55 Taylor Street, San Francisco, CA, 94102/ E4TT.org/ (510) 646-7000

Media Contacts:
Nanette McGuinness / nanette@E4TT.org
David Garner / dgarner@sfcm.edu
Andrew Harlan/ publicity@E4TT.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 12, 2018

Ensemble for These Times

announces its

2018/19 Season: E4TT Goes to the Movies

with performances by

Soprano Nanette McGuinness, Cellist Anne-Lerner-Wright, and Pianist Dale Tsang
And Guest Appearances by English hornist Laura Reynolds, Violinist Ilana Blumberg,
Violist Julie Michael, and Pianists Karen Rosenak and Xin Zhao

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

"Emigres & Exiles in Hollywood"
With rarely heard works by composers who fled pre-WW2 Europe in the 1930s and '40s

"The Film *Noir* Project"
With World Premieres by Aleksandra Vrebalov, David Garner, Lennie Moore, and Polina Nazaykinskaya, presented in collaboration with the San Francisco Conservatory of Music

"56 x 54: But Wait! There's More!"
With more premieres and works from E4TT's Call for Scores, plus music by Elena Ruehr, Laura Schwendinger, Missy Mazzoli, Sarah Kirkland Snider, and Shulamit Ran

San Francisco — As its extraordinarily successful Tenth Anniversary Season comes to a close, contemporary chamber group **Ensemble for These Times**—Nanette McGuinness, soprano, Anne Lerner-Wright, cello, Dale Tsang, piano, and co-founder/composer David Garner—eagerly announces its 2018/2019 Home Season, titled "**E4TT Goes to the Movies."** The centerpiece of the 11th season will be the group's newest commissioning initiative, "**The Film *Noir* Project,"** with music inspired by the classic film noir period of 1940's Hollywood; this concert program will include works by Aleksandra Vrebalov, Polina Nazaykinsaka, Lennie Moore, Stacy Garrop, and David Garner, plus that of the winner of the "Best Sound Track to a *Noir* Film Clip Student Competition, in collaboration with the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Season programming will also include **"Emigres & Exiles in Hollywood,"** with classical compositions by some of the great Hollywood composers of the 30's and 40's; **"But Wait! There's More!"** the continuation of the group's **56 x 54 series**, featuring one World Premiere, four West Coast Premieres, and music by eight women composers, including Elena Ruehr, Laura Schwendinger, Missy Mazzoli, Sarah Kirkland Snider, and Shulamit Ran; a return appearance on **SF Music Day**; and a program of selections of the group's acclaimed **"Guernica" Project**.

E4TT's 11th Home Season

Ensemble for These Times will present its 2018/19 Home Season at various venues from September 2018 through June 2019. The 11th season, titled **"E4TT Goes to the Movies,**" focuses especially on classical music by film composers and new music relating to film. The season will kick off on September 30, 2018, with E4TT's return appearance on InterMusic SF's **SF Music Day** at the San Francisco War Memorial Veterans Building, for which the group will reprise *Die eichne Tür* (The Oak Door) (2017), **David Garner's** setting of Paul Celan's poem for soprano, English horn, violin, cello, and piano; joining soprano **Nanette McGuinness** and cellist **Anne Lerner-Wright** on this program will be guest artists **Laura Reynolds** (English horn), **Ilana Blumberg** (violin), and **Xin Zhao** (piano.)

E4TT's first full-length recital of the season will be presented on October 17 (405 Shrader, San Francisco) and October 18 (Berkeley Piano Club), and will be the group's first exploration into the year's Hollywood theme in a program titled **"Emigres & Exiles in Hollywood.**" This concert (again featuring guest pianist Zhao, with McGuinness and Lerner-Wright) will include rarely-performed classical works by a number of the extraordinarily gifted composers who fled Europe in the 1930s and '40s, some of whom—such as **Franz Waxman** (1905-1967)**, Alexandre Tansman** (1897-1986)**, Erich Korngold** (1897-1957)**,** John Williams' teacher **Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco** (1895-1968), **Andre Previn** (b. 1929), and **Miklós Rozsa** (1907-1995)—would go on to win multiple Academy Awards and are credited with creating the characteristic Hollywood sound that shaped what we hear at the movies today. Others, such as 12-tone composer **Arnold Schoenberg** (1874-1945), **Ernst Toch** (1987-1964), and **Eric Zeisl** (1905-1959) continued their roles as seminal composers and major teachers in their adopted home in America, deeply influencing the course of classical music in this country. "Emigres & Exiles" will also include selections from E4TT's April 2018 release, **"The Hungarians: From Rozsa to Justus,"** which won a Gold Medal in the 2018 Global Music Awards, and will be the focus of the ensemble's November tour to UCLA and the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust.

