

Echofluxx 24 - Prague Modern Performance - 10 September 2024

“**Acer I., III.** (2024), Instrumentation: any, free.
by **Martin Janíček**, www.m-janicek.eu

Anna Stavělová - flute•, David Danel - violin, Anabel di Luca - violin•
Josefína Davídková - guitar•, Vítězslav - accordion•, Anastasya Myronchuk - accordion•
Richard Kosuk - recorder, trumpet, trombone,* Petr Kabele - tuba*
• *Pardubice Conservatory*

Bio: artist, musician, sound designer, created also graphic scores, studied AVU Prague-1990-1997, assistant to conceptual dept. studio of Miloš Šejn. numerous residencies: Nottingham 1992, Glasgow School of Arts, 1993, Troy, N.Y., USA, Pluschow, Germany, Sura Medura- Sri Lanka, New York, 2012...

of something

by **Michael Boyd**, michaelrboyd.com

Anna Stavělová - flute, David Danel - violin, Anabel di Luca - violin *
Josefína Davídková - guitar*, Vítězslav (? as above) - accordion*, Petr Kabele - tuba*
Anastasya Myronchuk - accordion*, Richard Kosuk - recorder, trumpet, trombone*

Note: “*of something*” is a work for one or more performers of any type who create a series of performance gestures that reflect several distinct positions along two intersecting conceptual continuums: move/stop and connect/disconnect. A graphic network guides performer(s) through this two-dimensional, conceptual space. Performances may include sonic, visual, and/or theatrical interpretations, and can range from short concert performances to extended performed installations.

Bio: Professor of Music and Music Program Coordinator at Chatham University, is a composer, scholar, and experimental improviser. Michael’s music embraces experimental practices such as installation, multimedia, and performance art, and has been performed in a variety of venues throughout the United States and abroad. His user-driven installation *Confessional* won the 2016 FETA Prize in Sound Art, and he has published articles in *Intégral*, *Perspectives of New Music*, *Tempo*, and *Notes*. Boyd is biracial South Asian-American. He is currently serving a fourth elected term on the Wilkins Township Board of Commissioners and competes in mountain bike and sub-ultra trail running races.

Weroon Weroon

by **Hannah Kendall**, Dr, hannahkendall.co.uk

David Danel - violin

Note: Weroon Weroon (My God My God) was written in honor of Pekka Kuusisto. The title comes from Martin Carter’s poem written in 1954. The violin is prepared with three aluminum dreadlock cuffs; Afro hair accessories that distort the sounds of this iconic Western instrument so that pitch production becomes unstable, unpredictable, and changeable from performance to performance. Unexpected transformative sounds are created through these connected sites of activity, and symbolically recreates the syncretic situation of the Plantations from this synthesis of the Afro and the Euro.

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Bio: Born in London in 1984, Hannah Kendall is currently based in New York City having completed a doctorate in composition at Columbia University. Kendall's music has been widely celebrated, and in 2022 she was awarded the Hindemith Prize for outstanding contemporary composers. In 2023, she won the Ivor Novello Award for Best Large Ensemble Composition for shouting forever into the receiver commissioned by Südwestrundfunk for Ensemble Modern. She has worked with ensembles such as Boston Symphony Orchestra, London Sinfonietta, London Symphony Orchestra, and New York Philharmonic. Festival appearances include the BBC Proms, Berliner Festspiele, Donaueschinger Musiktage, Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, Lucerne and Tanglewood Music Festival. Her music is published by Ricordi (Berlin).

axe

Juwon Lim, www.juwonlimcomposer.com

Ondřej Martinovský - viola, Ondřej Svitavský - bassoon, Balázs Adorján - violoncello
Tiago di Bella - double bass, Jakub Rataj - conductor

Note: axe explores the moment of clarity versus the moment of chaos.

Bio: Juwon Lim (1999*) is a composer who is interested in creating a nuanced sensation in her work through organizing sounds that are vibrant and unfamiliar to people's ears. Winner of the 2023 Margaret Blackburn composition competition, her music has been performed at numerous festivals in the US such as the Sō Percussion Summer Institute (2023), New Music on the Point (2023), the Nief Norf summer festival (2022) and the Atlantic Music Festival (2021). Her upcoming project includes a new work for the Bang On a Can Summer Festival at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, in which she will be participating as a 2024 composition fellow. Currently pursuing a master's degree in Composition at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University under the guidance of Sky Macklay, Juwon previously earned her bachelor's degree in composition at SUNY Purchase, where she studied with Laura Kaminsky, Nicolas Schwerziger and Gregory Spears.

