

fulcrumpoint
NEW MUSIC PROJECT 



**Discoveries: Hear & Be Heard
AuxIn: Connected!**

**Fulcrum Point Presents
Joy Guidry's Radical Acceptance**

Curated by Caitlin Edwards

July 1, 2022 | 8:30 PM
Constellation Chicago
3111 N. Western Avenue, Chicago

Welcome to the second *Discoveries: Hear & Be Heard AuxIn: Connected!* concert curated by Caitlin Edwards. Joy Guidry's "Radical Acceptance" features excerpts from their eponymous debut album, which Peter Margasak reviewed as The Best Classical Contemporary on Bandcamp in February 2022. In this review Margasak appreciated Guidry's 'howling, free-jazz-like' music for its 'haunted ambiance', 'harrowing darkness' and 'ominous grace'. We know you'll enjoy this artist's creative perspective.

Before we begin, we note that we are grateful to the First Nations' Council of the Three Fires—the Odawa, Ojibwe and Potawatomi—for their curation of this land that we share and upon which we hold this concert. As we bring together different cultures, generations, genders, and musical styles we honor their tribal elders as well as the legacy of the great musicians who came before us and upon whose shoulders we stand.

In 2021 Fulcrum Point created **Hindsight/Foresight: Amplifying the Voices of Under Represented Composers** to address social justice, climate change, and global crises through new art music composed by often ignored composers (AALANA, women, LGBTQ+) thus encouraging younger, more diverse audiences to experience new art music in powerful contexts. Through the generous support of The Walder Foundation we are proud to present Joy Guidry in concert and conversation, as we'll be doing a deep dive into their inspiration, process, and artistic insights into new art music. We look forward to hearing your voices as well.

Thank you to Mike Reed and Constellation for welcoming us this evening. Please join us here again on July 22, 2022 when co-curator Angelo Hart will lead an AuxIn: Connected concert "Space and Dissonance" with master drummer/percussionist Avreeayl Ra and saxophonist Dave Rempis.

Stephen Burns
Founder & Artistic Director
Fulcrum Point New Music Project

Radical Acceptance

Face to Face

Live Electronics

Joy Guidry (1995)

Inner Child

Bassoon and Live Electronics

Joy Guidry (1995)

72 hours

Live Electronics

Joy Guidry (1995)

How to Breathe While Dying

Bassoon and Electronics

Joy Guidry (1995)

Grace

Live Electronics

Joy Guidry (1995)

Radical Acceptance is the title of Joy's new album, and it tells their story of processing trauma, self-care, self-love, and finding hope for the future. Drawing inspiration from the work of Sonya Renee Taylor, who has defined radical self-love as "its own entity, a lush and verdant island are offering safe harbor for self-esteem and self-confidence." While Joy's musical offerings represent a range of musical idioms and methodologies from improvisation and graphic scores to multimedia and gospel, the uniting principle for Guidry is a focus on the importance of affirmation, validation, and self-care.

Guidry states, "Radical acceptance is a personal practice that has evolved in my life over the past year. This doesn't mean there aren't still tough times, but times of warmth and comfort are much more present these days. I will never be able to change my past, the things that hurt me, but I can live a peaceful and beautiful life of my own creation. The most important thing I've had to teach myself is that there is nothing wrong with my body or my brain. My body is fat and I struggle with my mental health daily, and neither of those things makes me any less of a human being. I know that my Black, Fat, Queer, and Non-binary body is valid in every way. Learning to love my whole self unconditionally will be a lifelong journey, but I am just so happy to be where I am today. This is my radical acceptance."

The concert features Joy Guidry on bassoon, voice, electronics

Biographies

Radical self-love, compassion, laughter, and the drive to amplify Black artmakers and noisemakers comprise the core of NYC-based bassoonist and composer **Joy Guidry's** work. Their performances have been hailed by The San Diego Tribune as "lyrical and haunting...hair-raising and unsettling." A versatile improviser and a composer of experimental, daring new works that embody a deep love of storytelling, Joy's own music channels their inner child in honor of their ancestors and predecessors. Joy seeks to support, hire, and promote Black artists in every aspect of their practice. To this end, Joy has spearheaded Sounds of the African Diaspora, a competition and commissioning platform for composers from the African diaspora. This new initiative ensures that composers from the diaspora have access to the space, resources, and time necessary to foster new, innovative music.

Joy holds a bachelor's degree in Bassoon Performance from the Peabody Conservatory and a Graduate Performance Diploma from the Mannes School of Music. They have performed with the Dance Centre Kenya Ballet Orchestra, International Contemporary Ensemble, Alarm Will Sound, and have been a featured soloist in Yvette Jackson's opera *Fear is their Alibi* that premiered at the 2021 PROTOTYPE festival. They have been commissioned by The National Sawdust, Long Beach Opera, JACK Quartet, and the I&I Foundation, and they have attended and been featured by prestigious festivals, including the Spoleto Festival USA and the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. Guidry is the winner of the 2021 Berlin Prize for Young Artist.

www.guidrybassoon.com

Caitlin Edwards is co-curator with Angelo Hart of two Fulcrum Point series: *AuxIn:Connected!* and *Discoveries: Hear & Be Heard*. She is a classically trained violinist, arranger, recording artist, and teacher based in Chicago. She is a 2021 3Arts/Walder Foundation award recipient. Caitlin released her debut album *Exhale* in August of 2021. She has performed with the Sphinx Symphony Orchestra, Nairobi Philharmonic, Grant Park Festival Orchestra, and Chicago Sinfonietta. She's played and recorded with artists such as John Legend, Ms. Lauryn Hill, Common, and with PJ Morton's on his "Gumbo Album," for which she received a Grammy Certificate. She also recorded for the Disney movie score, *The Lion King*, with the ReCollective Orchestra at Sony Studios. Caitlin's

current projects include writing and arranging strings for upcoming projects, remote recording for albums, teaching, and working on her EP set to debut summer of 2021.

www.caitlinedwards.com

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. We embrace a broad range of experimental styles and multimedia content. Our programs are influenced by popular culture, literature, film, dance, jazz, Latin and world music. We create dynamic new programming with an emphasis on cross-cultural exchange, improvisation, technology, and collaboration. Through multi-disciplinary programs, we encourage audiences to make cross-cultural connections between new music, art, and technology, gaining greater insight into today's diverse world. Fulcrum Point New Music Project empowers artists and communities to create new art music that enriches people's lives and brings about a more empathic world.

AuxIn: Connected! is Fulcrum Point New Music Project's series of pop-up parties connecting rising professionals with emerging musicians throughout Chicago. Held in clubs and bars, each mixer features a unique line-up of new art music designed to stimulate curiosity and conversation. Come solo or bring a date, grab a drink, and experience something completely new.

Through our interactive contemporary music series, ***Discoveries: Hear & Be Heard***, we connect contemporary composers with the passionate public and engage them in lively dialogue about the creative process. Audience members and musicians enter into a post-performance dialogue about the composers' inspirations and explore how music communicates feelings and concepts in the most effective manner.

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