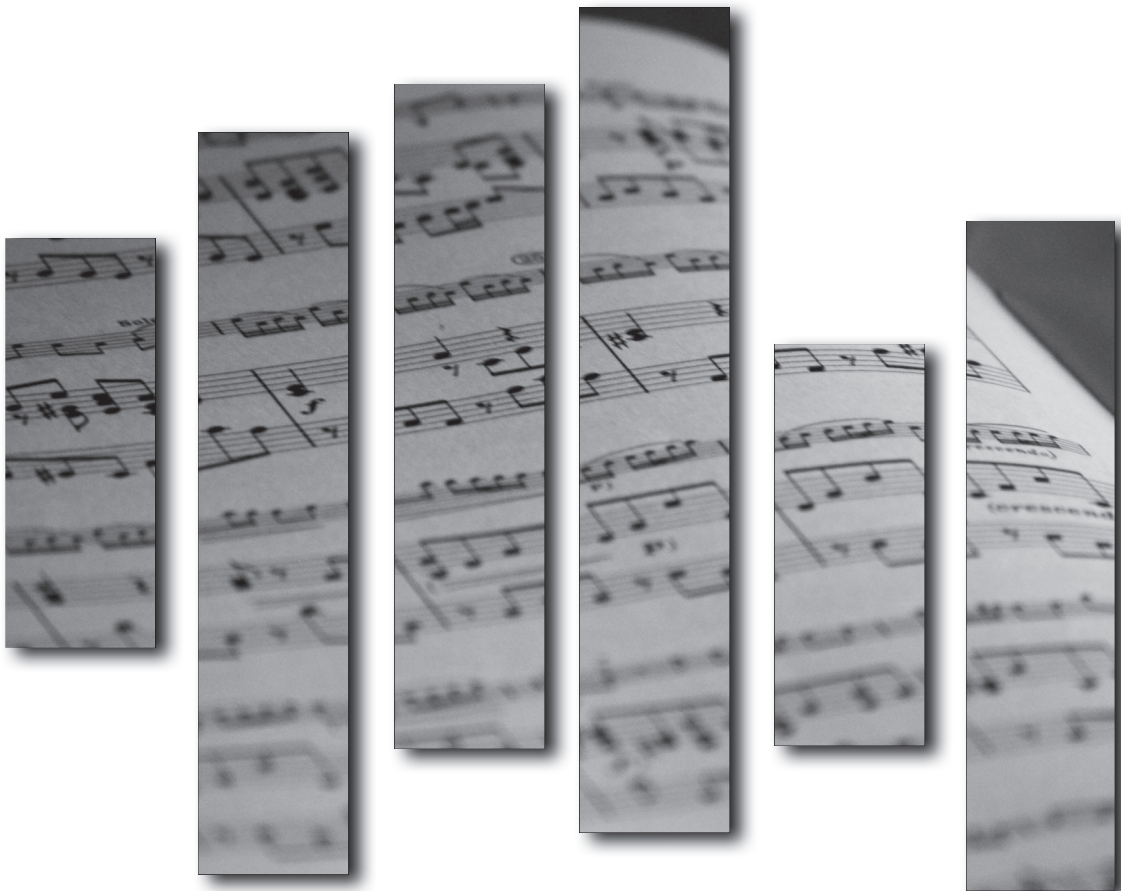


IOWA

School of Music



UI STRING QUARTET RESIDENCY PROGRAM

in collaboration with the **Center for New Music**
presents **JACK Quartet**

Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 7:30pm
Live-streamed from Merkin Hall, Kaufman Music Center

JACK Quartet

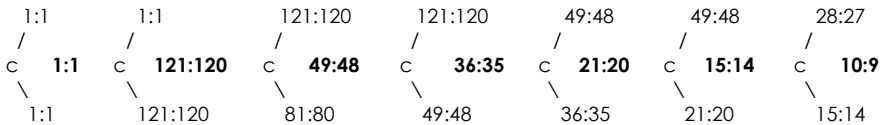
Christopher Otto, *violin*
Austin Wulliman, *violin*
John Pickford Richards, *viola*
Jay Campbell, *cello*

PROGRAM

String Quartet No. 1 (2009)

Catherine Lamb (b. 1982)

PROGRAM NOTES



This came out of a period of form writing where I was interested in the building blocks of proportional (pitch-spaced) relationships, where each structure fit directly into the next, expanding out from a central point. I was inspired by crystalline growth patterns and the perceptions around those shapes, and from a glissandi-directed piece I had just finished for any four bowed string instrumentalists entitled *grow (out)*. Keeping the same macro shape of opening as two slow, displaced blooms, I became focused on the details of each micro growth within and tried it as a classical string quartet arrangement. I was much more satisfied with the result—the structures began to take on a clearer vibrancy and movement (out). I wanted to see how far the micro and macro structure could remain of the same substance, only displaced in dimensionality through our own cognition of what is large or what is small.

