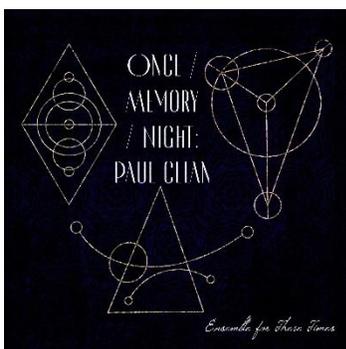




Once/Memory/Night: Paul Celan **Performed by Ensemble for These Times**

Four World Premiere Recordings on the World and Works of Paul Celan

Artist Bios:



Ensemble for These Times (E4TT) consists of soprano [Nanette McGuinness](#), pianist [Dale Tsang](#), cellist [Anne Lerner](#), and 2015 The American Prize in Composition winner, resident composer [David Garner](#), regularly joined by guest artists violinist Ilana Blumberg, English hornist Laura Reynolds, and pianist Xin Zhao. The ensemble was awarded second place for Chamber Music Performance in 2019 by The American Prize and focuses on 20th and 21st century music that is relevant, engaging, original, and compelling, that resonates today and will speak to tomorrow. E4TT

strongly believes in the power of music and poetry to create a deep understanding of the human condition. Performance highlights include tours to Madrid in 2017, the Krakow Culture Festival in 2016, Hungary in 2014, sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Budapest, a European debut with the Jüdische Gemeinde Berlin in 2012, the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust and UCLA in 2018, the Paderewski Festival in 2019.



Lyric soprano **Nanette McGuinness** has performed in operas, concerts, and oratorios in ten languages on two continents and over 25 roles. Hailed in the press for her "creamy golden tone," "glorious soprano," and "magnetic stage presence," McGuinness performs a repertory that ranges from 1600 to today, in Europe and North America.



Pianist **Xin Zhao** received a B.M. from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and an M.M. in Chamber Music Performance as well as the San Francisco Conservatory's Mirina Grin Award, the Kristin Pankonin Art Song Award and was also the First Place winner in the Fresno Music Club Awards, receiving the Bell T. Ritchie Award.

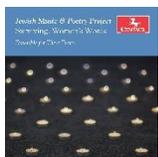


Born to a German-speaking Romanian Jewish family, **Paul Celan** (1920-1970) was profoundly affected by the rise of Nazism. His parents perished in a concentration camp and he barely survived a forced labor camp, only to commit suicide in 1970. His poems—written in German, his mother tongue—speak to his experience of loss, disempowerment, imprisonment, and survival under a brutal regime, and the themes in his work—the rise of fascism, "strong men" leaders, and nations marching to the drumbeat of nationalism—deeply resonate today with the global right-wing resurgence.

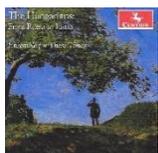


Poet, writer, diplomat, translator, professor, “Righteous Among Nations,” immigrant, asylum-seeker, Polish, American, Lithuanian...**Czesław Miłosz** (1911-2004) was all of these and more. A contemporary of Paul Celan, Miłosz in his work addresses many of the same concerns and inhabit much of the same ethos, all in his inimitably direct voice.

Ensemble for These Times’ first two award-winning recordings



E4TT’s debut CD, *Surviving: Women’s Words* (Centaur CRC 3490, 2016), new music to poems by four women Holocaust survivors, won a Silver Medal in the 2016 Global Music Awards. Lesley Mitchell-Clarke in *The Whole Note* wrote of it, “Now more than ever [...] 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” (Centaur, 2018) won a Gold Medal in the 2018 Global Music Awards and features a rarely heard cello duo composed 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 (1920-1945). Stephen Smoliar wrote in *The Rehearsal Studio*, “Lerner-Wright and Tsang knew how to tap into the rhetorical side of Rózsa’s Opus 8 duo, making it clear that there was more to the music than the composer’s skill in reflecting Hungarian idioms.”