perennial, mvt. i: overwinter"

by **Erin Busch**, www.erinbusch.com

Roman Hranička - violin, Ondřej Martinovský - violam
Balázs Adorján - violoncello, Tiago di Bella - double bass

Bio: Erin Busch is a composer and cellist residing in Philadelphia. She has been commissioned and performed by the Composers Conference, So Percussion, the Albany (NY) Symphony, Yarn/Wire, Quartet Iris, the American Composers Forum, Pennsbury Middle Schools, the TAK Ensemble, the Amorsima Trio, Orchestra 2001, the Philadelphia Charter – A String Theory School, Matthew Levy of the PRISM Quartet, and Network for New Music, among others. Erin recently received her PhD in composition from the University of Pennsylvania with advisor Tyshawn Sorey. Named one of Yamaha's 40 under 40 music educators, Temple University's 30 under 30, and Philadelphia Magazine's 2022 "Luminary Leader," Erin is the Founder and Executive Director of Wildflower Composers (formerly known as the Young Women Composers Camp), a 501c3 nonprofit

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in Philadelphia that serves female, transgender, nonbinary, and genderqueer composers. She also serves as the Director of the Gabriela Ortiz Composing Studio at O Academy and the Director of Music Ministry at the Unitarian Universalist Church at Washington Crossing. Erin currently teaches composition at Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance.

Passando come un sogno...

by **Gaetano Lorandi**

Ondřej Štochl - solo viola

Bio: Gaetano Lorandi was born in Thiene (Vicenza - Italy). He took a music degree in Organ and Organ Composing under the teaching of Renzo Buja at "F. E. Dall' Abaco" State Conservatory in Verona. He attended master classes under Jean Langlais, Ton Koopman and Emilia Fadini. He started studying Harmony with Natalino Tacchetti and Antonio Zanon and then he took a Composing degree with Wolfango Dalla Vecchia at "C. Pollini" State Conservatory in Padua. He has also attended the Electronic Music Course at the same Conservatory in Padua. His compositions range from orchestra music to chamber and choir music; they were performed in Italy and abroad with good response by public and critic.

long way home

by **Ben Hoppe**

Roman Hranička - violin, Ondřej Martinovský - viola
Balázs Adorján - violoncello, Tiago di Bella - double bass

This piece is a sort of personal reflection on my ideas of "home." Having moved around quite a bit in the last few years, I've found myself longing for a feeling of settledness. The piece for the most part takes an optimistic view toward the question of whether I'd find that feeling or not, though its ending is a bit ambiguous.

Bio: Born in Chicago, Ben grew up surrounded by world-class artistic organizations. Beginning on piano at a young age, he would become involved in bands, choirs and orchestras throughout his adolescence. At 13, Ben started to find interest in writing his own music, leading him down a long path toward studying composition. Now based in London, he is currently working on his Master of Music at the Royal Academy of Music. He received his Bachelor of Music from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University in 2023.

Getting Back into the Groove

by **Darren Xu**, darrenxuccomposer.com

Anna Stavělová - flute solo

This solo flute piece tries to capture the exhaustive journey where a one scurries to the state of burnout, and tries to slowly return to the state of functioning.

Bio: Darren Xu is a Chinese Canadian composer who is currently completing the Artist Diploma at the Royal College of Music. He enjoys writing music for acoustic instruments, films, and cross-disciplinary collaborations. He has had the opportunity to work with various ensembles, including Standing Wave, Vancouver Inter-Cultural Orchestra, Piano-Erhu Project (PEP), TorQ Percussion Quartet, and Trio Immersio. His first orchestral

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composition, *To Liberate*, was premiered by the WSO at the Winnipeg New Music Festival, and was subsequently read by the VSO. Darren's collaborations with the Musqueam artist Debra Sparrow culminated in performances of his music as parts of installations and showcases of Debra's Salish weavings, which took place at venues across Vancouver. His film score, *Stargazer*, was awarded Best Score by New York Film Awards in November 2018. He received his BMus, BCom, and MMus at University of British Columbia.

Verklärte Einblicke

by **Joseph Klein**, josephklein.music.unt.edu

Born in Los Angeles in 1962, Joseph Klein is a composer of solo, chamber, and large ensemble works, including instrumental, vocal, electroacoustic, and intermedia compositions. His music—which has been described as “a dizzying euphoria... like a sonic tickling with counterpoint gone awry” (NewMusicBox) and exhibiting a “confident polyvalence [that] heightens its very real excitement” (The Wire)—reflects an ongoing interest in processes drawn from such sources as fractal geometry, chaos, and systems theory, often inspired by natural phenomena. His works often draw upon literary sources and frequently incorporate theatrical elements as an organic expression of the musical narrative.

