



Saturday, September 9, 2023

Fulcrum Point New Music Project Plays

Harris Fest: Music + Dance in the Park
20th Anniversary Celebration

with live
performances of

"Music for Trumpets and Trees"
by
Dick Higgins

&

"Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman #5
"
by
Joan Tower

Music for Trumpets and Trees

by Dick Higgins

What would it sound like if you could hear the visual patterns of the world, not the sounds of the wind or waves or a city street – that's John Cage's idea for 4'33" of 'silence' -- but the lines, colors and shapes, as if they were the notes? Music for Trumpets and Trees (1976) by seminal Fluxus Artist/Composer Dick Higgins, uses graphic notation as a guide for a group improvisation. What does the soft edge of a cloud sound like? Does a blue sky sound blue? How about the jagged edge of a leaf? A solid tree trunk? What about playing trees, or playing in trees? How about trumpets in trees?

TIME: 1:30pm

LOCATION:

The Cloud Gate - "Juliet Balcony"
(North side of the sculpture)

THE PLAYERS

Josh Berman, cornet
Stephen Burns, trumpet
Ben Lamar Gay, cornet
Chad McCullough, trumpet
Corey Wilkes, trumpet

Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman

by Joan Tower

Joan Tower's "Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman #5" (1993), features four trumpets in pairs exploring the trumpet's heroic, melodic and virtuosic character. The 4-minute work opens with a lone, laconic trumpet answered by others. The work gains momentum and new rhythmic impetus, only to return temporarily to its former, quieter nature. In the last quarter of the work, the "Fanfare" truly lives up to its name, releasing radiant, joyous, poly-tonal salvos of joy.

TIME: 6pm

LOCATION:

Pritzker Stage, Millennium Park

Fulcrum Point New Music Project

Stephen Burns, trumpet

William Denton, trumpet

Diana Lopez, trumpet

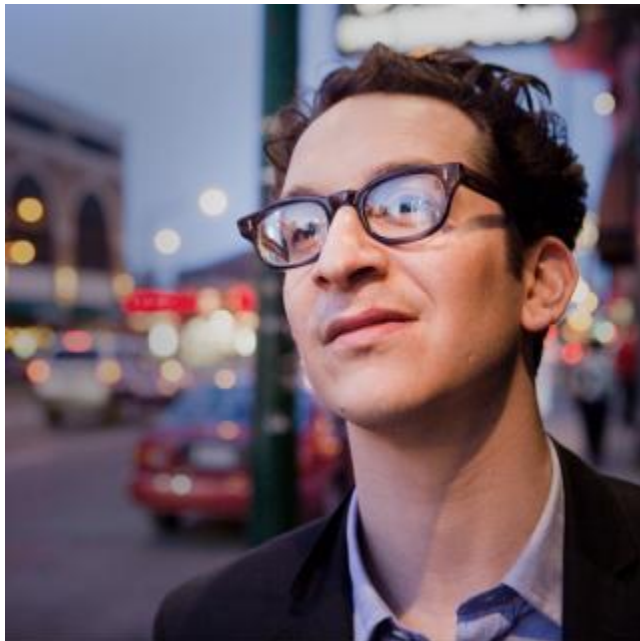
Rebecca Oliverio, trumpet

BIOS

About Dick Higgins

Higgins was a composer, poet, printer, philosopher and painter and original Fluxus artist. Like other New York-based Fluxus artists, he studied composition with John Cage at the New School of Social Research in 1957-8. He married fellow Fluxus artist Alison Knowles in 1960. Both took part in the benchmark Wiesbaden, Germany *Fluxus* festival in 1962.

Higgins coined the word 'intermedia' to describe his artistic activities, defining it in a 1966 essay by the same name, published in the first number of the *Something Else Newsletter*, associated with his Something Else Press. The term intermedia describes work that falls between the arts, like shaped poems, phonetic poems, performed pictures, computational poetry, and poetry paintings. The Estate of Dick Higgins is represented by Dennis Rosenthal Fine Art.



Cornetist, improviser, composer, and music presenter Josh Berman is an essential contributor to Chicago's active improvised music scene. His work encompasses both developing opportunities for presenting improvised music, and performing in a variety of highly collaborative formats. He's a co-founder of critically acclaimed Umbrella Music, and curator of the Sunday night music series at the Hungry Brain. He's performed as bandleader of his own

groups, Josh Berman Trio, Josh Berman's Old Idea, and Josh Berman and His Gang, and as co-leader of Chicago Luzern Exchange.

