Bracing, stimulating, upliftling, haunting, spiritual, disturbing, absorbing... beautiful, too! The best in new music – and the Contempo vision!

I invite you to share in the excitement of a season that celebrates the 50th anniversary of Contempo, the Contemporary Chamber Players – a stunning record of longevity and commitment to scaling musical heights in the present tense. Hear world premieres of Contempo commissions by three iconic composers, John Eaton, Sofia Gubaidulina, and Gunther Schuller; experience the rich harvest of UChicago doctoral students past and present; and 50th season opens with

Contempo's second program also highlights works from across its generations. Two commissions anchor this program, one by the remarkable dean of American music, Gunther Schuller, and another by venerated Russian composer Sofia Gubaidulina, who received an honorary doctorate in 2011 from the University of Chicago.

Contempo's resident ensembles and guests showcase highlights of the repertoire created by past and present UChicago doctoral composition students. The emerging composers' active engagement with the University's faculty and performers define Contempo's dedication to the living art of composition.

Shulamit Ran, Artistic Director

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Tickets: $25 / $5 students
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Art Hall's Western Channels; Howard Sandroff: chants des femmes

Gunther Schuller: Four Adventures (world premiere)

Earl Kim: Now and Then

Sofia Gubaidulina: Pilgrime (world premiere)

Cliff Colnot, conductor

eighth blackbird

Pacifica Quartet

Michelle Arzaga, soprano

Alison Altar, harp

Lisa Kaplan, piano

Mary Stolper, flute

Collins Tier, double bass

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Now in its 50th year, Contempo continues as the vanguard of adventurous new works and cutting-edge programs. Under the direction of Artistic Director Shulamit Ran, Contempo introduces audiences to the bold visions of today’s most innovative composers.