



ICAM 2021 Institute of
Contemporary
American Music
HARTT COMPOSERS' SEMINAR

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD
THE HARTT SCHOOL

ICAM 2021 Institute of Contemporary American Music

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February 17 - April 28, 2021

Over the last seven decades, the Institute of Contemporary American Music (ICAM) has been a platform for engaging students and the greater Hartford Community with many of the major figures in American Music. Past guests have included Milton Babbitt, Martin Bresnick, John Cage, Aaron Copland, Meredith Monk, Tristan Perich, and many more.

The Hartt Composers' Seminar is a weekly forum for students to discuss issues related to contemporary composition with professional composers, scholars, and their peers. The series provides emerging composers at The Hartt School with a space to contemplate what it means to be a composer in our time and allows for guests to experience the creation and study of new music firsthand.

presented by
Hartt Composition
with support from The Hartt School

curated by Adam Lenz

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ICAM 2021

3/17 Sarah Hennies
3/31 Matmos
4/7 Guillermo Galindo
4/14 Tania León

Hartt Composers' Seminar

2/17 Anthony R. Green
3/3 Javier Colon
3/24 Juhi Bansal
4/21 John King
4/28 Nathalie Joachim

All events are held
on Zoom from
5:00-6:20 PM (ET).
Links available from
alenz@hartford.edu

Institute of Contemporary American Music





Sarah Hennies

Sarah Hennies is a composer based in upstate New York whose work is concerned with a variety of musical, sociopolitical, and psychological issues including queer & trans identity, love, intimacy, psychoacoustics, and percussion. She is primarily a composer of small chamber works, but is also active in improvisation, film, performance art, and dance. She presents her work internationally as both a composer and percussionist with notable performances at Le Guess Who (Utrecht), Festival Cable (Nantes), send + receive (Winnipeg), O' Art Space (Milan), The OBEY Convention (Halifax), Cafe Oto (London), ALICE (Copenhagen), and the Edition Festival (Stockholm). As a composer, she has received commissions across a wide array of performers and ensembles including Bearthoven, Bent Duo, Cristian Alvear, Claire Chase, R. Andrew Lee (Denver), LIMINAR, Thin Edge New Music Collective, Two-Way Street, and Yarn/Wire. Her ground breaking audio-visual work 'Contralto' (2017) explores transfeminine identity through the elements of "voice feminization" therapy, featuring a cast of transgender women accompanied by a dense and varied musical score. Sarah is currently Visiting Assistant Professor of Music at Bard.

March 17





Matmos

Currently based in Baltimore, Matmos formed in San Francisco in the mid 1990s, and self-released their debut album in 1997. Marrying the conceptual tactics and noisy textures of object-based musique concrete to a rhythmic matrix rooted in electronic pop music, the two quickly became known for their highly unusual sound sources ranging from amplified crayfish nerve tissue and liposuction surgery to gold coins and washing machines. These raw materials are manipulated into surprisingly accessible forms, and often supplemented by traditional musical instruments played by them and their large circle of collaborators. Past partnerships include a diverse roster of artists including Björk, Antony / Anohni, Sō Percussion, Terry Riley, Kronos Quartet, Robert Ashley, Robert Wilson, Princeton Laptop Orchestra, and many more. In addition to releasing ten studio albums, their work has been presented at internationally recognized venues including the Centre Pompidou, the BIG EARS festival, ISSUE Project Room, The Stone, Milton Court, and the Ultima Festival. Their most recent album, 'The Consuming Flame: Open Exercises in Group Form,' is a three-hour album highlighting contributions from 99 musicians and collaborators.

March 31





Lorem ipsum

Guillermo Galindo

The extent of the work of experimental composer, sonic architect, performance artist, and visual artist Guillermo Galindo, redefines the conventional limits between music, the art of music composition, and the intersections between art disciplines, politics, humanitarian issues, spirituality, and social awareness. Since 2011, Galindo has collaborated with lauded American photographer Richard Misrach on 'Border Cantos' - a traveling exhibit and an award-winning book features Misrach's photographs of the U.S./ Mexico border and Galindo's sonic devices and graphic musical scores created from detritus left behind by immigrants and the border patrol apparatus. Galindo's diverse body of work has been shown at major venues including documenta14, Art Basel, ICA Boston, Crystal Bridges Museum, and Pace Gallery, and his compositions have been performed at venues including the San Francisco Jazz Festival, San Francisco Electronic Music Festival, Schrin Kunsthalle, and The Paramount Theater. Galindo's 2016 work 'Remote Control' was commissioned by Kronos Quartet for their Fifty for the Future program. Presently, he teaches at the California College of Arts in San Francisco.

April 7





Tania León

Tania León is highly regarded as a composer, conductor, educator and advisor to arts organizations. Recent commissions include works for New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, NDR Symphony Orchestra, Grossman Ensemble, International Contemporary Ensemble, and pianist Ursula Oppens with Cassatt String Quartet. Appearances as guest conductor include Philharmonic Orchestra of Marseille, Gewandhausorchester, Orquesta Sinfonica de Guanajuato, and Orquesta Sinfónica de Cuba. Upcoming premieres feature commissions for the NewMusic USA Amplifying Voices Program, the League of American Orchestras in honor of Jesse Rosen, The Musical Fund Society in Philadelphia to celebrate their 200th anniversary, and for The Crossing chamber choir with Claire Chase, flutist, among others. Her honors include the New York Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award, awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the ASCAP Victor Herbert Award, among others. She also received a proclamation for Composers Now by New York City Mayor, and the MadWoman Festival Award in Music (Spain).

