Upcoming UI Events

Latin Jazz Ensemble ........................................ April 19 at 3:00 p.m.

Riverside Recital Hall

Kantorei ............................................................... April 23 at 7:30 p.m.

St. Mary’s Catholic Church

UISQRP Presents: Calder Quartet ................................ April 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Featuring Anne-Marie McDermott, piano

Riverside Recital Hall

Chamber Orchestra and All-University String Orchestra .... April 26 at 3:00 p.m.

Dr. William LaRue Jones, conductor

Riverside Recital Hall

Faculty Recital ................................................... May 2 at 3:00 p.m.

Maurita Murphy Marx, clarinet

Riverside Recital Hall

Opera Scenes .................................................. May 2 at 8:00 p.m.

Bill Theisen, director

Riverside Recital Hall

Iowa Center for the Arts Scholarship Competition ........ May 3 at 3:00 p.m.

Riverside Recital Hall

University Band and Concert Band ................................ May 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Steven Riley and Kevin Kastens, conductors

IMU Ballroom

Faculty Recital ................................................ May 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Jonathan Allen, trombone

UCC Recital Hall

Center for New Music

Concert

10:00 a.m. Saturday, April 18, 2015

UCC Recital Hall

Season 49 Concert XVIII

Session II

Sixth Annual Exchange of MidWest Collegiate Composers

The University of Colorado-Boulder

The University of Missouri, Kansas City

And The University of Iowa

David Gompper

Center for New Music director

Jonah Elrod, Nima Hamidi, Joshua Marquez

Student Committee

For the latest calendar updates visit our online calendar at: arts.uiowa.edu
Center for New Music

Season 49 Concert XVIII
April 18, 2015, 10:00 a.m.  UCC RECITAL HALL

PROGRAM

Wood Metal Hair for double bass and fixed media
Blake Shaw, double bass
Paul DUFFY (UI)

chi bedda vuci avia (2014)
Christina BUTERA (UMKC)

Grand Duo
Thiago Ancelmo de Souza, clarinet
Leonid IOGANSEN (UI)

BRIEF PAUSE

Serenade for horn quartet
Lauren Chambers, horn
Josh East, horn
William Keene, horn
Madeline Tarantelli, horn
Daniel MOREL (UMKC)

Warm Summer Sun on a text by Mark Twain
Hannah Green, soprano
Alice Chang, piano
Joseph ADAMS (UI)

Psychic Voyages of A Restless Soul
Trevor VILLWOCK (CU-B)
I. The Callous Neural Machinery of Self-Annihilation
II. Distraction
III. Tortured Delicate Reconstructions

...wretched refuse of my teeming resonance
Tyler CAPP (UMKC)

Change
Bernard SHORT (IA)

Regeneration
John Cummins, soprano saxophone
Matthew Mahaffey, alto saxophone
Elena Pedersen, tenor saxophone
James Skretta, baritone saxophone
Jonathan WILSON (UI)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Sincere thanks to Carl Gompper (David Gompper’s father), who has consistently maintained and updated the information found on the CNM website for so many years.
Wood Metal Hair

Wood Metal Hair is a piece for double bass and fixed media. The title refers to the materials used to produce the sounds of the piece; everything except for a 4.7 second region was derived from various standard (e.g. pizzicato, ricochet, sul ponticello) and non-standard (e.g. bowing the side of the instrument, bowing the tuning pegs, moving a hand quickly between the instrument’s neck and body) double bass techniques. The 4.7 seconds of sound outside of the piece’s material context were derived from crushing a dried red pepper. Unfortunately, its 4.7 second contribution was not enough to earn the red pepper a place in the title.

The musical structure of the piece consists of two distinct environments. One is focused and economical—it is constructed from a minimal amount of samples and pitches. The other is vibrant and diverse; it is curious and explorative and rarely stays in the same place for long.

Paul Duffy

(b. 1989) is a graduate student of composition at the University of Iowa. He has studied privately with Lawrence Fritts, Craig Weston, and David Gompper, and has attended master classes with Louis Karchin, Josh Levine, Augusta Read Thomas, and Michael Fiday. His recent works include a Duet for Prepared Piano & MIDI Keyboard, Axes, for contrabass and electronics, a choir piece selected for performance at the 2014 Midwest Composers Symposium in Cincinnati, and a trio for bass and marimbas that was choreographed for the 2015 University of Iowa Department of Dance Faculty/Grad Concert. His current compositional interests include fixed media and the incorporation of algorithmic techniques into his personal language.