In addition to his work as bandleader, Berman has performed and recorded with some of the most internationally respected musicians and composers in jazz and improvised music: Bill Dixon, Ab Baars, Keefe Jackson, Joe McPhee, Jason Adasiewicz, Mike Reed, Michael Moore, Ken Vandermark, Frank Rosaly, Rob Mazurek, Jason Stein, Jeb Bishop, Dave Rempis, Michael Zerang, Fred Lonberg-Holm, and Paul Lytton. He is also a frequent collaborator with dance artists; his collaboration with dancer Ayako Kato and musician Jason Roebke was awarded a CROSSCUT grant for New Collaborations in Sound/Movement from Experimental Sound Studio and Links Hall. Berman was named in the DownBeat critics' poll among Rising Stars, Trumpet. He has toured the United States, Canada, Europe, and Japan.



Stephen Burns

Conductor, composer and trumpeter Stephen Burns is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Fulcrum Point New Music Project in Chicago. He has been acclaimed on four continents for his virtuosity and interpretative depth in recitals, orchestral appearances, chamber music, and multi-media performances. He has worked closely with composers John Corigliano, Osvaldo Golijov, Gunther Schuller, Jacob TV, and La Monte Young. Native to Wellesley, Massachusetts, Mr. Burns studied under Carmine Caruso, Armando Ghitalla, Arnold Jacobs, Vincent

Penzarella, Gerard Schwarz, Pierre Thibaud, William Vacchiano, and Roger Voisin at the Tanglewood Music Center, the Juilliard School, and postgraduate work in Paris. He won the Young Concert Artists International Auditions, Avery Fisher Career Grant, the NEA Recital Grant, the Naumburg Award, the Charles Colin Award, the Meier Arts Achievement Award, and the Maurice André Concours International de Paris. A certified teacher in The Art of Practicing and Performing Beyond Fear, Mr. Burns is on faculty at DePaul University's School of Music and The Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University, as well as a Visiting Lecturer with Amici della Musica in Florence, Italy. CDs at Naxos, MHS, Dorian, Delos, Essay, Kleos, & Innova. Stephen Burns is a Yamaha Performing Artist.



Ben LaMar Gay is a composer and cornetist who moves sound, color, and space through folkloric filters to produce electro-acoustic collages. His unification of various styles is always in service of the narrative and never solely a display of technique. A Chicago native, Ben's true technique is giving life to an idea while exploring and expanding on the term "Americana."

By being active in Chicago's experimental music scene and having spent a three-year residency in Brazil, Ben has collaborated with several influential figures in the world of music, including Joshua Abrams, the Association of the Advancement of Creative Musicians, Bixiga 70, Black Monks of Mississippi, Celso Fonseca, George Lewis, Nicole Mitchell, Jeff Parker, Theo Parrish, Mike Reed, Tomeka Reid, and Itibere Zwarg.



Chad McCullough is "a Chicago trumpeter with a remarkable lyrical gift" (*Chicago Tribune*) and his performance around the world with a variety of ensembles have garnered critical acclaim. His latest album *Forward* (Outside In Music) has been featured on many "Best Jazz Recordings of 2020" lists, and drew high international praise. He has been a featured performer in jazz festivals in Chicago, New York, Seattle, Dublin, Belgium, UK, Italy, and Canada, and performed in Indonesia, Macedonia, Slovakia, The Netherlands, and Japan. His work with Belgian pianist Bram Weijters has spawned nearly 200 concerts globally within the last decade.

His compositions have been featured in film, international radio, NPR, and he has written for many modern dance ensembles. McCullough has performed with Miguel Zenon, Dave Douglas, Tim Hagans, Maria Schneider, Kendrick Scott, and Steve Coleman, and been featured at the Chicago JRAC series 15 times. A recipient of two DCASE grants from the City of Chicago, McCullough is currently on faculty in the jazz studies departments at DePaul University and UW-Madison. He is endorsed by AR Resonance trumpets and mouthpieces.



