



American Composers Alliance

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The American Composers Alliance Presents
NEW MUSIC MATTERS!
Festival of American Music 2008, June 4-7
Leonard Nimoy Thalia at Symphony Space

Five Live Concerts
More than 30 award-winning composers and performers

As always, this year's festival reflects the extraordinary stylistic diversity of both upcoming and well-established composers from all over the United States. Festival composers and performers will come together from all points north, south, east, and west – New York, California, Maine, Ohio, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Minnesota, Arizona, New Mexico, France, and South Africa.

Please join us for these rousing events:

This year, opening night is rare event concert – all new choral works performed by one of New York's finest professional choral ensembles, the New York Virtuoso Singers, with conductor Harold Rosenbaum, will feature music by MacArthur Foundation "Genius" award recipient, John Eaton; Gaudeamus Foundation award recipient Elliott Schwartz; and American Academy of Arts and Letters Award recipients Louis Karchin (a composer of "fearless eloquence" – *The New Yorker*), and Edward Jacobs, among others. During this concert, ACA will present the 2008 Laurel Leaf Award to conductor Harold Rosenbaum, for his longtime dedication to fostering and promoting new works by American composers.

On Thursday, works by younger composers will be presented alongside works by established ACA composers. Tony Lanman's *The New Style* and Nathan Bowen's *Cassia*, a short burst of a piece for six players, will juxtapose with Elliott Schwartz's Suite for Viola and Piano, and Joyce Hope Suskind's moving *Meditations on War and Peace*. Top new-music performers, soprano Nicole Pantos, pianist Kathy Tagg, and Laurence Goldman, double bassist, among many others, will create a memorable event.

World-premiere string quartets and other chamber works will fill Friday evening with Jan Gilbert's *Of Heloise: Four Song Settings of the Poetry of Judith Infante* (Nancy Ogle, soprano solo), along with quartets by Richard Brooks and Robert Ceely, plus *How You Go*, a fantastical line-drawing in sound, for cello, percussion, and harp, by Lewis Nielson.

Saturday afternoon, another world premiere, the complete piano version of Marc Blitzstein's ballet, *CAIN* (1930), shelved by Stokowski due to funding cuts during the Depression, and never brought to life until now. Blitzstein considered this one of his best works. Plus, a rich variety of other chamber music, including Elizabeth Bell's *Night Music* for piano, Margaret Fairlie-Kennedy's large ensemble piece, *Summer Solstice*, performed by the acclaimed Second Instrumental Unit, conducted by Marc D. Williams, and Beth Wiemann's work for clarinet and piano, *Erie, on the Periphery*, performed by Ben Fingland and Marilyn Nonken.

The final concert on Saturday evening will bring electronics into Thalia with John Melby's *In Darkness*, for Patricia Sonogo, soprano, and computer playback, and Joel Gressel's *An Orderly Transition*, also for soprano and computer-generated sounds. We will hear Second Instrumental Unit perform two movements of Hubert Howe's Symphony No. 3, the first movement of which was presented at last year's festival. Longtime ACA member, Raoul Pleskow, calls his "Piece for 8 instruments" a "mini trumpet concerto" for small forces.

Also on Saturday evening, Robert Carl's *A Clean Sweep*, is a work for shakuhachi flutes and electroacoustic accompaniment, generated by the MAX/MSP program. The flutes will be played by Elizabeth Brown and the composer. Richard Cameron-Wolf's cantata, *A Measure of Love and Silence*, features the poetry of Russian émigré, Tatyana Apraksina. Burton Beerman ("excellent ear for sound color" –*Village Voice*) presents a new work for soprano voice and piano, featuring a text by award-winning playwright Raymond Brent Beerman—an expressive conversation between the writer and his teenage son.

**All concerts take place at the Leonard Nimoy Thalia at Symphony Space,
2537 Broadway at 95th Street, in Manhattan.**

Buy Tickets at: Symphony Space www.symphonyspace.org

Or Call: 212-864-5400 box office

\$15 per person

\$5 students

\$ 50 Festival pass

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