



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

About the Ensemble

Ensemble for These Times is a new music chamber group consisting of award-winning soprano Nanette McGuinness, cellist Anne Lerner-Wright, Van Cliburn competitor pianist Dale Tsang, and 2015 The American Prize winner in Composition. The ensemble's mission is to bring new, nearly new, forbidden, and forgotten music to light, focusing on 20th and 21st century music that is relevant, engaging, original, and compelling, music that resonates today and will speak to tomorrow. E4TT strongly believes in the power of artistic beauty, intelligence, wit, lyricism, and irony to create a deep understanding of our times and the human condition.

Celebrating its tenth anniversary season in 2017/18, the ensemble first performed music by David Garner in 2007/8. Recent highlights include a tour to Madrid, Spain in 2017, of E4TT's "The 'Guernica' Project" (commemorating the 80th anniversary of Picasso's painting, itself commemorating the horrific 1937 bombing in Spain) to the American Space Madrid and the Conservatorio Teresa Berganza; appearances at the Krakow Culture Festival in 2016; a four-city tour to Hungary in Fall 2014 as part of the Daniel Pearl World Music Days and sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Budapest; "Once/Memory/Night: Paul Celan" (a commissioning concert focusing on the life and works of seminal 20th century poet Paul Celan); the world premiere of Garner's *Chanson für Morgen* in 2011 at Trinity Chamber Concerts, supported in part by a grant from the East Bay Fund for Artists and produced in association with the 26th Jewish Music Festival; the European premiere of *Chanson für Morgen* in Berlin in 2012, with the *Jüdische Gemeinde Berlin*, and concerts at the German Consulate General in SF, Old First Concerts, Peninsula JCC, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Trinity Chamber and Noontime Concerts, among others.

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.

Formerly the Jewish Music & Poetry Project (JMPP), the ensemble rebranded in Fall 2015, with the JMPP continuing as a project of the group. The ensemble's new name was inspired by one of E4TT's first songs, "In dieser Zeit" (translation, "In These Times"), to a text by German/Polish poet Mascha Kaléko (1901-1976). Part of Garner's first major work for the group, "In dieser Zeit" is on the ensemble's 2016

CD, *Surviving: Women's Words*, four major song cycles to texts by Jewish women poets, reflecting on their wartime experiences. *Surviving: Women's Words* was made possible by grants from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and SFFCM's Musical Grant Program.

To date, the ensemble has commissioned over two dozen new works and arrangements for premiere in the U.S. and Europe and is honored to have been a fiscally-sponsored affiliate of the SFFCM since 2011.

Upcoming in fall 2018: "Emigres & Exiles in Hollywood" in Berkeley and San Francisco (October 19/20), and Los Angeles (November 17/18), recording "Once/Memory/Night: Paul Celan" in November, and a return appearance at SF Music Day on September 30.

For more concert and CD info, visit www.e4tt.org.

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