

Music of Youth

Premieres of New Music About Youth and Being Young

John Adams Young Composers Program Faculty Recital 2009

ChamberMix performs works of Clark Suprynowicz, Molly Axtmann, Dean Curtis, Katrina Wreede and Alexis Alrich

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Performed by ChamberMix quartet

Saturday, March 21, 2009

7:00 pm

Dalby Room, Crowden Music Center

1475 Rose Street

Berkeley, CA 94702-1255

On Saturday, March 21, 2009, the John Adams Young Composers Program will present its second annual Faculty Concert. ChamberMix, a contemporary music quartet with flute, clarinet, cello and piano, will perform works by Clark Suprynowicz, Molly Axtmann, Dean Curtis, Katrina Wreede and Alexis Alrich.

The John Adams Young Composers Program was founded in 2007 to honor Pulitzer prize-winning composer John Adams. The program offers an opportunity for young composers to learn from each other in a community, and to have their works performed by professional musicians.

ChamberMix is an alliance of musicians dedicated to the performance of contemporary music. They perform regularly in the Bay Area and have premiered numerous pieces by living composers and also play well-known pieces from the repertoire.

Youth strikes a different chord with each composer on the program. These are pieces to appeal to young performers, young composers and contemporary music fans of any age.

Katrina Wreede writes: *Complementary Supplement* (movement #1 of a work in progress) reflects the perverse and conflicted process of growing up at any age.

Clark Suprynowicz writes: my piece, *The Magic Shop*, addresses the theme of youth from this point of view: my own recollections of being ten years old, and visiting, with my mother, a shop in Hartford, Connecticut that sold magic tricks, silk handkerchiefs, decks of prepared cards and the like. This was an enchanted place as I recall it, and it has been a pleasure to try to imbue this piece of chamber music with some of that feeling.

Molly Axtmann writes:-- *Imdugud* is a mythological creature from ancient Sumeria. Also known as the "Anzu Bird", this creature is said to be part eagle, part lion. A servant of the Air God Enlil, Imdugud stole the tablets of destiny from Enlil. Imdugud had the

power to foretell events particularly of a disastrous nature. Imdugud was eventually killed by the son of the Enlil, Ninurta. This creature's music harks back to the beginning of civilization. This symbol from ancient times connects to the natural imagination and fantasy of youth throughout time.

Dean Curtis writes about her piece *Beacon Street Elegy*: This is an unconventional piece that interweaves life memory, dream memory, ancient chant, ambient music and readings. It arose as an elegy after the death of a long-beloved friend. The adumbrations of hope and possibility in the child; the longing for equilibrium in the adult; the reflection on life experience in the aged -- these are some threads that come together in a successful presentation of the work..

Alexis Alrich writes: *Hong Kong Email* is a set of pieces about sounds of Hong Kong, short messages about daily life. They are suitable for the imaginations and fingers of student performers.

The "Music of Youth" concert would not be possible without the funding of the American Composers Forum and Crowden Center for Music in the Community.

For more information please contact the Crowden Music Center at 510-559-6910.