

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING AND CINEMATIC ARTS

Boyer College of Music and Dance

conTemplum SoundPrints I

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 • 7:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

1715 N. Broad Street

Philadelphia, PA 19122



Program

Prime (2021)

Hannah Selin

Lucas Conant, vibraphone and percussion
William Valencia, double bass
virtual performance

Watercolor Refuge (2019-2021)

Negar Ghasemi

Malinda Voell, flute
Negar Ghasemi, piano

3223 (2018/2021)

Alex Glass

Alex Glass, piano

Music for Piano and Flute - Preludium (2021)

Morgan Moss

Morgan Moss, piano
Dayna Dengler, flute

Perfect Children (2019)
Minister (2021)

Hey

Hey, voice
with computer accompaniment

Program Notes

Prime

Hannah Selin

Prime is a semi-bombastic joy ride through synthetic forests of mixed meters. The atmosphere of hazy harmonies was derived from randomly generated, but humanly selected, prime number frequencies.

Cicadas hatch in 13 and 17 year cycles, and scientists have hypothesized that these prime intervals granted them an evolutionary advantage. The lack of synchronicity between prime number cycles helped ensure that successive generations of cicadas had enough food to eat when they hatched, increasing their chance of survival.

Watercolor Refuge

Negar Ghasemi

Writing a program note for this work, I am mostly reciting the life story of Negar. I have always struggled to make something standard or “ordinarily normal,” and that may be the direction of my life, and where this music comes from, and how this program note is written. “Refuge” refers to my story with the three people (a close friend, my love partner, and my mother) that have acted as my escape zone during the difficulties of life and of my identity/existential crisis. “Watercolor” is, perhaps, a late life-long metaphor to me since the day that I began to interact with Impressionism. Imagine the idea of stains, or the low opacity within a watercolor painting; and then, getting further and further to notice the entirety of an image, with lots of colors, and a smooth feeling of instability. I have been astigmatic since seven, hence my glasses serve me as an edge-keeper for the pictures that I see; ironically, it is very comforting and calming to me sometimes to set my glasses aside and look at the objects in their color and approximate (not definite) shape. By that, I express three dominant ideas that have affected my life, personality, and philosophy: approximation, duality, and entirety (or being a whole). The theme was developed as an improvisation three years ago, as I was experimenting with my piano to prove my theory wrong that I am not able to compose. At that time, I discovered the tendency of my ear for modal music. Later, the timbre of flute seemed suitable to accompany the piano through the journey for this modal music.

Using active collaboration between flute and piano, the work is intended to narrate colors and stains of a whole atmosphere.

3223

Alex Glass

Inspired by the rhythms of Bela Bartok's Bulgarian Dances, 3223 is a short piano composition that uses the eponymous rhythm as its driving core. The piece explores various ideas within the confines of the odd meter while creatively navigating between keys, textures, and levels of intensity.

Music for Piano and Flute - Preludium

Morgan Moss

Music for Piano and Flute - Preludium is vaguely named intentionally... The music was written about the search for inner peace, but the place and time where inner peace exists is different for every person. For me, the need for inner peace was unquenchable at the close of the 2021 school year, and was finally found on a cold, empty beach in late springtime. I invite you to travel to a place and time where you've found inner peace, wherever it may be, and let the music guide you there.

Perfect Children; Minister

Hey

Perfect Children is a song about struggle, slow and romantic as it builds up to a free and hopeful beat. *Minister* is an upbeat song and dance, a chance to show two kinds of music I love.

About the Artists

Composer, violist and vocalist **HANNAH SELIN** juxtaposes acoustic instruments and voices with electronics and field recordings to create striking and vibrant sound-spaces. She grew up in southeastern Pennsylvania helping her parents caretake a cemetery and listening to her mother write songs on scordatura guitar. Her music carries from this a sense of the supernatural, a closeness with the earth, and a fascination with all things resonant. She is currently working on *Pieces of Place*, a series of electroacoustic chamber pieces that explore the effects of global warming on places she's called home.

Hannah's music has been commissioned and performed by ensembles and soloists including Brooklyn Metro Chamber Orchestra, Chromic Duo, S.E.M. Ensemble, and vocalist Stephanie Lamprea. Her sound installations have been featured at Metropolitan Gallery 250 in Philadelphia, PA and the Tower Hill School in Wilmington, DE, where she collaborated with visual and textile artist Anne Yoncha. She has collaborated with choreographers Ellenore Scott (Broadway Dance Center) and Lydia Hance (Frame Dance Productions). Hannah is co-founder and lead singer with the band GADADU, and a founding member of Xanthoria Quartet.