The 2018/19 season will continue on January 26, 2019 at the Center for New Music in San Francisco with "**56 x 54: But Wait! There's More!,"** the penultimate concert in E4TT's 2016 **Call for Scores**. For this concert, McGuinness, Lerner-Wright, Zhao, and guest violist **Julie Michael** will perform seven works from the 56 x 54 call, including a piece by **Jerry Casey** (b. 1933); West Coast Premieres by **Melanie Mitrano** (b. 1968) and **Loretta Notareschi** (b. 1977); and a World Premiere by **Carlos Dos Santos** (Brazil, b. 1990.) The program will also include works by six award-winning women composers not part of the Call for Scores—2014 Guggenheim Fellow **Elena Ruehr** (b. 1963), 1999 Berlin Prize Winner **Laura Schwendinger** (b. 1962), 1990 Pulitzer Prize winner (the second by a woman) **Shulamit Ran** (b. 1949), 2018 Chicago Symphony Orchestra Composer-in-Residence **Missy Mazzoli** (b. 1980), 1999 Guggenheim Fellow **Tamar Diesendruck** (b. 1946) and 2014 Detroit Symphony Orchestra Elaine Lebenbom Memorial Award winner **Sarah Kirkland Snider** (b. 1973)—along with West Coast Premieres by emerging composers **Scott Etan Feiner** (b. 1997), **Sam Krahn** (b. 1981), and **Derek Jenkins** (b. 1986), plus **Dan Senn** (b. 1951) and E4TT's co-founder and resident composer, **David Garner** (b. 1954).

The highlight of E4TT's 11th season will be **"The Film *Noir* Project**," to be presented at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music on April 6. This concert program—the group's homage to things musical and the great *noir* period of American film in the 30's and 40's—will include World Premieres of *noir*-themed works by one of the participants in the Kronos Quartet's "Fifty for the Future" project, Serbian-American

composer **Aleksandra Vrebalov** (b. 1972); the emerging Russian-American composer, **Polina Nazaykinskaya** (b.1987), whom E4TT first encountered in its Call for Scores; **Lennie Moore** (b. 1961), a member of the Technology and Applied Composition (TAC) faculty at the San Francisco Conservatory; and David Garner. This event is a co-production with **MaryClare Brzytwa** and the TAC Department, and will also feature the winner of the "Best Sound Track to a Film Noir Clip Student Competition," as well as "Noir Vignettes" (2014) for cello and piano by 2017 Barlow Prize winner **Stacy Garrop** (b. 1969), songs by award-winning *noir* film composer **Franz Waxman** (1905-1967), and "the great famine" (rev. 2016) by **Justin Merritt** (b. 1975), another work from E4TT's Call for Scores. Pianist Zhao will again join McGuinness and Lerner-Wright for this concert.

E4TT will call the 11th Season a wrap on June 5, 2019 with a performance of **"Music from Spain"** at Noon Concerts at 142 Throckmorton Theatre in Mill Valley. This concert will include selections from the group's acclaimed "**Guernica" Project** by **Jeffrey Hoover** (b. 1959), **Mercedes Zavala** (b. 1963), and David Garner, in preparation for bringing these works into the recording studio later in 2019. Other works on the program will include songs by **Isaac Albeniz** (1860-1909), from his rarely performed *Cuatro últimas canciones*; and by **Manuel de Falla** (1874-1964), from his much-loved *Siete canciones populares españoles.* McGuinness and Lerner-Wright will be joined by Karen Rosenak for this recital.