Vitula y Electrónica

by **Luis Escobar**

David Danel - violin, Luis Escobar - live electronics

This work was inspired by the birds of the Guatemala region, many of which are endangered due to indiscriminate tree felling in the region. The protagonist of the piece is the Quetzal, a bird emblematic of Mayan culture, whose color and beauty is unmatched; but due to the devastation of its natural habitat, we could be the last generation to appreciate its great beauty in person.

Bio: Luis Escobar is a guitarist and composer originally from Guatemala City (Guatemala). He successfully completed his guitar studies in Guatemala under the tutelage of renowned Guatemalan guitarists such as Oscar Aguirre, Luis Juarez Quixtan and Emerson Recancof. Later he studied in Spain under the guidance of great international guitarists such as Manuel Barrueco, David Russell and Carlo Marchione, giving presentations in Spain, Guatemala, Switzerland, and other places. He began studying composition with the support of professors Armando Mazariegos and Armando Trujillo in Guatemala and Arturo Corrales and Nicolas Sordet in Switzerland. He is currently studying for his Master's degree under the guidance of composer Isabel Mundry in Zurich, Switzerland, where his works are currently being presented.

Light Particles

by **João Pedro Oliveira**, jpoliveira.com

Light Particles was commissioned by the *Contracello Duo*.

Note: In 2018 I wrote a piece for this Duo called *Dark Energy*. It was supposed to be a dark and energetic piece, related to this form of energy still unknown and believed to fill the entire space of the universe. In 2020, when the Duo invited me to write a new piece, I composed *Light Particles*, that is the reverse of the previous piece. It is intended to be a

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bright and fluid piece, where the interaction of the visual and musical particles create a light atmosphere.

Bio: Composer João Pedro Oliveira holds the Corwin Endowed Chair in Composition for the University of California at Santa Barbara. He studied organ performance, composition, and architecture in Lisbon. He completed a Ph.D. in Music at the University of New York at Stony Brook. His music includes opera, orchestral compositions, chamber music, electroacoustic music, and experimental video. He has received over 70 international prizes and awards for his works, including the prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship in 2023, the Bourges Magisterium Prize, and the Giga-Hertz Special Award, among others. His music is played all over the world. He taught at Aveiro University (Portugal) and Federal University of Minas Gerais (Brazil). His publications include several articles in journals and a book on 20th century music theory.

A Breath of Life

by **Chun Wai WONG**, wongchunwaimusic.com

Anna Škreptáčová - oboe, Ondřej Svitavský - bassoon, David Danel - violin
Ondřej Martinovský - viola, Tiago di Bella - double bass

Note: The piece is inspired by the book of Ecclesiastes from the Bible. Musically, it is inspired by a traditional Japanese theatrical performance “Kabuki”. It is purely musical “theatre”: the piece unfolds with the wheezing of hollowness of work and life, and it is followed by a wild dance of chase — a chase after fame and fortune in hopes of getting rid of the depression. Yet, the struggle only brings fleeting pleasure and pressing anxiety to chase after another goal. Feeling exhausted, one realizes that what one has done are all meaningless: the hollowness never goes away. Only after a hoarse cry does one start to realize the meaning of life, a meaning that transcends all materialistic goals; and only after understanding the reason to live can one take a breath of life. There are references to traditional Japanese instrumental writings, including the sound of Shamisen imitated by pizzicato in strings, drum imitated by pizzicato chords and beating of strings on fingerboard, Japanese flute imitated by the high oboe. The shifting focus between different musical layers represents the movement of the imaginary dancer who moves forward and backward on the stage unceasingly.

Bio: Wong Chun-wai has a versatile composition profile comprising concert music, musicals and film scores. He often infuses different musical languages to evoke various atmospheres, engaging audiences with quasi-multimedia-art experiences. He is also interested in incorporating contemporary musical ideas into the (Late) Romantic musical language. Winning multiple awards across the globe, his compositions are featured in international events such as the International Rostrum of Composers, ISCM World Music Days and Asian Composers League Festival; and are published by the PARMA Recordings, Ablaze Records (United States), Europa Musica Publishing (France) among others. His music is performed and recorded by prominent groups and musicians including the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (with Bright Sheng and others), Internationale Ensemble Modern Akademie, performers from the New York Philharmonic and soloists including Dong-Suk Kang and Jan-Erik Gustafsson. He is commissioned a Double Concerto by maestro Jaap van Zweden for his birthday.