



P.O. Box 5412, Berkeley, CA 94705 / E4TT.org

Media Contacts

Samantha Godoy / publicity@E4TT.org

Nanette McGuinness (510) 928-6525 / nanette@E4TT.org

David Garner / david@E4TT.org

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Ensemble for These Times
announces its
Tenth Anniversary Season
with performances by

**Soprano Nanette McGuinness,
Season Guest Cellist Anne Lerner-Wright, and
Pianist Dale Tsang**
**With special guests Dawn Harms, violin, Julie Michaels, viola,
and Laura Reynolds, English Horn**

Season highlights include “Once/Memory/Night: Paul Celan,” with World Premieres by David Garner, Jared Redmond, Stephen Eddins, and Aleksandra Vrebalov; more from the 56 x 54 series (selections from E4TT’s first Call for Scores); rarely-performed works by Henryk Gorécki and Elinor Armer; and the American premiere of Garner’s “Picasso Ricercar.”

Berkeley – Contemporary chamber group **Ensemble for These Times**—Nanette McGuinness, soprano, Dale Tsang, piano and Season Guest Cellist Anne Lerner-Wright—today announced programming for its Tenth Anniversary Season, being celebrated from September 2017 through June 2018 with an exhilarating mixture of 20th and 21st century premieres, commissions, and musical delights. The centerpiece of this milestone season will be **“Once/Memory/Night: Paul Celan,”*** E4TT’s latest commissioning initiative, focusing on the life and works of the seminal 20th Century poet, and featuring World Premieres by E4TT’s own award-winning composer David Garner, as well Stephen Eddins, Jared Redmond, and Alexandra Vrebalov. The 2017/18 season also includes the continuation of the group’s acclaimed **56 x 54 series**, with World Premiere performances of works by Lawrence Kramer, David Luna, R. Michael Daugherty, and Gladys Smuckler Moskowitz from the group’s 2015 Call for Scores, along with rarely performed compositions by **Henryk Gorécki** and **Elinor Armer**. Other highlights include the World Premiere of “The Road Not Taken” by Call for Scores composer **Weiwei Miao** (China), the U.S. Premiere of **Garner’s “Picasso Ricercar,”** and a special solo recital by pianist **Dale Tsang**. The season will be presented in four outstanding concert venues in Berkeley and San Francisco.

Once/Memory/Night is made possible through the **Musical Grant Program, which is administered by the San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music, and supported by the Heller Foundation, the Hewlett Foundation, the San Francisco Foundation and San Francisco Grants for the Arts.*

A Decade of Musical Achievement: E4TT's first ten years by the numbers

Founded as the Jewish Music & Poetry Project in 2007, the group changed its name in 2015 to Ensemble for These Times, reflecting a broader mission and purpose, and the members' strong belief in the power of artistic beauty, intelligence, wit, lyricism, and irony to create a deep understanding of our times and the human condition. E4TT performs as a duo or trio, with soprano Nanette McGuinness and pianist Dale Tsang—both award-winning artists—regularly joined by exemplary Bay Area cellists and other guest instrumentalists. Commissioning and performing new work is central to the ensemble's mission and purpose. In the ten years since its founding, E4TT has racked up some pretty impressive numbers:

- **60 performances in 4 countries:** Poland, Hungary, Germany, and the United States. A tour to Spain of "The Guernica Project" (2016) is scheduled for October 2017.
- **44 premieres, including 30 World Premieres, 6 U.S. premieres, and 8 West Coast premieres** of works by such innovators as Mario Carro, David Garner, Daniel Mehdizadeh, Klaus Miehling, Stephen Mitton, Polina Nazaykinskaya, Justin Henry Rubin, Naftali Schindler, Grace Xu Schott, Martha Stoddard, and Mercedes Zavala.
- **26 commissions including 12 by women composers.** Commissioned composers include Kurt Erickson, David Garner, Jeffrey Hoover, Martyna Kosecka, Emma Logan, Elena Ruehr, and Laura Schwendinger, to name just a few.
- **Performances of works by 73 composers, including 48 living composers and 21 women.** Featured composers have included John Adams, Derek Bermel, Henriette Bosmans, Lili Boulanger, David Conte, Gabriela Lena Frank, Vitezslava Kapralova, James Primosch, Sarah Kirkland Snider, Germaine Tailleferre, and Melinda Wagner.
- **Composers from 12 countries:** Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Poland, Russia, Spain, UK, and the U.S., with Brazil, China, and Greece upcoming.
- **Performances in 9 languages:** German, Hungarian, French, Italian, Spanish, English, Latin, Czech, and Basque.