About the Artists

Violinist **ILANA BLUMBERG** has appeared across the United States and internationally, in solo appearances with the San Francisco Symphony, the Albany Symphony (NY), Symphony Napa Valley, and the Merced Symphony, as well as performances at the prestigious Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, the Marlboro Music Festival, the La Jolla Summerfest as a 'Rising Star', the Aspen Music Festival, and many others. She appears frequently throughout the Bay Area with the Marin, Silicon Valley, West Edge Opera, Berkeley, and California Symphonies, as well as with the Golden Gate String Quartet, eco ensemble, and Left Coast Chamber Ensemble.

Cellist **ANNE LERNER-WRIGHT** completed her B.A. in Music at Northwestern University as a Cello Performance major after three years as a Spanish Literature major at Bryn Mawr College, earning a M.M. in cello performance at the g San Francisco Conservatory, where she earned a Master of Music in Cello Performance. She has performed with numerous Bay Area orchestras and is a sought-after chamber musician and performer of contemporary music. A dedicated educator, she also conducts two youth orchestras in the Marin Symphony Youth Program, is on the faculty of both College of Marin and of Dominican University.

Soprano and E4TT co-founder and co-director **NANETTE MCGUINNESS** has performed in 11 languages on two continents in over 25 roles with the Silesian State (Czech Republic), Opera San Jose (Opera in the Schools), and West Bay, Pacific Repertory, Trinity Lyric, and Livermore Valley Operas, among others. Solo concert engagements include Mahler's Fourth Symphony, as well as *Shéhérézade* (Ravel), *Nuits d'étés* (Berlioz), *Stabat Mater* (Rossini), Requiem (Fauré), Gloria (Vivaldi), *Lord Nelson Mass* (Haydn), *Vesperae Solennes* (Mozart), and Handel's *Messiah* and *Solomon*. Her CD of music by 19th and 20th century women composers, *Fabulous Femmes* (Centaur)—which was called "perfect for the song recital lover" by *Chamber Music Magazine*—features several premiere recordings.

Violist **JULIE MICHAEL** holds degrees from McGill University and the University of Michigan, where her principal teachers were André Roy, Lambert Chen, Yizhak Schotten, and Caroline Coade. Ms. Michael has pursued training in the Suzuki and Dalcroze methods and has been a member of La Pietà with Angèle Dubeau, the Michigan Philharmonic, and the Michigan Arab Orchestra. Julie has participated in the Bowdoin International Music Festival (US), Festival Eleazar de Carvalho (Brazil), and l'Académie de Musique Tibor Varga (Switzerland), performing in masterclasses with Nobuko Imai, Jean Sulem, Carol Rodland, and Irvine Arditti.

LAURA REYNOLDS is an active chamber and orchestral performer throughout Northern California. Principal oboist with the Santa Rosa Symphony, the California Symphony, and English horn with Marin Symphony, Ms. Reynolds is additionally a member of the wind Trois Bois and was a founding member of Citywinds, a San Francisco woodwind quintet dedicated to contemporary repertoire. She is a past participant in the Carmel Bach Festival and Sun Valley Music Festival and is currently a member of the applied faculty of Sonoma State University and the Pre-College and Extension Divisions at the SF Conservatory of Music.

Pianist **KAREN ROSENAK** recently retired from full-time teaching at UC Berkeley where she taught musicianship from 1990 until 2014. She also maintained a career as pianist and founding member with Bay Area new music ensembles, Earplay and Empyrean, and performed for a number of years with other new (and "old") music groups, including Haydn's fortepiano concerto with New Esterhazy Quartet in 2017; the San Francisco premiere in 2017 of Kurt Rohde's opera, *Never Was a Knight* with Left Coast Chamber Ensemble; and West Edge Opera's *Snapshot* events in 2017 and 2018. She currently serves part time as coordinator of piano instruction at UC Berkeley.