Chi bedda vuci avia

This piece is the first in a series of pieces, all involving electronics, which draw inspiration from a Sicilian folk song that my grandfather used to sing to us as children. The ironically lively and somewhat silly folk song U Sciccareddu is about a man lamenting the loss of his dearest friend: his donkey. Chi bedda vuci avia, which translates to “what a beautiful voice he had” (a line from the song), embodies the Sicilian irony of humor and despair. It features subtle quotes of the folk tune, as well as some beautiful voices, including those of several donkeys and my dear grandparents.

Christina Butera

(b.1987) is a composer of contemporary music. Born and raised in central New Jersey, she began piano and clarinet lessons at age 9. Her formal studies in composition began at Bucknell University, where she studied composition with William Duckworth and Jackson Hill, clarinet with Elizabeth Stimpert, and piano with Barry Hannigan. She earned her B.M. in Composition from Bucknell in 2009. She recently completed her Masters degree at Bowling Green State University, where she was a student of Marilyn Shrude, Mikel Kuehn, Burton Beerman, and Andrea Reinkemeyer.

Christina composes both acoustic and electroacoustic music. In addition to writing for standard Western instruments, Christina has also writes for both Javanese and Balinese gamelan. Her music has been performed in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. She is currently working on her DMA in Composition at the University of Missouri Kansas City.

Grand Duo

Written as a commission by a friend and a former classmate, Michael Spina, the work is virtuosic and asks for extended techniques and technical mastery from both players. The ideas revolve around a series of motives battling with each other across an ABA’ form. Harmonic relationships and the emphasis on certain pitches through tension and release establish hierarchies of pitch classes in the piece.
Leonid Logansen, born in St. Petersburg Russia in 1981, has received various commissions, most notably in 2006, from Shuzang Yin International Music Festival, which has commissioned him a total of an hour of music for various ensembles. Leonid holds a Summa cum laude Bachelor of Music in violin and composition from Boston University, where he was a Trustee Scholar in 2001-2003, and a Masters degree with the same majors from Peabody Conservatory. Leonid is currently pursuing PhD in Composition at the University of Iowa as a student of David Gompper.

DANIEL MOREL
Serenade

As an ensemble, horn quartets are adept at creating flowing melodies that arch the full breadth of a piece. This Serenade was written with this idea in mind, developing a single song for the entire quartet that passes from one player to the next effortlessly. After introducing a brief motive passed between all four horns, the Serenade opens with an introspective, minor melody. Echoed among the players, transfigured rhythmically, and shifted across neighboring modalities, the melody settles into a rousing, fugal recap for a climactic finish.

Daniel Morel is a Kansas City-based composer who energizes his music with spectral lyricism and microtonal expression. Garnering commissions and performances across the United States, his music reflects myriad literary and natural interests. His works are permeated with the Western sensibilities of his Colorado upbringing, drawing on influences ranging from prairie thunderstorms to classic American poetry.

Highlights for the 2013-14 season include commissions for the Western Michigan University Dance Department, LaVentus Quartet, and Colorado State Music Teachers Association. Last season featured premieres with the Cherry Creek Chorale (Here Is A Land), Hartford Opera Theater (An Autumn Day), and Seasons Festival Orchestra (Waiting Mist); performances with the Hartford Independent Chamber Orchestra and SCI Region VI Festival; and a residency with the Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild. Mr. Morel has received commissions from the Colorado State Music Teachers Association, Hartford Community Division, Cherry Creek Chorale, Denver Municipal Band, and Duo Agosto, among many others. Other featured performances include the Westfield New Music Festival, New Music Hartford, CMEA Conference, and Wintergreen Summer Music Festival.

Among his awards are an Award of Distinction from the Longfellow Chorus, a Women’s Education and Leadership Fund Grant, The Hartt School Community Division Composition Fellowship, a Business Development Grant for Artists from the City of Hartford, and selection on the Philharmonia Orchestra’s inaugural GrooveSearch.

