

San Francisco Bay Area

New Commissions

The Bay Area Chapter is pleased to announce the award winners for its first annual **Northern California Composers Commissioning Program (NCCCP)**. Each award is divided between the composer (80%) and the applicant performer or presenter (20%):

Composer **Linda Bouchard** will create a piece for viola, percussion, and electronics, to be performed by violist **Ellen Ruth Rose** and percussionist **Chris Froh** during the 2006-07 season; Composer **Kurt Rohde** will create a new work for the **San Francisco Chamber Orchestra** 2006-07 season; Composer/performer **Matt Small** will create new work in a jazz idiom for his ensemble, to be presented at the **San Francisco Community Music Center** in 2006.

One of the three NCCCP awards was reserved for a young and/or emerging composer, and Matt Small qualified as both (see also "subito in the Bay Area" below for more on Small's activities).

NCCCP is supported by the Fund for Artists, an initiative of the Ford, James Irvine, and William & Flora Hewlett Foundations, and administered by the San Francisco Foundation.

Bay Area Readings

The next event in the chapter's popular *Reading Sessions* series will feature the venerable San Francisco new music ensemble **EARPLAY** and is scheduled for June 10 in the Chorissima Recital Hall at the Kanbar Arts Center (44 Page Street, San Francisco).

There will be two reading sessions that day: from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and from 2-5 p.m. Composers are invited to submit their scores for Earplay's consideration; Details are available on our website: www.sfcomposersforum.org

subito in the Bay Area

Bay area composer **Matt Small** presented a successful performance with his Chamber Ensemble at Old First Concerts in San Francisco. The concert, supported in part by a chapter *subito* grant, showcased Small's work in a jazz idiom to an enthusiastic audience. The award was earmarked for rehearsal and promotional costs, and Small was able to appear on three local radio programs to publicize his concert.

"*subito* is an extremely important program for composers, performers, and their communities, and gives vital support to artists in a timely and uncomplicated manner, allowing them to get their creative work out to the public," said Small. "This grant allowed me the vital opportunity to rehearse and perform my work at a level which does it justice. Thank you, ACF, for implementing such a needed program!"

Community Partnerships

With the assistance of a chapter *Community Partners* grant, Bay area composer **Jonathan Norton** and choreographer **Erin Mei-Ling Stuart** created "How to See Red," a new work for EmSpace Dance. The performance at the Dance Mission Theater in San Francisco drew a large and appreciative audience.

Choreographer Stuart credits the Bay Area chapter with giving her company the rare opportunity to commission original music for their work, and composer Norton says the project introduced him to an entirely new community of choreographers and dancers. "This grant program is not only greatly appreciated," said Norton, "but is necessary for collaborations such as this to come to fruition." ♦



Photo: Stuart Brinin

Matt Small's Bay Area Chamber Ensemble (left to right): Rachel Condry, Paula Dreyer, Steve Adams, Mitch Marcus, Kymry Esainko, Sarah Jo Zaharako, and Matt Small.

Los Angeles

ASCAP Exposure

As we go press, ACF Los Angeles Chapter (acFLA) Board President **Alex Shapiro** is scheduled to join **Phillip Blackburn**, the Forum's Director of Artist Services, on a panel at ASCAP's "I Create Music" Expo in Los Angeles (April 20-22, 2006). Their April 21 panel will discuss how advocacy organizations like ACF can help artists working outside the mainstream music business. Moderated by **Frances Richard**, ASCAP's Director of Symphonic and Concert Music, the panel will also feature composer **Frank J. Oteri**, Editor of the American Music Center's *New Music Box* online magazine, and composer **Ed Harsh**, Vice President of Meet the Composer.

New on Board

acFLA welcomes two new board members: conductor and composer **Marc Lowenstein** and poet and publisher **Kate Gale**. ♦

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Musicvists.org provides access to the only national database of online resources from the professional non-profit music sector in America and is a project of the National Music Coalition. Musicvists.org is the one place where users can access information from the web sites of eight of the nation's leading music service organizations. Users may browse and search for materials, information, and other resources in six main areas.



The current partners in the National Music Partnership/Coalition represent the fields of classical, jazz, opera, and other forms of art and concert music and include the American Composers Forum, American Music Center, American Symphony Orchestra League, Association of Performing Arts Presenters, Chamber Music America, Chorus America, Meet the Composer, and OPERA America.

Musicvists.org was made possible with the generous support of The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.



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Phillip Schroeder:
Move in the Changing Light
innova 655

Seven chamber works by **Phillip Schroeder** written for voices, cello, piano, synthesizer, electric bass, percussion, and digital delays. Performances by soprano **Amy McGinty**, baritone **Robert Best**, cellist **Daniel Cline**, with the composer on keyboards and electronics.



Neil Rolnick:
Digits
innova 656

Four pieces by **Neil Rolnick**: the title track performed by **Kathleen Supova**; a Philip Levine song-cycle "Making Light Of" sung by **Peter Eldridge**; "A Robert Johnson Sampler" performed by the composer; and "Plays Well With Others" with the **Paul Dresher Ensemble's Electro-Acoustic Band**.