

Red Light New Music

Conrad Prebys Concert Hall
January 21, 2010 at 8pm
La Jolla, CA

Leadership support for Meet The Composer's MetLife Creative Connections program is generously provided by MetLife Foundation. Additional support provided by the Office of Graduate Studies, Graduate Student Association, Associated Students, Triton Community Fund, and the UCSD Department of Music, Meet The Composer's MetLife Creative Connections, and Alex Raikhel and Natasha Raikhel.

PROGRAM

reVeil

Tania Lanfer, music
Ross Karre, video

Bless This Mess

David Wightman

Red Light

Charlie Wilmoth

intermission

cut up sleep red stars round me

Carolyn Chen, music
Crystal Campbell, video

Konzertstücke

Dan Tacke

Anther

Vincent Raikhel

The Red Light Ensemble

Natacha Diels, *flutes*
Eileen Mack, *clarinets*
Kevin Sims, *percussion*
Yegor Shevtsov, *piano*
Caroline Shaw, *violin*
Erin Wight, *viola*
John Popham, *cello*

About Red Light:

Red Light New Music, Christopher Cerrone, A. Vincent Raikhel, Liam Robinson and Scott Wollschleger, directors, is a 501(C)3 non-profit, New York-based contemporary music series and ensemble dedicated to the presentation of new classical music. Red Light is passionate about the presentation of music by younger composers and has commissioned composers from countries such as Germany, Italy, France, Sweden and the United States and performed them in venues from New York to Berlin.

Red Light relies upon the generosity of its donors, and would like to express its gratitude to all those who made this concert series possible. Red Light would like to express special thanks to Brian Griffeath-Loeb.

Without his tireless and selfless efforts, this project would not have been able to come to fruition.

Additional support is provided by The Amphion Foundation, Argosy Foundation, Contemporary Music Fund, BMI Foundation, Inc., Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Inc., The

William & Flora Hewlett Foundation, The James Irvine Foundation, Jerome Foundation, mediaThe foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and Virgil Thomson Foundation, Ltd.

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Red Light New Music | 214 Audubon Ave | #22 | New York, NY 10033
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About The Music

Bless This Mess

Bless This Mess consists of three different types of limited gestures: directional, static, and idiomatic. While these gestures stubbornly ignore one another on a moment-to-moment basis, their continual overlapping insistence creates an agitated consistency. On a large-scale, all the gestures simultaneously expand, contract, and transform to finally develop a new functionality of buzzing unity. The piece concludes with a departure from the musical logics established by the three gesture types and an introduction of a new contrapuntal dissonance.

—David Wightman

Red Light

There isn't really a concept behind *Red Light*, a clear hook to hang the piece on. In general, though, I'm inspired by the mechanistic repetitions of Minimalism, which I think have very much to do with the way modern American life, and particularly urban American life, sounds and feels. But I've always aimed to use those kinds of repetitions in ways that I find even more true to my own modern American life: it's loud, confusing and distracting.

—Charlie Wilmoth

cut up sleep red stars round me

red stars to ceiling:
paste-close fur-eyes, wrap
round red sleep

you cut me up
sing

—Carolyn Chen

Konzertstücke

What if this was the last piece of music you ever heard?

—Dan Tacke

Anther

"Corn has been exempted from the usual rules of nature and economics, both of which have rough mechanisms to check any such wild, uncontrolled proliferation. In nature, the population a species explodes until it exhausts its supply of food; then crashes. In the market, an oversupply of commodity depresses prices until either the surplus is consumed or it no longer makes sense to produce any more of it. In corn's case, humans have labored mightily to free it from either constraint, even if that means going broke growing it, and consuming it just as fast as we possibly can."

—Michael Pollan, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*

About the Composers and Artists

Tania Lanfer is a composer and pianist from Sao Paulo, Brazil. After finishing her undergraduate course at the University of Sao Paulo majoring in Piano Performance (2005), she lived for six months in Berlin, Germany, where she was a guest student in the Elektronische Studio at Technische Universität (2006). She lived for two years at Stanford (California, USA), studying composition primarily with Erik Ulman. Currently she is doing her Master Degree in Music Composition at UCSD - University of California, San Diego.

