

contagious sounds series

curated by Vicky Chow
presented by Neke Carson at the Gershwin Hotel

Thursday May 26th, 2011 at 8pm

Gershwin Hotel
7 East 27th Street • New York City

NOISE-BRIDGE

Christie Finn, soprano
Felix Behringer, clarinets

Dialogues

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| Matt Aelmore (b. 1987) | Pierrot's First Musing (2011) from <i>Pierrot Opera</i> |
| Turkar Qasimzadeh (b. 1988) | birds whisper (2011) |
| Frederik Neyrinck (b. 1985) | Echo de Baudelaire (2011, World premiere) |
| Nicholas Peters (b. 1984) | Genau (2011, World premiere) |
| Jimmy Roberts (b. 1952) | The Heart of the Matter (2008) |
| Gregory Emfietzis (b. 1980) | Temporality (2011, World premiere) |
| Stuart Saunders Smith (b. 1948) | All Too Human (2010, World premiere) |

ABOUT CONTAGIOUS SOUNDS

Curated by Bang on a Can All-Stars pianist Vicky Chow, Contagious Sounds Series held at the Gershwin Hotel aims to foster a community where new sounds, new music, new works and new ideas can be heard and exchanged. It is a place where the artist can fully engage in their artistic beliefs without any limitations. The series focuses on adventurous and experimental artists who pushes and more often than not, blur the boundaries between genres and the expectations of the audience.

www.contagiousounds.net • www.vickychow.com

UPCOMING: DOUBLE CD RELEASE on Wednesday, June 1st, 2011
Andy Akiho (innova) Vicky Chow & Ryan Francis (tzadik)

NOISE-BRIDGE: Dialogues

As members of a duo, the concept of “dialogue,” defined as both a conversation and an exchange of ideas or opinions, also defines our existence. And, as performers of new music, we are in a constant dialogue with composers. This concert represents many dialogues over the past year between the two of us and especially with our composer friends in New York and Baltimore as well as abroad. All of the pieces on this concert are either premieres, new arrangements, or were premiered earlier in 2011 by NOISE-BRIDGE. Many of the composers whose works will be heard on this concert were commissioned to write works for NOISE-BRIDGE while working with the duo at the 45th International Summer Courses for New Music in Darmstadt, Germany in July 2010.

Currently New York-based (and soon to be Pittsburgh-based) composer **Matt Aelmore’s *Pierrot’s First Musing*** is the second movement of a much larger work called *Pierrot Opera* for soprano and chamber ensemble. The work was premiered in March of 2011 and features Christie’s poetry. Azerbaijani composer **Turkar Qasimzadeh’s *birds whisper*** was premiered earlier this year and sets parts of his father’s, Nariman Gasimoglu’s, poetry, entering a dialogue between generations. The conversation between the artist with the night, between text and sound, is explored in Belgian composer **Frederik Neyrinck’s *Echo de Baudelaire***, which deconstructs Charles Baudelaire’s poem “La Fin de la Journée” (“The End of the Day”) from *Les Fleurs du Mal (The Flowers of Evil)*. British composer **Nicholas Peters** has composed the textless work **Genau** for the duo, which is a 20-minute meditation on the sound relationship of the voice and clarinet. ***The Heart of the Matter***, composed by New York based composer **Jimmy Roberts** is heard in this concert in a new arrangement composed by Roberts especially for NOISE-BRIDGE. The piece sets the poetry of Dana Gioia, former chairman of the NEA and a friend of Christie’s from the West Chester University Poetry Conference. Subtitled a “blues,” *The Heart of the Matter* is a dialogue of disappointed love. Greek composer **Gregory Emfietzis’ *Temporality*** represents a breakdown in a relationship, both between two “people” and internally. Baltimore-based (and soon to be rural Vermont-based) composer **Stuart Saunders Smith** is a mentor and good friend, with whom we have always had an open dialogue. After hearing our performance of his piece *Notebook* last year, Stuart immediately wrote ***All Too Human*** for NOISE-BRIDGE, a sound conversation between clarinet and voice.

About NOISE-BRIDGE

NOISE-BRIDGE is a soprano-clarinet duo based in New York City and dedicated to performing “new” music: standards in the 20th and 21st century repertoire, contemporary works that are underperformed, and new commissions. Formed in 2009 when German clarinetist Felix Behringer and American soprano Christie Finn met in the Contemporary Performance Program at Manhattan School of Music, NOISE-BRIDGE has performed at such venues as The Tank NYC and An Die Musik LIVE! (Baltimore, Maryland). In the past year the duo collaborated actively with composers based in New York City as well as international composers who worked with the duo at Darmstadt in 2010. Future projects include a commission by Chicago-based composer Chris Fisher-Lochhead. (<http://christiefinn.com/noise-bridge>)