Born in Iran, **NEGAR GHASEMI** is an undergraduate student, studying piano performance at Temple University. She began her studies in piano at the age of four in her mother's music school. By the age of eight, she began to attend festivals overseas, including Syria, Slovakia, and Hungary where she took advantage of the master classes. She then entered a music high school in Karaj. Followed by her immigration to the United States, she continued her education as a music major and clarinet player at the FLC school in Philadelphia. During that time, she was invited by Hugh Sung to be featured in an episode for the Cunningham Piano Show. She furthered her studies in music by taking music lessons with teachers including Kayoko Segawa, Emiko Edwards, Meng Hao, and Sean Bailey. In addition, she had the opportunity to play as a member in the Philadelphia All-City concert band and PMEA District 12 concert band, under the instruction of musicians such as Deborah Confredo and Joseph Conyers, while taking advantage of performances with musicians such as Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Don Liuzzi. After entering Boyer

College in 2019, under the instruction of Sara Davis Buechner as her primary piano professor, she began to further her experience in piano performance and piano pedagogy. Followed by her experience, she founded Pianozi, a piano pedagogy team providing lessons for Iranians around the world. She serves as a director and teacher for the team, with the hope to bring a new mindset into the piano teaching system within Iran and to offer piano lessons using a structure that follows the global standards. She is also very passionate about composing, the field in which she wants to expand her experience to share her ideas.

ALEX GLASS (b. 2000) is a composer and pianist from Cherry Hill, NJ. He started composing at the age of seven and has since written for chamber orchestra, voice, jazz big band, solo piano, and numerous chamber groups. In his compositions, Alex draws heavy inspiration from classical piano repertoire, jazz harmonic and melodic language, odd rhythms and meters, and innovative textures and timbres. As a performer, Alex can be seen playing his own piano compositions as well as those of other students, and he can also be found playing in various jazz ensembles in the Philadelphia area. He can also be seen playing keyboard in the Sonorants, a Bollywood/jazz fusion group based in South Jersey. Alex will receive a Bachelor's Degree in Music Composition in 2022 from the Boyer College of Music and Dance at Temple University, where he currently studies with Dr. William Dougherty.

MORGAN KELLY MOSS has been playing piano and studying music since she was three, and is currently a composition and piano performance double major at Temple University Boyer College of Music and Dance. Recently, Moss's *The Brook* for flute, clarinet, piano, and voice was selected in a call for scores by the Allentown Symphony Orchestra. She was also recently accorded Emerging Composer by Tribeca New Music Competition for her piano trio "Storks." Moss studies composition with the highly respected composers Dr. Maurice Wright and Prof. Jan Krzywicki, and additionally studies piano under world-renowned pianist Sara Davis

Buechner. She loves to perform, and was most recently featured in a solo piano recital at the Tenri Cultural Institute in New York City. Moss is also very active in scoring music for film, and has composed for five award-winning short films in her career so far at Temple University, the most recent nomination being for best music in a short film. She is also very proud to be a teacher of piano, composition, theory, and voice at the Music Studio of Patricia Keith in Boyertown, PA. Moss is very passionate about her music and would like to share this joy with as many people as she can, whether it is through listening, teaching, or collaborating. Moss plans to graduate from Temple University in 2022 and continue her studies as a composer and pianist at the graduate level.

HEY (pronounced “hi”) is a self-learning composer and songwriter. He says, “I want to live myself through performing, but things can get very tough when you don’t have anything but the dream. So I am now exploring; every self-hatred today is my sympathy tomorrow for myself.”

Boyer College of Music and Dance

The Boyer College of Music and Dance offers over 500 events open to the public each year. Students have the unique opportunity to interact with leading performers, composers, conductors, educators, choreographers and guest artists while experiencing a challenging and diverse academic curriculum. The Boyer faculty are recognized globally as leaders in their respective fields. Boyer alumni are ambassadors of artistic leadership and perform with major orchestras, opera and dance companies, teach at schools and colleges and work as professional music therapists, choreographers and composers. Boyer's recording label, BCM&D records, has produced more than thirty recordings, three of which have received Grammy nominations.

boyer.temple.edu

The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts

The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts consists of the Boyer College of Music and Dance, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts, the George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater and the Temple Performing Arts Center. The School of Theater, Film and Media Arts engages gifted students with nationally and internationally recognized faculty scholars and professionals. A hallmark of the School of Theater, Film and Media Arts is the Los Angeles Study Away program, housed at historic Raleigh Studios. The George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater engages visiting performers, guest artists, set designers, playwrights and other Broadway professionals. The Temple Performing Arts Center (TPAC), a historic landmark on campus, is home to a state-of-the-art 1,200 seat auditorium and 200 seat chapel. More than 500 concerts, classes, lectures and performances take place at TPAC each year.

arts.temple.edu

Temple University

Temple University's history begins in 1884, when a young working man asked Russell Conwell if he could tutor him at night. It wasn't long before he was teaching several dozen students—working people who could only attend class at night but had a strong desire to make something of themselves. Conwell recruited volunteer faculty to participate in the burgeoning night school, and in 1888 he received a charter of incorporation for "The Temple College." His founding vision for the school was to provide superior educational opportunities for academically talented and highly motivated students, regardless of their backgrounds or means. The fledgling college continued to grow, adding programs and students throughout the following decades. Today, Temple's more than 35,000 students continue to follow the university's official motto—*Perseverantia Vincit*, or "Perseverance Conquers"—with their supreme dedication to excellence in academics, research, athletics, the arts and more.