Ross Karre is a percussionist and temporal artist based in San Diego, CA. He works with a variety of media and practices ranging from contemporary classical music to experimental multimedia performance incorporating video, sound, lighting, and theatre. He attended Oberlin Conservatory (B.M. 2005) and UCSD (DMA 2009). He has worked extensively with Steven Schick and red fish blue fish. He co-founded the percussion group EnsembleXII under the direction of Pierre Boulez in Lucerne, Switzerland. He works as a freelance artist and musician as he pursues a second terminal degree (MFA Visual Arts) at UCSD.

David Wightman was born in Bloomington Indiana, raised in Chapel Hill North Carolina, and currently lives in San Diego California where he is working towards a PhD in composition at UCSD. Before moving to California, David was living in Texas where he attended Rice University and the University of Texas at Austin.

In 2008 David was an artist-in-residence at the Atlantic Center for the Arts where he worked with David Lang. He currently teaches courses at UCSD on popular music .

David has worked with California EAR Unit, Shepherd Symphony Orchestra, Paperrad, Bang on a Can All Stars, Speculum Musicae, Nautical Almanac, Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, Red Fish Blue Fish, The Kenners, Beige Collective, and the Aspen Contemporary Ensemble. He has attended various music festivals and residencies including the Bang on a Can Institute, the Arcosanti Workshop, the Domaine Forget New Music Session, La Schola Cantorum Composition Program, Cincinnati College Conservatory's Music03 and the Aspen Music Festival.

Charlie Wilmoth's music combines unusual sounds with jagged, uneven repetitions and jarring juxtapositions that are often inspired by the way humans deal with technology, information, and religion. He graduated from the College of William and Mary, where he studied philosophy and music, then received a Master's Degree in composition from Wesleyan University, where he studied with Anthony Braxton, Neely Bruce and Alvin Lucier. His pieces have been played by the Arditti Quartet, Ensemble Surplus, the Wet Ink Ensemble, Steven Schick, and the Flux Quartet. Wilmoth has played viola with various new music groups, as violin with the Orquesta Baja California in Tijuana. His new album-length piece for ten instruments, *Sixteen Sound Bites*, was recorded in San Diego in December 2008, and he recently curated the new CD *New Music From San Diego* for the Carrier label.

Wilmoth tours regularly as a singer and guitarist with the rock group FOX Japan, which releases its third album this year. He is also a freelance writer for *Dusted Magazine* and other publications. He has taught classes on composition, contemporary music, music

fundamentals, American music, and multicultural musics of the United States. He is finishing his Ph.D. at UCSD, where he studies with Roger Reynolds.

Carolyn Chen was born in New Jersey and is currently a PhD student at UC San Diego. Recent projects include Hamlet for percussion ensemble red fish blue fish, human windchimes, music for the dark, and an abstract comic strip transcription of the Book of Job. Presently considering bleakness, animals and zombies.

Crystal Z. Campbell is a third-year M.F.A. Candidate in Visual Arts at the University of California-San Diego who hails from Oklahoma. Campbell's upcoming thesis show in April includes video, photo, sculpture and drawings which explore exoticized notions of character and landscape. Overall, her work is a breach of fantastical collisions between detached personal narratives and anachronous African-American historical fragments. Campbell is a former artist-in-residence at the New Children's Museum in San Diego, Vermont Studio Center and NES Artist Residency in Iceland. Campbell is also a 2003 Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture alum and former social worker who lives and works in Oklahoma and San Diego. www.crystalzcampbell.com

Daniel Tacke – a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music – is a composer, pianist, and liturgical organist. He lives in California with his wife and daughter, and is currently pursuing doctoral studies in composition at the University of California, San Diego.

Composer **A. Vincent Raikhel** was born in Athens, GA and raised in Okemos, MI. Vincent received his Bachelor in Music from the Manhattan School of Music where he studied with Nils Vigeland and Reiko Fueting. During his tenure at the Manhattan School he co-founded the Red Light New Music an ensemble, concert series and composer collective based in New York City. His works have been performed by ensembles and musicians from the United States and Europe including the Prism Saxophone Quartet, the New York City Classical Guitar Society, Tactus, Dresdner KammerEnsemble as well as the S.E.M. Ensemble. Vincent has attended festivals at Tanglewood, Acanthes, Musikakademie Rheinsberg, Darmstadt, Impuls and Ostrava. He has participated in master classes with Pierre Boulez, Louis Andriessen, Christian Wolff, Beat Furrer, and Bernhard Lang among others. In 2006 Vincent was awarded the Nicolas Flagello Composition Award from the Manhattan School of Music. He studied in Berlin at the Universität der Künste Berlin with Walter Zimmermann and is currently pursuing his master's degree at UCSD.

