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”
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