

c o n t e m p o

CONTEMPORARY CHAMBER PLAYERS

| a new music collective

45TH SEASON | 2009/2010

Shulamit Ran
Artistic Director

Cliff Colnot
Conductor



11.14.09 SAT | 7:30 PM

KNIGHT, DEATH, AND DEVIL

eighth blackbird
Pacifica Quartet

Karim Al-Zande: *Lamentations on the Disasters of War*, after the etchings by Goya
Fredric Rzewski: *Knight, Death, and Devil*
Laura Elise Schwendinger: *High Wire Act*
Andres Carrizo: *Fantasia Sobre "Soledad"*

Ganz Hall, Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Avenue, 7th Floor
University of Chicago Presents: 773.702.8068
\$20 General Admission
\$5 students with valid ID

Two visual masterworks, Dürer's *Knight, Death, and Devil* and Goya's *Lamentation on the Disasters of War*, inspire uniquely personal statements by Fredric Rzewski and Karim Al-Zande on the theme of war. Piazzola's musical images trigger Andres Carrizo's deeply emotional *Fantasia Sobre "Soledad."* Laura Elise Schwendinger, in *High Wire Act*, conjures a brilliant sonic vision of Calder's wire circus figures.



Pacifica Quartet

01.16.10 SAT | 7:30 PM

DOUBLE BILL: CONTEMPO +
CHRIS POTTER/KENNY WERNER DUO

Cliff Colnot, conductor
eighth blackbird
Susanne Mentzer, mezzo-soprano
Chris Potter, saxophones
Kenny Werner, piano

Shawn Brogan Allison: *Towards the Flame*
Bernard Rands: "now again" – fragments from *Sappho*
Yu-Hui Chang: *Binge Delirium* for solo percussion
Kurt Weill: *September Song*

Harris Theater for Music and Dance
in Millennium Park | 205 E. Randolph
Harris Theater Box Office: 312.344.7777
harristheaterchicago.org
\$40/\$25 general admission
\$10 students with valid ID

Acclaimed mezzo-soprano Susanne Mentzer joins Contempo and guests for a performance of Bernard Rands' glowing "now again" – fragments from *Sappho*. The distinguished composer's 10-member ensemble piece, a poignantly masterful tale of love and loss, is flanked by Shawn Brogan Allison's haunting *Towards the Flame* and Yu-Hui Chang's *Binge Delirium*, a dazzling percussion solo. In the second half, jazz giants Chris Potter and Kenny Werner reunite for a one-time-only evening of improvisational "chamber music" you won't want to miss!

03.24.10 WED | 7:30 PM

SLIDE

eighth blackbird
with Rinde Eckert and Steve Mackey

Harris Theater for Music and Dance
in Millennium Park | 205 E. Randolph
Harris Theater Box Office: 312.344.7777
harristheaterchicago.org
\$30 General Admission
\$10 students with valid ID

This original story follows an enigmatic psychologist who struggles to describe and experiment, while examining others' reactions to a series of in-and-out-of-focus slides. *Slide* is an unmediated exploration of sound, movement, and image by two of America's most brilliantly original artists.



eighth blackbird

05.14.10 FRI | 7:30 PM

TOMORROW'S MUSICTODAY 1

Pacifica Quartet
eighth blackbird
Works by Iddo Aharony, Shawn Brogan Allison, Eric Brinkmann, Francisco Castillo Trigueros, Michael LaCroix
Fulton Recital Hall | 1010 E. 59th Street
Free admission

05.26.10 WED | 7:30 PM

TOMORROW'S MUSICTODAY 2

Cliff Colnot, conductor
Pacifica Quartet
eighth blackbird
Tony Arnold, soprano
John Zuckerman, tenor
Dissertation compositions by Alex J. Berezowsky, Simon Fink, April Mok
Ganz Hall, Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Avenue, 7th floor
Free admission

Quite possibly Chicago's best-kept musical secret. Come hear music by University of Chicago's doctoral candidates in composition. In this annual pair of end-of-the-year concerts, you'll encounter some of the most intriguing and accomplished young voices being heard anywhere today.



Inspired. Moved. Compelled.
Composers draw on the most diverse sources, from painting and myth, the mysteries of nature, or the horrors of devastation and war.... From these come sonic utterances that move, persuade, thrill, and delight.

Contempo's 45th season brings together the finest performers in programs that present some of today's best young composers, alongside renowned masters.

Celebrating the special bond they've formed with Contempo, Grammy-award resident artists *eighth blackbird* and Pacifica Quartet join forces at the beautiful Ganz Hall for the Chicago premiere of Fredric Rzewski's *Knight, Death, and Devil*, co-commissioned by the University of Chicago and Oberlin College. Contempo's renowned annual double bill, now at the Harris Theater, features Bernard Rands' passion-filled "now again" – *fragments from Sappho* for ten-piece ensemble followed by a once-in-a-lifetime duo reunion of extraordinary jazz saxophonist Chris Potter and legendary pianist Kenny Werner.

"To every score the performers...brought a dedication, virtuosity and intensity of feeling new music needs but doesn't often receive."

– *Chicago Tribune*

"...a winning combination of intriguing music and superb performers"

– *Chicago Sun-Times*

The work of acclaimed New York artist Rebekah Boyer has been exhibited throughout the country. Pictured throughout are details from *Illuminati* (2007-2008), *Fetish Rescue* (2002), *Emeralds in the Fish Bowl* (2000), *Dingy* (2000), *Blue Boat* (2000). Rebekah Boyer is the exclusive artist for Contempo.

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The University of Chicago Presents
5720 South Woodlawn Avenue
Room 100
Chicago, Illinois 60637

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