Temple University 2021-2022 Season

Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 21 at 4:30-6:30pm

Rite of Swing Jazz Café: Eli Zukor Group

Eli Zukor, bass

Lora Sherrodd, vocals

Evan Kappelman, saxophone

Oliver Mayman, piano

Larry Shaw, drums

Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

Thursday, October 21 at 7:00pm

World Music Lecture-Performance: Philly Trad: Irish traditional music on accordion, harp, and fiddle

John McGillian, button accordion

Allyn Miner, fiddle and concertina

Ellen Tepper, harp

Temple Performing Arts Center

Friday, October 22 at 4:00pm

Music Studies Colloquium Series: Patrick de Caumette. Master Class: "The Contemporary Artist: Harnessing Technology in Performance and Production"

Rock Hall Auditorium

Monday, October 25 at 7:30pm

Temple University Percussion Ensemble

Phillip O'Banion, director

Temple Performing Arts Center

Tuesday, October 26 at 2:30pm

Dance Studies Colloquium Series: Ketu H. Katrak, University of California, Irvine

Curating Crisis, Excess, Spillage: Live Art in South Africa

Presented on Zoom

Wednesday, October 27 at 7:30pm

Early Music Ensemble

Rock Hall Auditorium

Temple University 2021-2022 Season

Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 28 at 4:30-6:30pm

Rite of Swing Jazz Café: Kirsten Grace Group

Kirsten Grace, vocals

Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

Friday, October 29 at 1:00-2:30pm

Music Studies Colloquium Series: Heather Mease, "Sampling Media, Nostalgia, and the Texture of Decay"

Rock Hall Auditorium

Friday, October 29 at 7:30pm

Saturday October 30 at 7:30pm

Dance Alumni Showcase

Tickets: \$20 General Admission, \$15 students/senior citizens, \$10

Temple employees, \$5 Temple student with OWLcard. Available at

boyer.temple.edu, 215.204.1122, in-person at the Temple Arts Box

Office (Tomlinson Theater lobby, 1301 W. Norris St., Mon-Fri

12-6pm), or at the venue 45 minutes before each performance. Credit, debit and checks only. Cash not accepted.

Conwell Dance Theater

Saturday, October 30 at 7:30pm

conTemplum: Insomnia Sounds

Rock Hall Auditorium

Saturday, October 30 at 7:30pm

Monday, November 1 at 7:30pm

Wednesday, November 3 at 7:30pm

Temple University Opera Theater

DEBUSSY/CONSTANT *Impressions de Pelléas*

Joseph Mechavich, music director

Copeland Woodruff, stage director

Jamie Johnson, producer

Tickets: \$25 general admission, \$20 seniors/students/Temple employees, \$10 Temple students, (plus applicable service fees).

Available at temple.edu/boyer, 215.204.1122 or Temple Arts Box Office (in Tomlinson Theater Lobby at 1301 W. Norris St., Mon-Fri, 12pm-6pm.

Temple Performing Arts Center

Temple University 2021-2022 Season Upcoming Events

Wednesday, November 3 at 7:30pm

Senior Recital: Brian Morris Jr., jazz saxophone
Klein Recital Hall

Thursday, November 4 at 4:30-6:30pm

Rite of Swing Jazz Café: Micah Graves Ensemble
Micah Graves, piano
Danielle Dougherty, vocals
Yesseh Furaha Ali, saxophone
Banks Sapnar, trumpet
Zachary Guise, bass
Donovan Pope, drums
Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

Saturday, November 6 at 3:00pm

Diamond Marching Band Indoor Concert
Matthew Brunner, conductor
Temple Performing Arts Center

Monday, November 8 at 6:00pm

Presser Award Recital: Ali Hodges
Temple Performing Arts Center Chapel

Monday, November 8 at 7:30pm

Master's Recital: Marcelyn Lebovitz, mezzo-soprano
Rock Hall Auditorium

Tuesday, November 9 at 7:30pm

Temple University Singing Owls
HANDEL *Hallelujah, Amen*
FORREST *The Music of Living*
DILWORTH *Sanctus*
TATE *Gate, Gate*
Rollo Dilworth, conductor
Temple Performing Arts Center