(Catherine Lamb)

BIOGRAPHIES



Christopher Otto



Austin Wulliman



John Pickford Richards



Jay Campbell

JACK Quartet

Hailed by *The New York Times* as “our leading new-music foursome,” the JACK Quartet is one of the most acclaimed, renowned, and respected groups performing today. JACK has maintained an unwavering commitment to their mission of performing and commissioning new works, giving voice to underheard composers, and cultivating an ever-greater sense of openness toward contemporary classical music. Over the past season, they have been selected as Musical America’s 2018 “Ensemble of the Year,” named to WQXR’s “19 for 19 Artists to Watch,” and awarded an Avery Fisher Career Grant.

Through intimate relationships with today’s most creative voices, JACK embraces close collaboration with the composers they perform, leading to a radical embodiment of the technical, musical, and emotional aspects of their work. The quartet has worked with artists such as Philip Glass, Steve Reich, Julia Wolfe, George Lewis, Chaya Czernowin, and Simon Steen-Andersen, with upcoming and recent premieres including works by Tyshawn Sorey, Georg Friedrich Haas, Clara Iannotta, John Luther Adams, Catherine Lamb, and John Zorn. JACK also hosts JACK Studio, which expands the ensemble’s community of collaborative artists by offering composers opportunities to develop new work, hear their music performed by JACK, consult with mentors in the field, and receive recorded documentation. In its second year, JACK Studio has expanded to offer three distinct programs: commissions, workshops, and recording projects.

Committed to education, JACK is the Quartet-in-Residence at the Mannes School of Music, who will host JACK’s new Frontiers Festival, a multi-faceted festival of contemporary music for string quartet. They also teach each summer at New Music on the Point and at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. JACK has done educational programs at the University of Iowa String Quartet Residency Program, the Lucerne Festival Academy, Harvard University, NYU, Princeton University, Stanford University, and more.

Comprising violinists Christopher Otto and Austin Wulliman, violist John Pickford Richards, and cellist Jay Campbell, JACK operates as a nonprofit organization dedicated to the performance, commissioning, and appreciation of new string quartet music.

Christopher Otto performs with ensembles including Ensemble Signal, The Cellar and Point, Alarm Will Sound, Talea Ensemble, International Contemporary Ensemble, The Theatre of Eternal Music String Ensemble, Ne(x)tworks, and The Knights. He has premiered and recorded several chamber works by John Zorn and has performed and recorded as soloist in Zorn's violin concerto *Contes de Fées*. Christopher has also performed as soloist in Brian Ferneyhough's *Terrain* with Ensemble Signal. His violin teachers include Cyrus Forough and Timothy Ying. He is a founder, along with his wife Emily DuFour, of Hutchins East, an ensemble performing on a set of eight proportionally-sized string instruments made by Carleen Hutchins, and has written and arranged several works for the ensemble. He studied composition at the Eastman School of Music with Robert Morris, David Liptak, Martin Bresnick, and James Willey as well as mathematics at the University of Rochester. Christopher has written works in just intonation for string quartet, violin duo, violin octet, violin with electronics, and ensembles of Hutchins instruments. His violin duo was recorded by Erik Carlson and is available on SoundCloud along with his violin octet. An article on his violin octet appears in *Arcana VII*, an anthology edited by John Zorn. Christopher serves on the faculty of the Mannes School of Music, where JACK is Quartet-in-Residence.

Praised as a “gifted, adventuresome violinist” by the *Chicago Tribune* and as a “remarkable, unbelievable violinist/violist extraordinaire” by the syndicated radio program *Relevant Tones*, **Austin Wulliman** has gained critical and audience attention through his “wide technical range and interpretive daring” (*New Music Box*) as a soloist and chamber musician. He first forged his reputation in Chicago with the collective Ensemble Dal Niente, serving as the group's program director, and winning the Kranichstein Music Prize (the grand prize for interpretation) at the Darmstadt Summer Course in 2012. Austin was also a founding member of Spektral Quartet, serving as Ensemble-in-Residence (as well as adjunct instructor of violin) at the University of Chicago from 2011–2016. Consistently in search of new musical pathways through ensemble work, Austin has collaborated with a wide range of musical voices, from artists like Deerhoof and Julia Holter, to Miguel Zenon and Billy Childs, or Brian Ferneyhough and Kaija Saariaho. Furthermore, he has also been a guest artist with groups such as Eighth Blackbird, and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's MusicNow Ensemble. His debut solo release *Diligence Is to Magic as Progress Is to Flight* was released in 2014 in collaboration with bassoonist/composer Katherine Young. Austin holds degrees from the University of Michigan and Northwestern University, as well as having held fellowships at the Aspen Music Festival and Lucerne Academy. Austin serves on the faculty of the Mannes School of Music, where JACK is Quartet-in-Residence.

Called “wholesome-looking” by the *New York Times*, violist **John Pickford Richards** has gained a reputation for performing new and unusual music around the globe. He was a founding member of the ensemble Alarm Will Sound, and has appeared with artists including Björk and Grizzly Bear and has performed as soloist with the Pasadena Symphony, Armenian Philharmonic, Wordless Music Orchestra, OSSIA, and with the Lucerne Festival Academy Orchestra playing the solo part to Luciano Berio's *Chemins II* under the direction of Pierre Boulez. He holds degrees from the Interlochen Arts Academy and Eastman School of Music where his primary teachers were David Holland and John Graham. John serves on the faculty of the Mannes School of Music, where JACK is Quartet-in-Residence.

