

GLASS FARM ENSEMBLE

ALFRESCO

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2018, 7:30PM

PETER NORTON
symphonyspace
Leonard Nimoy Thalia

Laura Cocks, flute
Eileen Mack, clarinet
Anthony Di Bartolo, percussion
Yvonne Troxler, piano

Jonathan Harvey
1939-2012

Riot (1993)
for flute/piccolo, bass clarinet and piano

Balz Trümpy
b. 1946

Im Labyrinth (2004)
for piano
Choral
Volken vor dem Mondlicht
Rezitativ

Yvonne Troxler
b. 1962

Penn I (2011)
for bass flute/flute, bass clarinet,
percussion and piano

Alfred Zimmerlin
b. 1955

Im Freien (1996)
for three players and ambient noise

Claude Vivier
1948-1983

Pulau Dewata (1977)
for ensemble

Glass Farm Ensemble is supported by PRO HELVETIA - Arts Council of Switzerland,
by Fondation Suisa

PROGRAM NOTES

The Riot by Jonathan Harvey

The British composer Jonathan Harvey wrote about his work: "The Riot is a work in which virtuoso exhilaration is predominant. The game is to throw around themes, which retain their identity sufficiently to bounce off each other sharply, even when combined polyphonically or mixed up together in new configurations... From time to time energy runs out and a mechanical repetition of an element takes over, dying away like an electronic 'delay'. Such a process in extended form provides the ending."

Im Labyrinth by Balz Trümpy

In 2002 Trümpy wrote this collection of 21 solo piano pieces for Yvonne Troxler. The Swiss composer Balz Trümpy was trained at the Musik-Akademie Basel in piano with Rolf Maeser and Paul Baumgartner; music theory with Jacques Wildberger and Robert Suter; and composition with Gerald Bennett. He also studied composition with Luciano Berio in Rome, during which time he became Berio's assistant. He was a fellow at IRCAM (Institute of Research and Coordination in Acoustics) in Paris several times. Trümpy was awarded the Basel Lions Club Arts Prize in 1977; he has taught composition and music theory at the Musik-Akademie since 1979. From 1982 to 1987 he was the deputy director of the conservatory.

Penn I by Yvonne Troxler

Penn I is named after a commercial building in Manhattan. The musical material was inspired by the sounds a big city like New York produces. Since we generally categorize these sounds as noise, we push them away from us and don't hear the often very musical motifs. In this particular case, the facade of the Penn I building started to vibrate during a storm and suddenly rang out clear notes and intervals. Once we set out to listen in these unusual places, then there is an immense wealth of musical material to be found.

Im Freien by Alfred Zimmerlin

The Swiss composer Alfred Zimmerlin wrote Im Freien (outdoors) for any three instruments with a range from g-d". The work provides specific instructions as to how and when a set of 9 musical events may be played. The musicians choose the moments in time when to play or stop and use a stopwatch to track their individual progress through the piece.

Pulau Dewata by Claude Vivier

In 1977 the Canadian Claude Vivier undertook a long journey to Asia and the Middle East. The great variety of musical influences he received had the effect, paradoxically, of purifying his own musical expression. Melody gradually occupies a foremost position in his works. Vivier wrote the piece originally for the McGill Percussion Ensemble. What he omitted was any indication of instrumentation. The written form of the work is simple. For the most part it consists of a single line, harmonized with no more than four voices; occasionally, a second line appears in counterpoint. The material is a succession of nine melodies, which owe their inspiration to Vivier's trip to Bali and Thailand. Pulau Dewata means Beautiful Isle.

GLASS FARM ENSEMBLE

Laura Cocks is a New York based flutist who works in a wide array of creative environments as a performer and promoter of contemporary music. Laura is the flutist and executive director of TAK ensemble, and a member of the Nouveau Classical Project and the Association of Dominican Classical Artists. She has performed across North and Latin America and Europe as a soloist and chamber musician in ensembles such as The London Sinfonietta, International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), Wet Ink Ensemble, Ensemble Pamplemousse, and Ensemble Bonne Action in venues that range from Queen Elizabeth Hall in London's Southbank Centre and Orchestra Hall in Chicago to artist squats, diners, and highway medians. Laura can be heard with TAK, International Contemporary Ensemble, Wet Ink Ensemble, and others on labels such as Carrier Records, ECM, New Focus Recordings, Sound American, Denovali Records, Orange Mountain Music, Gold Bolus and others.

Clarinetist **Eileen Mack** grew up in Australia and is now based in New York. She is a member of post-minimalist band Victoire and amplified ensemble Newspeak (which she also co-directs), and has performed with many other New York new music groups including Wet Ink, Alarm Will Sound, Signal Ensemble, the Bang on a Can All Stars and the Wordless Music Orchestra. She has performed in venues around the world including Zankel Hall, the Sydney Opera House, the Amsterdam Concertgebouw and London's Royal Albert Hall; with conductors including Pierre Boulez, Oliver Knussen, Brad Lubman and Alan Pierson; and has appeared as soloist at the Canberra International Chamber Music Festival and the Bang on a Can Marathon. Her discography ranges from work on the Crocodile Hunter TV and movie soundtracks to releases on New Amsterdam Records, Tzadik, Innova, and Warp Records. Eileen holds degrees from Stony Brook University, the Manhattan School of Music and the Queensland Conservatorium.

Anthony M. Di Bartolo is a New Jersey-based percussionist, composer, and teacher. Performing regularly in New York City, New Jersey and Philadelphia as a freelance percussionist, his professional experience spans contemporary music, theater, improvisation, and studio work. Anthony has performed at Lincoln Center (Out of Doors concert series), Symphony Space, The Ailey Citigroup Theater, Laurie Beechman Theatre, Robert Moss Theater (440 studios), and more.

Especially known for his work on snare drum, Anthony's piece Nine Lives is now considered standard repertoire for advanced players and bounce!, a solo with pre-recorded audio, has been quickly becoming a popular new solo. Di Bartolo is the recipient of 1st place in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's Modern Snare Drum Composition Contest (2013) and the second prize in the Percussive Arts Society Composition Contest (2012). Anthony's music has had performances in Italy, The Netherlands, Spain, Mexico, Taiwan and across the United States. Anthony holds a master's degree from Ithaca College where he studied performance and composition with Gordon Stout and a bachelor's degree in music education from Rowan University where he studied under Dean Witten.

Yvonne Troxler is a pianist and composer. She has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician in the US and Europe. Troxler is widely recognized as a deeply dedicated interpreter of contemporary music. Her passion for collaboration and experimentation has led her to premiere hundreds of new works by both emerging and established artists, most notably with the Glass Farm Ensemble, for which she holds the position of artistic director. In addition to writing for a variety of different musicians and ensembles, she has written original music for several movies. Troxler has received grants and awards from Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation, Artephila, Argosy Foundation, Pro Helvetia Swiss Arts Council. In 2016 she received a commission award for her song cycle "Feuerfleck" by the UBS Culture Foundation and the Swiss Musicians Association.

Troxler has been featured as a chamber musician and composer on recordings for Innova, Percaso and Musiques Swisses. Gapegate Music Reviews writes about CD Brouhaha: "Troxler shows eloquence, memorability and inspired craftsmanship in this round of chamber works."

As an educator Troxler has worked for many years with young musicians and students, creating international projects and collaborations. The resulting performances have included concerts and tours in New York, Germany, and Switzerland. These projects have been made possible in collaboration with the Glass Farm Ensemble.

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