Pianist **XIN ZHAO** received a B.M. from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, studying with Mack McCray, and an M.M. in Chamber Music Performance, studying with Jon Nakamatsu. Zhao received the San Francisco Conservatory's Mirina Grin Award, and the second annual Kristin Pankonin Art Song Award, and was the First Place winner in the Fresno Music Club Awards, receiving the Bell T. Ritchie Award. Zhao has collaborated with the Master Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra and many prominent musicians including Menahem Pressler, Richard Fleischman, Pinchas Zukerman, Jeff Nuttall, members of Miro Quartet, and Jean-Michel Fonteneau. In 2016, Zhao's piano trio, the Capitoline, won the Berkeley Piano Club's Emerging Artist Award.

About Ensemble for These Times

E4TT consists of award-winning soprano and co-director Nanette McGuinness, Van Cliburn competitor pianist Dale Tsang, cellist Anne Lerner-Wright, and co-director and 2015 American Prize in Composition winner David Garner. The group focuses on 20th and 21st century music that is relevant, engaging, original and compelling—music that resonates with today and speaks to tomorrow, that harnesses the power of artistic beauty, intelligence, wit, lyricism, and irony to create a deep understanding of our times and the human condition. E4TT performed at the 2016 Krakow Culture Festival, was sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Budapest in 2014 for a four-city tour in Hungary, and made its international debut in Berlin. E4TT has performed locally at the German Consulate General, SF Conservatory of Music, Old First Concerts, JCC

Peninsula, Trinity Chamber Concerts, and Noontime Concerts, among other venues, has commissioned 18 works and two arrangements, and has been a fiscally-sponsored affiliate of InterMusic SF since 2011.

2018/19 SEASON: E4TT GOES TO THE MOVIES
CALENDAR LISTINGS
Sunday, September 30, 2018, TIME TBD, San Francisco
Members of E4TT (Nanette McGuinness, soprano, and Anne Lerner-Wright, cello) with Guest Artists Laura Reynolds (English horn), Ilana Blumberg (violin), and Xin Zhao (piano)
Repertoire: Nocturne by Alexandre Tansman; "Die eichne Tür" by E4TT composer David Garner
Venue: San Francisco War Memorial Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness
Tickets: Free
Info: www.intermusicsf.org

Friday, October 19, 2018 at 7 p.m. (San Francisco) & Saturday, October 20, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. (Berkeley)
"Emigres & Exiles in Hollywood"
E4TT with Guest Pianist Xin Zhao
Repertoire: Nocturnes and Mazurkas by Polish Alexandre Tansman; Op. 31 #3 (Der "Jongleur," 1923) for piano by Austrian-American Ernst Toch; "Chant hébraique" (1928) arranged for cello and piano, by Italian-American Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco; songs by Austrian-American Arnold Schoenberg, German/Polish-American Franz Waxman, Eric Zeisl and David Garner (from E4TT's award-winning first CD, "Surviving: Women's Words"); Serenade from *Der Schneemann* (1909) for cello and piano written by Czech-American prodigy Erich Korngold when he was only 11; Duo, Op. 8 (1931) for cello and piano by Hungarian-American Miklós Rózsa; and "Vocalise" (1995) by German-American Andre Previn (b. 1929). Selections of these works will be performed at 405 Shrader in San Francisco.
Venues: 405 Shrader Street, San Francisco and Berkeley Piano Club, 2724 Haste Street, Berkeley
Tickets: $30/15/$5
Info: www.E4TT.org/emigres.html or www.emigres.eventbrite.com

Saturday, January 26, 2019 at 7:30 pm, San Francisco
"56 x 54: But Wait! There's More!"
E4TT with Guests Violinist Ilana Blumberg, Violist Julie Michael and Pianist Xin Zhao
Repertoire: Music by nine women composers plus five more Call for Scores works (including one World and four West Coast Premieres): "A Map of Laughter" (2014) by Missy Mazzoli; "Prelude Variations" (2008) for viola and cello by Elena Ruehr; "All the Pretty Horses" (2009) for solo cello by Laura Schwendinger; "Connecting the Dots" (2011) for piano by Shulamit Ran; "Prelude" (1999) by Sarah Kirkland Snider; "Cartoon" (1987) by Tamar Diesendruck; songs from Phobias & Infatuations" (2007, West Coast premiere) by Melanie Mitrano; "Love Song #1" (1999) by Loretta Notareschi; "Anna's Song" (2013) by Jerry Casey; the World Premiere of "Eu Durmo Comigo" (2015) by Carlos Dos Santos; three more West Coast premieres from the Call for Scores: "Paper Money" (2015) by Scott Etan Feiner, songs from *"Nach Raum und Zeit"* (2011-13) by Derek Jenkins and "Missed Connections" (rev. 2014) by Sam Krahn, plus Microdramatic Song #3 (2010) by Dan Senn; also selections from "*Cinq Hommages"* (rev. 1987) for piano by David Garner.
Venue: Center for New Music, 55 Taylor Street, San Francisco
Tickets: $15/10/$5
Info: www.E4TT.org/56x54.html or https://centerfornewmusic.com/calendar/56x54-but-wait-theres-more/
Sunday, April 6, 2018 at 7:30 pm, San Francisco