Cellist **Jay Campbell** has been recognized around the world for approaching both old and new works with equally probing curiosity and emotional commitment. His performances have been described as “brilliant and insatiably inquisitive,” “electrifying,” and “prodigious” by the *New York Times*, and “gentle, poignant, and deeply moving” by the *Washington Post*. A recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant, Jay performed with the New York Philharmonic in 2013 and was a curator for the New York Philharmonic’s 2016 Biennale. He has soloed in major venues around the globe including Carnegie Hall’s Stern Auditorium, Avery Fisher Hall, and Lucerne’s KKL and performed recitals in Carnegie’s Weill Hall, the Kennedy, Mondavi, and Krannert centers. Dedicated to introducing audiences to the music of our time, Jay has worked closely with some of the most creative minds of the 20th and 21st centuries including Pierre Boulez, Elliott Carter, Matthias Pintscher, Kaija Saariaho, and countless others from his own generation. His close association with John Zorn has resulted in over a dozen works written for him including *The Aristos*, a Pulitzer Prize runner up resulting in the release of *Hen to Pan* (Tzadik), listed in the *New York Times* Best Recordings of 2015. Jay is the cellist of Junction Trio with violinist Stefan Jackiw and pianist Conrad Tao. He has been a guest at the Marlboro, Chamber Music Northwest, Moab, Heidelberger-Fruhling, DITTO, and Lincoln Center festivals. Jay serves on the faculty of the Mannes School of Music, where JACK is Quartet-in-Residence.

Catherine Lamb (b. 1982, Olympia, Wash.) is an active composer exploring the interaction of tone, summations of shapes and shadows, phenomenological expansions, the architecture of the liminal (states in between outside/inside), and the long introduction form. She began her musical life early, later abandoning the conservatory in 2003 to study Hindustani music in Pune, India. She received her B.F.A. in 2006 under James Tenney and Michael Pisaro at CalArts in Los Angeles, where she first developed her research into the interaction of tone and continued to compose, teach, and collaborate with musicians (such as Laura Steenberge and Julia Holter on *Singing by Numbers*). In 2008, she received a W. A. Gerbode Foundation and W. & F. Hewlett Foundation Emerging Composers initiative for *Dilations*, premiered at the Other Minds festival in San Francisco. She mentored under the experimental filmmaker/Dhrupad musician Mani Kaul until his death in 2011. In 2012, she received her M.F.A. in music/sound from the Milton Avery School of Fine Arts at Bard College in New York. She toured *Shade/Gradient* extensively and was awarded the Henry Cowell Research Fellowship to work with Eliane Radigue in Paris. In 2013, Lamb relocated to Berlin, Germany, where she lives currently, and has written for ensembles such as Konzert Minimal, Dedalus, Ensemble neoN, the London Contemporary Orchestra, as well as the JACK Quartet; while collaborating regularly with Marc Sabat, Johnny Chang (Viola Torros), Bryan Eubanks, and Rebecca Lane. Her first orchestral work, *Portions Transparent/Opaque*, was premiered by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra at the 2014 Tectonics Festival in Glasgow and was conducted by Ilan Volkov. She completed a series of nine pieces entitled *Prisma Interius* (2016–18) in which the infinite opening filter from inner to outer perceptions are deeply explored. In 2019, she co-founded the collectively oriented Harmonic Space Orchestra in Berlin. She is a 2020 recipient of the Ernst von Siemens Composer’s prize, a 2018 recipient of the Grants to Artists award from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, a Staubach Fellow for the 2016 Darmstadt Summer course as well as a 2016–2017 Schloss Solitude Fellow. Her writings/recordings are published in *KunstMusik*, *Open Space Magazine*, QO2, NEOS, New World Records, Another Timbre, Other Minds, Winds Measure, Hubro Records, Black Pollen Press, Sound American, and Sacred Realism.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For the most up to date listing of concerts and recitals please visit arts.uiowa.edu
All events are FREE unless otherwise indicated.

View livestreamed concerts at <https://music.uiowa.edu/about/live-stream-concert-schedule>

DECEMBER			2020
04	7:30 p.m.	The Aria Experience	Livestream
05	1:30 p.m.	DMA Recital: Anthony Capparelli, <i>piano</i>	Livestream
05	3:30 p.m.	Senior Recital: Guillermo Najarro, <i>violin</i>	Livestream
05	7:30 p.m.	UI Choirs	Livestream
07	7:30 p.m.	UI Bands	Livestream
09	7:30 p.m.	UI Chamber Orch. & All-University String Orch.	Livestream
10	7:30 p.m.	UI Bands	Livestream
11	12:30 p.m.	Holidays with the Hawkeyes feat. Holiday Tubas	Livestream
11	7:30 p.m.	DMA Recital: Jichen Zhang, <i>saxophone</i>	Livestream
13	7:30 p.m.	Electronic Music Studio Concert 1	Livestream
13	11:30 a.m.	DMA Recital: Dennis Kwok, <i>saxophone</i>	Livestream