

THE MIDWEST COMPOSERS SYMPOSIUM

The Midwest Composers Symposium is a consortium made up of the composition departments of four American Midwest Universities: The University of Cincinnati, Indiana University and the Universities of Iowa and Michigan. The purpose is to allow students to have contact with other composers at nearby institutions, and to foster connections and self-identity.

The Symposium began in 1948 by Anthony Donato of Northwestern University, and included the composition departments from the Universities of Michigan, Illinois and Iowa. For a few years during the 1960s, the symposium concerts ceased due to a change in academic calendars, but resumed in the early 1970s when most schools adopted the quarter system. Oberlin College joined at this point, and a few years later, Indiana University. Northwestern dropped out in 1992, as did Illinois and Oberlin in 2007. The University of Cincinnati joined in 2008.

COMPOSITION FACULTY

The University of Cincinnati

Michael Fiday*, Mara Helmuth, Joel Hoffman,
Douglas Knehans and Miguel Roig-Francoli
Carrie Magin, *student assistant*

Indiana University

David Dzubay, Don Freund, John Gibson, Jeffrey Hass, Claude Baker, PQ Phan,
Aaron Travers* and Sven-David Sandstrom (visiting)

The University of Iowa

Lawrence Fritts*, David Gompper* and Bert Van Herck
Will Huff, Jason Palamara, Brian Penkrot and Justin Comer, *student committee*

The University of Michigan

Evan Chambers, Michael Daugherty*, Kristy Kuster,
Erik Santos, Paul Schoenfield and Bright Sheng
Patrick Harlin, *student assistant*

**-attending conference*

THE UNIVERSITY
OF IOWA

For the latest calendar updates visit our online calendar at: uiowa.edu/~cnm

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA SCHOOL *of* MUSIC

Center for New Music *hosts*

David Gompper, *director*

Midwest Composers Symposium 2012

*A consortium of composers from the
Cincinnati Conservatory of Music
and the Universities of Indiana, Iowa, Michigan*

Concert I

7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 November
Iowa Memorial Union, Ballroom

Concert II

10:30 a.m. Saturday, 3 November
University Capitol Center Recital Hall

Presentations

1:30 p.m.
UCC Break Room

Concert III

3:30 p.m.
UCC Recital Hall

Concert IV

7:30 p.m.
Riverside Recital Hall



DIVISION OF PERFORMING ARTS
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

Midwest Composers Symposium

Saturday, 3 Nov. 2012, 13.30 UCC BREAK ROOM

Paper Presentations

13.30

Indiana University

“What Kind of Music Do You Write?”

Jay Hurst & Ben Taylor

The words we use to talk about our music and the ways we present that music have a powerful effect on audience perception. From attempting to answer the typical cocktail party question (“so what kind of music do you write?”), to choosing a performance venue, to distribution of music via the internet, it is crucial that composers are aware of the effect the presentation of their music has on their public image.

13.50

University of Iowa

“Dancing about Music”

Jason Palamara & Will Huff

This semester, composers Jason Palamara and Will Huff are collaborating with the University of Iowa’s Dance Department on a new work that will be premiered on November 29th and run through December 1st. The presenters will discuss how their show has evolved over the semester, working alongside choreographers, dancers, and stage managers.

14.10

University of Michigan

“Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Creativity: The MiND Ensemble”

David Biedenbender

This presentation will look at the benefits and challenges of collaborating with other, often seemingly disparate, disciplines, using the MiND Ensemble (Music in Neural Dimensions) as a case study. The MiND Ensemble is a group at the University of Michigan that brings together students and faculty in many different programs, including music performance, music composition, computer engineering, design science, biomedical engineering, biology, performing arts technology, and art design and design.

14.30

University of Cincinnati

“CiCLOP: The Cincinnati Composers Laptop Orchestra Project”

Drew Dolan & Steve Weimer

Performing in a laptop ensemble is a valuable experience for a composer. Elements of sound processing, live interaction, and real-time programming each feed into a performing environment that is like no other. Our presentation will focus on our experience with the Cincinnati Composers Laptop Orchestra Project (CiCLOP), a student-run ensemble directed by Joel Matthys. We will discuss the programs and equipment used in the ensemble, as well as different performances that have taken place.