives, Sheila Silver, Ben Weber, Richard Wernick

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Festival of New American Music:

Stephen Blumberg, Artistic Director

David A. Wells, Co-Director

Natsuki Fukusawa, Young Festival Performers Coordinator

University Administration:

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The Festival of New American Music has, for its entire 40-year history, proudly offered all of its events free of charge while also maintaining a very high artistic level. This is due in large part to the generosity of audience members like you.

Donations to the Festival of New American Music are greatly appreciated and will help us continue the quality programming that the Festival has brought to the Sacramento area every year since 1978.

Gifts in the form of cash or check can be made using the envelopes found in the lobby of each concert hall. Checks should be made payable to "The University Foundation at Sacramento State," and please also write "FeNAM" in the Memo line. Checks can be dropped off at the donation boxes in Capistrano Concert Hall and Capistrano 151, or mailed to:

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School of Music

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Thank you for your generous support!

We express our deepest appreciation to the following for their generous support of the 2017 Festival of New American Music.

Funded by generous support from:

- The Cultural Arts Award Program of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission with support from the City and County of Sacramento
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- Aaron Copland Fund for Music
- The Amphion Foundation
- The TourWest program of WESTAF, which is in turn supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Sponsored by the following Sacramento State departments, organizations, and programs:

- College of Arts and Letters, Sheree Meyer, Dean
- University Advancement, Al Frisone, Vice President
- School of Music, Ernie Hills, Director
- ASI External Grant, Sandra Gallardo, Executive Director



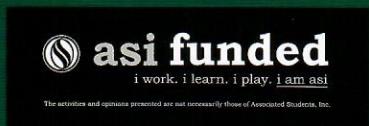
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For more information, please visit csus.edu/music/fenam or call (916) 278-5191