April 14



Hartt Composers' Seminar



The Hartt School
ALFRED C. FULLER MUSIC CENTER



Anthony R. Green

The creative output of Anthony R. Green (composer, performer, social justice artist) includes musical and visual creations, interpretations of original works or works in the repertoire, collaborations, educational outreach, and more. Behind all of his artistic endeavors are the ideals of equality and freedom, which manifest themselves in diverse ways in a composition, a performance, a collaboration, or social justice work. As a composer, his works have been presented in over 20 countries by artists including Hayk Melikyan, Eunmi Ko, ALEA III (conducted by Gunther Schuller), The Playground Ensemble, Transient Canvas, Ossia New Music Ensemble, Alarm Will Sound, and many others. He has also been a resident artist at the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, and the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, among others. His work has been recognized by grants from Meet the Composer, the Argosy Foundation, New Music USA, and the American Composers Forum. He is currently a fellow at the Berlin University of the Arts and co-founder, associate artistic director, and composer-in-residence with Castle of our Skins, an organization celebrating Black artistry through music.

February 17





Javier Colon

A distinguished alumnus of The Hartt School, singer-songwriter-guitarist Javier Colon was introduced to millions of TV viewers as the winner on the inaugural season of NBC's 'The Voice.' While a student at The Hartt School, he founded an a cappella R&B quintet that performed at Harlem's legendary Apollo Theater. Soon after graduating from Hartt with a degree in Music Education, he became lead singer of the neo-funk group EmCQ. When EmCQ opened for funk-jazz luminaries Soulive, Javier's talents drew the attention of Soulive guitarist Eric Krasno, whose recommendation led to him becoming lead singer of the Derek Trucks Band. In 2003 he released his first solo album 'Javier' on Capitol Records, following with 'Left of Center' in 2006. After Colon's win on The Voice, he received a recording contract with Universal Republic Records yielding the well-received album 'Come Through for You' as well as the EP 'A Very Acoustic Christmas.' Colon released his album 'Gravity' in 2016 on Concord Records. Other recent engagements have included a run of shows in Japan with renowned jazz saxophonist Dave Koz, and a series of concerts in Mexico and South America with Maroon 5.

March 3





Juhi Bansal

The music of Juhi Bansal weaves together themes celebrating musical and cultural diversity, nature and the environment, and strong female role models. As an Indian composer brought up in Hong Kong, her work draws subtly upon both of those traditions, entwining them closely and intricately with the gestures of western classical music. Current projects include 'Waves of Change,' a digital experience on womanhood, identity, and clash of cultures inspired by the story of the Bangladesh Girls Surf Club; and 'Edge of a Dream,' an opera about Ada Lovelace, a 19th Century pioneer in computing commissioned by Los Angeles Opera. Recent commissions include the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association, Beth Morrison Projects, New York Virtuoso Singers, the Oakland East Bay Symphony, and the AIDS Quilt Songbook 20th Anniversary project. Her music is regularly performed throughout the U.S., Europe, and Asia and is available on Naxos, Albany, and Roven Records. Awards received for her work include prizes from the Five Colleges New Music Festival Competition, Boston Metro Opera International Composers Competition, and multiple ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer awards.

March 24

WAVES OF
CHANGE



John King

John King, composer, guitarist and violist, has received commissions from the Kronos Quartet, Ethel, the Albany Symphony/"Dogs of Desire", Bang On A Can All-Stars, Mannheim Ballet, New York City Ballet/Diamond Project, Stuttgart Ballet, Ballets de Monte Carlo, as well as the Merce Cunningham Dance Co. His string quartets have also been performed by the Eclipse Quartet (LA) and the Mondriaan Quartet (Amsterdam), in addition to the Secret Quartet which has premiered many of his compositions at The Stone, The Kitchen, Lincoln Center Festival, and Roulette. He has been commissioned numerous times by the Brooklyn Youth Chorus, and collaborated with them on their "Black Mountain Songs" project, which premiered at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. He was Music Curator at The Kitchen from 1999-2003 and from 2002-2011 was a co-director of the Music Committee at MDC. He received the 2014 Award for Sound/Music from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, and is also the recipient of the 2009 Alpert Award in the Arts for Music. He has also been a Rockefeller Foundation/Bellagio Center Fellow, as well as in residence at the Emily Harvey Foundation in Venice, Italy.

April 21





Nathalie Joachim

Nathalie Joachim is a Grammy-nominated flutist, composer and vocalist. The Brooklyn born Haitian-American artist is hailed for being “a fresh and invigorating cross-cultural voice” (The Nation). She is co-founder of the critically acclaimed urban art pop duo, Flutronix, and comfortably navigates everything from classical to indie-rock, all while advocating for social change and cultural awareness. A 2020 United States Artist Fellow and 2019-20 Kaufman Music Center Artist-in-Residence, Joachim has performed and recorded with an impressive range of today’s most exciting artists and ensembles, including Bryce Dessner, Bonnie “Prince” Billy, Richard Reed Parry, Miguel Zenón, and the International Contemporary Ensemble, and is the former flutist of the contemporary chamber ensemble Eighth Blackbird. As a composer, Joachim is regularly commissioned to write for instrumental and vocal artists, dance, and interdisciplinary theater, each highlighting her unique electro-acoustic style. Joachim’s ‘Fanm d’Ayiti’ is an evening-length work for flute, voice, string quartet and electronics that celebrates some of Haiti’s most iconic yet under recognized female artists, and explores Joachim’s personal Haitian heritage.

April 28