About the Performers

Flautist and composer **Natacha Diels** was born in Los Angeles in 1981 and spent most of her childhood in New Mexico. She received an education in music technology and performance at New York University, where she founded the new music group and not-for-profit Ensemble Pamplemousse. In addition to Pamplemousse, Natacha performs in both contemporary classical and improvised contexts, with various ensembles such as On Structure, Tall Brown Boots, and Red Light New Music. She has participated as a performer and composer in new music and art festivals worldwide, including Ostrava Days, Harold Arts, and summer school at STEIM. Natacha maintains a long-standing passion for electroacoustic chamber works, and occasionally composes pieces and builds toys for Pamplemousse. Plans for the upcoming year include the construction of super-instruments for Pamplemousse (May 09); completion of

a master's degree at ITP (NYU) (May 09); a northeast tour with Ensemble Pamplemousse (Mar 09); and the launch of a new record label, Pomegranate Records, which will include both Pamplemousse's first record and natacha's solo record (June 09).

John Popham, a native of Louisville, Kentucky, recently graduated with Bachelors of Music in Cello Performance from the Manhattan School of Music, where he was a student of David Geber. Winner of the Louisville Orchestra's Young Artist Competition, Lillian Fuchs Chamber Music Competition, and Macauley Smith Chamber Music Competition, he has appeared as a soloist with the Starling Chamber Orchestra and the Louisville Orchestra on numerous occasions. John has served as principal cellist of the 2000 National Festival Orchestra, the Louisville Youth Orchestra, and orchestras at Indiana University School of Music and the Manhattan School of Music. He has participated in various summer festivals including the Music Academy of the West, Aspen Music Festival, Spoleto USA, and Musicorda. John is the director of The New Project, a collaborative arts organization that produces educational and outreach concerts in the Louisville area.

Kevin Sims was born in Los Angeles, California, 1983. At a young age, he moved with his family to central Pennsylvania, where he was raised. Although he has spent most of his life learning and playing percussive instruments, his first musical experiences were at the bench of a piano. Kevin also composes and plays in a variety of musical settings. Kevin earned his bachelor's in music from the Manhattan School of Music from 2001 to 2005. During that time, he studied for a year at the Royal College of Music, London. In 2005, Kevin became a founding member of the Lucerne Festival Percussion Group. Currently, Kevin is studying at the Musikhochschule Freiburg on a DAAD scholarship. While in Freiburg, as a member of the Freiburg Percussion Ensemble, he has performed in concerts and music festivals in Germany, Switzerland, Korea, Ukraine, and Russia. Kevin has been a part of the Red Light community since its foundation and has performed with Red Light in both the United States and Germany.

Violist **Erin Wight**, a Midwestern transplant to New York City, is an active chamber musician and avid performer of new music. She performs frequently as a member of the Red Light New Music Ensemble, Talea Ensemble, and Future In Reverse (FIRE), all ensembles with a dedication to exploring contemporary repertoire. Ms. Wight has also played with the New Juilliard Ensemble, Axiom, the Juilliard Electric Ensemble, and worked closely with members of Ensemble Modern. In addition, Ms. Wight is a founding member of the Toomai String Quintet, 2007 winners of the 92nd St. Y's Music Unlocked! competition for emerging ensembles dedicated to educational outreach. Ms. Wight is deeply committed to community engagement and is on the teaching artist faculty of the New York Philharmonic's School Partnership Program, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and the Weill Institute at Carnegie Hall. Ms. Wight completed her Master of Music degree at The Juilliard School where she studied with Paul Neubauer.

Clarinetist **Eileen Mack** grew up in Australia and moved to New York City in 2004. She is an active conspirator in the new music scene in the city, regularly performing with the political band/ensemble Newspeak, the Red Light Ensemble, and indie-ambient quintet Victoire. She has played at a wide range of venues, from Carnegie Hall and the Amsterdam Concertgebouw to small bars in Williamsburg, and appeared as a soloist at the 2006 Bang on a Can Marathon and the 2008 Canberra International Music Festival. Before moving to the US, Eileen was a freelance orchestral musician, and performed with a number of contemporary ensembles in