As an advocate for contemporary music, Mr. Morel has served with a number of arts organizations, including head of productions for the Cherry Creek Chorale and director of Bucknell University’s coffeehouse music series. He currently serves as Executive Director for the Hartford Independent Chamber Orchestra (HICO) and Festival Director for the much acclaimed Women Composers Festival of Hartford, CT.

Mr. Morel holds degrees from Bucknell University (BA) and The Hartt School, University of Hartford (MM, AD). He is currently in the DMA program at University of Missouri - Kansas City.

JOSEPH ADAMS
Warm Summer Sun

“Warm Summer Sun” was Mark Twain’s eulogy to his daughter Olivia Susan Clemens, who died in 1896 at the age of 24. Adapted from “Annette” by Robert Richardson, “Warm Summer Sun” is engraved on Olivia’s headstone. The piece opens with a polychordal section utilizing the extreme registers of the piano, representative of Olivia only existing in memory. As her memory comes to life in Twain’s mind, the text is set to a lyrical melody.

Joseph Z. Adams is a second year doctoral student at UI, were he studies with Dr. David Gompper. He earned his Bachelor’s Degree at New York University, his Masters Degree at the Hartt School of Music, and has received numerous performances of his orchestral music by regional orchestras throughout the Upper Midwest. In the fall of 2014, ‘Space Jumping’ was premiered at UI by the JACK String Quartet. He recently provided original music for ‘Below the Pacific’, a play premiering on May 8th at the 2015 New Iowa Playwrights Festival.

TREVOR VILLWOCK
Psychic Voyages of A Reelless Soul

is an autobiographical piece; it deals with my lifelong struggle with anxiety that in many ways came to a head in the first several months of 2014. Each of the four movements explores a different way of grappling with this anxiety, with the piece as a whole moving from a state of crippling nervous tension to a state of calm acceptance.

Trevor Villwock is a composer and pianist currently pursuing a BM Composition degree at the University of Colorado at Boulder. His music explores the interplay between ambience and groove and the concrete and the abstract, with vocal music being an area of particular interest. He is currently composing incidental music for Austin Shakespeare’s summer 2015 production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream.

TYLER CAPP
. . .wretched refuse of my teeming resonance

(apologies to Aesop Rock) is my first composition in many years for fixed media. Whereas previous attempts in the medium were somewhat abortive musically (i.e. lacking form, development, a sense of pitch relationships, a rhythmic profile, general cohesiveness, and proper mixing), I was determined that this time around things would be different. Fueled by that determination (and Jim Beam), I set out to coax as many interesting sounds as possible from my 5-string banjo; variously employing a violin bow, coins, golf balls, a giant foam finger, screws, a guitar slide and, eventually, an empty whiskey bottle. Restrictions were placed on gratuitous processing and reverb was deployed only in the direst of circumstances; the end result a kind of sonification of my insecurities in the realm of the acoustic.

Tyler Capp (b. 1983) has received fellowships from Copland House CULTIVATE and the UC Davis Composition Workshop, and his work has been featured at the highSCORE Music Festival, June in Buffalo, and the Thailand International Composition Festival, among others. In 2010, his piece Stranger Variations for violin was released on Stony Brook Soundings, Vol. II, and his work Cryptogram for wind ensemble was the recipient of a 2013 Morton Gould Young Composer Award from the ASCAP Foundation. In 2014-2015, Tyler was the recipient of five residencies throughout the United States, including a Copland House Residency Award.

Tyler holds degrees from the University of Delaware and Stony Brook University, and is currently pursuing his doctoral degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City where he was a Chancellor’s Doctoral Fellow. His composition teachers have included Jennifer Margaret Barker, Chen Yi, James Moeller, Paul Rudy, Sheila Silver, Peter Winkler, and Zhou Long.

BERNARD SHORT
Change

is a piece that reflects the unsettling changes that has come about within the composer’s life. The fluid use of aggregate pitch collections is meant to provide a feeling of instability and constant change, reflecting the experience of a composer moving from full-time teacher to student, a new city and state, and transitioning from having a father in one moment healthy to being severely ill. Change comes in many ways, just as this piece will suggest many different thought processes.

(continued on next page)