Corey Wilkes is an award-winning, highly acclaimed musician, producer, actor, and composer who has captivated audiences around the world with his mesmerizing trumpet playing and unique musical vision. As an in-demand touring and recording artist he has collaborated with some of the biggest names in jazz and beyond including the Art Ensemble of Chicago, Roy Hargrove, Kahil El'Zabar, Tedeschi Trucks, Nicole Mitchell, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Makaya McCraven, James Carter and many more. As an actor he has appear for six seasons on the hit show "Empire". Wilkes received an Emmy for his soundtrack to the documentary "Ida B. Wells". A Grammy nominated artist, Wilkes has collaborated with the Ethnic Heritage ensemble, Theaster Gates, Nick Cave, and Lucy Slivinsky.



Bill Denton is Principal Trumpet with the Lyric Opera of Chicago. He is a member of the trumpet faculty at Depaul University and has presented performances and masterclasses at Northwestern, Roosevelt, and Northern Illinois Universities. Bill frequently performs as Principal Trumpet with the Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra. He has also appeared with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as a substitute trumpeter and with the Dempster Street Pro-Musica Chamber Ensemble. Prior to moving to Chicago, he was the 2nd/Assistant Principal Trumpet with the Alabama Symphony in Birmingham. Bill was a middle school and high school band director for five years, and has taught as an adjunct faculty member at several universities in Georgia and South Carolina.



A native of Colombia, Diana Lopez began to play the trumpet when she was eight years old. At eleven years old, Diana was accepted to study in the Music Conservatory of Tolima. Diana has participated in many competitions in her country such as the Conservatory of Tolima Concerto Competition, National Trumpet Competition, Young Artist Competition, among others. From 2013 to 2016 she was a member of Bogotá Philharmonic Band and performed with the Philharmonic Orchestra of Bogotá and National Symphony Orchestra of Colombia.

Diana earned her Bachelor of Music degree in trumpet performance at Lynn University Conservatory of Music with professor Marc Reese, and an Advanced Certificate in Orchestral Studies from The Orchestra Now (Bard College). She has also studied with Benjamin Wright of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Diana is the founder of the Women's Brass Association of Colombia (Fembrass) of which around 80 women from different Latin American countries belong. She created it to provide education, opportunities and community to inspire female brass players in Latin America.



Rebecca Oliverio is currently a member of the Chicago Lyric Opera Orchestra. Prior to joining the Lyric Opera, Ms. Oliverio spent one season with the New World Symphony in Miami Beach. She received her Master of Music degree at Northwestern University where she studied with David Bilger, Channing Philbrick, Thomas Rolfs, Michael Sachs and Robert Sullivan. During her undergraduate degree at Boston University she studied in London at the Royal College of Music with Mark Calder and Paul Sharp on natural trumpet. Her teachers at BU were Terry Everson, Thomas Rolfs and Thomas Siders. Summer engagements during her studies included fellowships at the Tanglewood Music Center, Music Academy of the West and the National Repertory Orchestra. In addition, she was a member of the New England Brass Band as a front row cornet player and soloist. She has also performed with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Boston Philharmonic.

Fulcrum Point New Music Project

Created in 1998 by Stephen Burns, Fulcrum Point New Music Project pushes the boundaries of the musical experience globally by supporting new compositions, creating and performing new music experiences, and educating audiences to imagine the possibilities of music. Its programs are influenced by popular culture, literature, film, dance, jazz, Latin, and world music. Through multi-disciplinary programs, Fulcrum Point encourages audiences to make cross-cultural connections between new music, art, and technology, gaining greater insight into today's diverse world. Fulcrum Point's *AuxIn: Connected* and *Discoveries: Hear & Be Heard* are co-curated by Caitlin Edwards and Angelo Hart.

Please visit www.fulcrumpoint.org to learn more about upcoming programs like Music for Trumpets and Trees September 9, 2023 around Cloud Gate (aka The Bean), Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman #5 in celebration of The Harris Theater's 20th Anniversary. We invite you to take advantage of opportunities to get involved with Fulcrum Point as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary in 2023: participate in helping us commission new works by underrepresented composers through Hindsight/Foresight; support our education initiatives Sound Tracks, Creating Identity, and Discoveries: Hear & Be Heard, as well as opportunities to serve on the AuxIn: Connected Board of young professionals or the FPNMP Board of Directors.

Stephen Burns
Founder and Artistic Director
Fulcrum Point New Music Project

Fulcrum Point New Music Project staff

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