E4TT is excited be celebrating this **ten-year record of accomplishment** with an ambitious set of concert programs in our Tenth Anniversary Bay Area Home Season, as follows:

Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 4pm, Berkeley

56 x 54 + Armer & Garner: The Beat Goes On

E4TT with Season Guest Cellist Anne Lerner-Wright

Repertoire: Music by two local favorites, David Garner and Elinor Armer, plus works chosen in the Call for Scores, including the U.S. premiere of Mr. Garner's "Picasso Ricercar" (part of E4TT's Guernica Project tour to Spain in October 2017), "Promptu" by Ms. Armer; West Coast premieres of works by Call for Scores composers Patrick Castillo, Morgan Greenwood, William Price, and Andrew List; and additional Call for Scores works by Jessica Rudman and Arthur Gottschalk. Selections from this program will be performed in a noontime preview on Friday, November 17 at 12:30pm at Café Europa at the JCC East Bay.

Venue: Berkeley Piano Club, 2724 Haste Street, Berkeley

Tickets: \$30/20 for individual tickets; \$20/10 with a season subscription

Info: www.E4TT.org/56x54.html or www.56x54beat.eventbrite.com



Sunday, February 4, 2018 at 4pm, San Francisco

56 x 54 + Gorecki: Strings & Things

E4TT with Season Guest Cellist Anne Lerner-Wright, Guest Violinist Dawn Harms, and Guest Violist Julie Michael

Repertoire: Henryk Gorécki's rarely-performed *Genesis I: Elementi* for string trio, *Passion Revisited* by Aleksandra Vrebalov, the world premiere of "The Road Not Taken" by Call for Scores composer Weiwei Miao (China), West Coast premieres by Call for Scores composers Julianna Hall, Leah Kennedy, and Mike McFerron and additional Call for Scores works by Dave Collins and Joelle Wallach. Composer Weiwei Miao will speak at the performance.

Venue: St. Mark's Church, 1111 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco

Tickets: \$30/20 for individual tickets; \$20/10 with a season subscription

Info: www.E4TT.org/56x54.html or www.56x54strings.eventbrite.com

Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 3pm, Berkeley

A Special Solo Recital with E4TT Pianist Dale Tsang

Repertoire: Solo piano music from E4TT's current repertoire, including the U.S. premiere of "Haikus" by Mercedes Zavala (Spain), plus music by Derek Bermel and Martyna Kosecka, Call for Scores composers William Price and Bay Area favorites Elinor Armer, David Garner, Bruce Nalezny, and Alden Jenks.

Venue: Berkeley Piano Club, 2724 Haste Street, Berkeley

Tickets: \$30/20 for individual tickets; \$20/10 with a season subscription

Info: www.E4TT.org/piano.html or www.tsangpiano.eventbrite.com

Sunday, April 15, 2018 at 4pm, San Francisco

Once/Memory/Night: Paul Celan

E4TT with Season Guest Cellist Anne Lerner-Wright, Guests Laura Reynolds (English Horn) and Dawn Harms (Violin)

Repertoire: "Once/Memory/Night: Paul Celan," with the World Premieres of four commissioned works: "Die Eichne Tuer" by E4TT composer David Garner and "Nachtlang" by Jared Redmond, both set to poetry by Celan; "A Song for the End of the World" by Stephen Eddins, set to poetry by Celan's contemporary, Czeslaw Milosz; "Spell No. 8," inspired by the life and works of Celan, by Aleksandra Vrebalov; and "Memoire de l'ombre" by Aleksandra Kaca from E4TT's 2015 Call for Scores. Preview/Open Rehearsal TBD.

Venue: Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco

Tickets: \$30/20 for individual tickets; \$20/10 with a season subscription

Info: www.E4TT.org/celan.html or www.once-memory-night.eventbrite.com

Friday June 29, 2018 at 8pm, Old First Concerts, San Francisco

56 x 54: Focus on the Cello

E4TT with Season Guest Cellist Anne Lerner-Wright

Repertoire: More Call for Scores compositions, plus a piece by E4TT composer David Garner: The World Premieres of "Ricerca" by Lawrence Kramer, "From Lamentations" by David Luna, "The Sandpiper" by R. Michael Daugherty, and "Manic Screaming" by Gladys Smuckler Moskowitz; also the U.S. premieres of by music by Call for Scores composer Frederick Schipizky (Canada) and George Hatzemichelakis (Greece), a West Coast premiere by Gene Pritsker, another Call for Scores trio by Tom Flaherty, and David Garner's Capriccio for Cello and Piano. Composers Lawrence Kramer and Frederick Schipizy will speak at the performance.