The Film *Noir* Project

E4TT in a co-production with MaryClare Brzytwa and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Technology and Applied Composition Department, with Guest Pianist Xin Zhao

Repertoire: World Premieres of commissions inspired by film *noir* by Aleksandra Vrebalov (for solo piano), Polina Nazaykinskaya (for cello and piano), Lennie Moore, and David Garner (for solo cello; the winner of the "Best Sound Track for a *Noir* Film Clip Student Competition"; "Noir Vignettes" (2014, for cello and piano) by Stacy Garrop; "the great famine" (rev. 2016) for soprano and piano by Justin Merritt"; and *"Lied der Kaiserin*" (from *Ich und die Kaiserin*, 1933), "*Ewige Liebe gibt's nur im Roman!"* from *Das Kabinett des Dr. Larifari ,* 1930) and "The Wishing Star" (from *Taras Bulba*, 1962) by Franz Waxman.

Preview: CinemaLit Film Series, Mechanics' Institute, SF, March 29, 6 p.m.

Venue: Osher Salon, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 50 Oak St., San Francisco

Tickets: Free

Info: www.E4TT.org/noir.html or www.noirproject.eventbrite.com

Wednesday June 5, 2019 at 12 p.m., Mill Valley

"Music of Spain"

E4TT, including pianist Dale Tsang

Repertoire: Selections from E4TT's The "Guernica" Project: Mercedes Zavala's *El Colección de Haikus* (2002-5) for piano*;* "Burning Giraffe" (2015) for cello and piano by Jeffrey Hoover; *El alma y la memoria* (1995) and "Albeniz" (1987) by David Garner; songs from "*Cuatro últimas canciones"* ("Four Last Songs") (1908) by Isaac Albeniz and *Siete canciones populares españoles* (1914) by Manuel de Falla.

Venue: 142 Throckmorton Theatre, Mill Valley

Tickets: Free

Info: www.142throckmortontheatre.org

For more information about E4TT's 2018/19 Bay Area Home Season, please visit our website. For more about the ensemble's Call for Scores "56 x 54," please visit e4tt.org/56x54.html, e4tt.org/E4TT_C4S_2016composers.pdf, e4tt.org/2016c4sgallery.html. High resolution jpgs are available for download http://www.e4tt.org/presskit.html.

Check out our recordings:

E4TT's debut CD, *Surviving: Women's Words*, was released on the Centaur label in April 2016 and won a Silver Medal in the 2016 Global Music Awards; two of the songs on the CD have also been nominated as finalists in the 2017 Global Peace Song Awards. Lesley Mitchell-Clarke in *The Whole Note* wrote "Now more than ever, as the U.S. experiences a déjà vu of hatred and is poised on the brink of societal unravelling, the potent and timeless messages of survival, love, tolerance and forgiveness contained on this brilliant presentation need to resonate throughout the world."

E4TT's second CD, "**The Hungarians: From Rózsa to Justus**" (2018, Centaur) features a rarely heard cello duo by Hollywood movie maven (and Hungarian émigré) Miklós Rózsa (*Spellbound, Ben-Hur)*, along with works by three others of his compatriots who perished in the Holocaust, including the premiere recording of a work by the young Lajos Delej, and an end-of-the-era waltz song with text and music by György Justus. The recording won a Gold Medal in the 2018 Global Music Awards in three categories: chamber music, ensemble, and album. ###