Venue: Old First Church, 1751 Sacramento Street, San Francisco

Tickets: Sliding scale \$5-25

Info: www.oldfirstconcerts.org

Season subscriptions for the 11/19, 2/4, 2/24, and 4/15 concerts are available for \$80/\$40, a 33% discount off general admission and a 50 % discount for students and seniors; for more information, go to www.e4ttsubscription.eventbrite.com.

About the Artists



E4TT co-founder and co-director DAVID GARNER was awarded a Silver Medal in the 2016 Global Music Awards for his *Spoon River Songs*, as well as winning The American Prize in Composition in 2015 for his critically acclaimed String Quartet No. 2, premiered by the Han Quartet at the San Francisco-Shanghai International Chamber Music Festival. His music has been described in the press as “a heady and touching revelation,” and his work has been performed nationally and internationally by artists such as Suzanne Mentzer, Catherine Cook, David Krakauer, and Matt Haimowitz. Nominated for a 2013 American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Music, Garner is recorded on the PentaTone, QUADRE, and Centaur labels, among others. His opera *Mary Pleasant at Land’s End* was commissioned by Opera Parallèle. Currently an award-winning faculty member in composition, music theory, and literature at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Mr. Garner held the Chair of the Department of Musicianship and Music Theory from 1984-99 and is a member of BMI, American Composers Forum, and the American Music Center.



DAWN HARMS’ diverse career ranges from being a chamber musician and violin soloist, to concertmaster, and conductor. A member of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, Associate Concertmaster for the New Century Chamber Orchestra, Co-Concertmaster with the Oakland East Bay Symphony, and Music Director of the Bay Area Rainbow Symphony, she was a Fellow at the prestigious American Academy of Conducting at the Aspen Music Festival. She was also invited to conduct the extra shorts for the DVD version of the movie “Ratatouille.” Ms. Harms has performed chamber music with Nadja Salerno Sonnenberg, Frederica Von Stade, Eugenia Zukerman, and Lynn Harrell and has premiered works with and by Jake Heggie, and has been featured on many of his recordings.



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 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 faculties of College of Marin and Dominican University.



Soprano and E4TT co-founder and co-director NANETTE MCGUINNESS has performed in 11 languages on 2 continents in over 25 roles—including Mimì, Cleopatra, Freia, Desdemona, Musetta, Countess Almaviva, First Lady, and Micaela—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, *Chants d’Auvergnès* (Canteloube), *Shéhérezade* (Ravel) and *Nuits d’étés* (Berlioz), *Stabat Mater* (Rossini), Requiem (Faure), Gloria (Vivaldi), Handel’s *Messiah* and *Solomon*, *Lord Nelson Mass* (Haydn) and *Vesperae Solennes* (Mozart). Her CD of music by 19th and 20th century women composers, *Fabulous Femmes* (Centaur)—called “perfect for the song recital lover” by *Chamber Music Magazine*—features several premiere recordings. Ms. McGuinness earned a PhD in Music from UC Berkeley, MM in Vocal Performance from Holy Names, and BA in Music from Cornell University.



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.



In high demand as both a soloist and collaborative pianist, DALE TSANG regularly performs locally and in Asia and in Europe. Nominated for the 1997 Van Cliburn competition, Tsang took first prize in the 2001 Carmel Music Society Competition and was a Semi-Finalist in the 1999 Washington International Competition. She has performed at the Aspen and Sarasota Music Festivals and earned a BM from USC, MM from the University of Michigan and a DMA from Rice University. Ms. Tsang is on the faculty of Laney College.

About Ensemble for These Times



E4TT consists of award-winning soprano Nanette McGuinness, Van Cliburn competitor pianist Dale Tsang, and 2015 American Prize in Composition winner David Garner; the group's Season Guest Cellist for 2017/18 is Anne Lerner-Wright. The ensemble 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's debut recording, *Surviving: Women's Words*, was released on the Centaur label in April 2016. Writing at Examiner.com, Stephen Smoliar called Mr. Garner's settings of poetry by Jewish women Holocaust survivors "fascinating," "passionate," and "highly compelling;" Erin Heisel of American Record Guide called the recording "fascinating," and "compelling," and Grego Applegate Edwards recommended it in GappleGate Classical-Modern Review, describing the CD as "...extremely well done."

For more information about E4TT's 2017/18 Bay Area Home Season, please visit our [website](#).

For more about 56 x 54, see 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>.

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