



SAN FRANCISCO
CONTEMPORARY
MUSIC PLAYERS

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SFCMP Celebrates Lou Harrison Centennial with Weekend of Film, Music, and New Works by SF Search Winners

Two-Day Festival Also Features Composers Jimmy Lopez and Natacha Diels

SAN FRANCISCO (March 20, 2017) – **San Francisco Contemporary Music Players** (SFCMP) announces its upcoming weekend festival, *Lou Harrison: A Centenary Celebration*, on Friday, April 21, through Saturday, April 22, 2017, at the Z Space, 450 Florida Street in San Francisco. The two-day festival will begin on Friday evening with a film on Harrison's work. Events on the following day include three concerts, including SFCMP's presentation of works by the three young composers who won its *SF SEARCH* competition as well as works by composers Jimmy Lopez and Natacha Diels, who will discuss their work. Tickets for the events are on sale now.

The Friday evening film that kicks off the event, titled "Lou Harrison: A World of Music", is an exciting documentary by Eva Soltes that provides insights into the nature and development of Harrison's work through numerous interviews with colleagues of Harrison and the composer himself. The film begins at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday's all-day program features three SFCMP concerts, composer talks, and conversations about Lou Harrison's life and works. Concert #1, "SF Search 2016-17," will present works by the three winners of SFCMP's *SF Search* program, which seeks new Bay Area talent among under-30 composers. Winners this year include Roger Kim, whose work "'Quartet with One Theme" will be performed; Michelle Zheng, whose composition "Rift" will be performed; and Benjamin Zucker, whose composition is titled "Sarabandisms." This concert begins at 11:00 a.m.

A composer talk, part of SFCMP's "How Music Is Made" series, featuring guest composers Jimmy Lopez and Natacha Diels, will take place on stage from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Lopez's work will be featured in Concert #2, and Diels' in Concert #3 later the same day.

At 2:30 p.m., Concert #2 features works by Lou Harrison (*Canticle # 3* and *Varied Trio*); Jimmy Lopez (*Ccantu*, preceded by a conversation with the composer); and Annie Gosfield (*Daughters of the Industrial Revolution*).

At 6:30 p.m., Steven Schick will converse with David Tanenbaum, William Winant and Karen Gottlieb, SFCMP Ensemble members and friends of Lou Harrison, in a segment titled, "Knowing Lou."

The third concert of the day will again feature Harrison's work, this time the *Suite for Cello and Harp* and *Scenes from Nek Chand*, as well as Gity Razaz's *Shadow Lines* and Natacha Diels's composition *The Colors*

Don't Match, preceded by a conversation on stage with Diels.

A cash bar serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages is available before the events.

SFCMP Artistic Director Stephen Schick commented, "We celebrate the legacy and music of Lou Harrison through performances of his music—often with the performers who worked most extensively with him—and by interposing his music with younger composers, many from the Bay Area. What greater tribute to a composer at his centennial than to show how it lives on the language of emerging composers!"

Tickets for the individual weekend concerts range from \$15-25 each, and an all-weekend pass is available for \$60. The film on Friday evening is \$10. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <http://www.zspace.org/lou-harrison-a-cent>.

The April concert is part of SFCMP's "At the CROSSROADS" concert series, which helps audiences discover the music of iconic contemporary classical composers performed alongside cutting-edge emerging composers from California and beyond. In this case, the featuring of Lou Harrison's work at this centennial celebration alongside the work of the three under-30 composers who won SFCMP's *SF Search 2016-17* competition will help audiences see the scope and impact of Harrison's work on the younger generation.

SFCMP's *At the Crossroads* Series is one of SFCMP's three established concert series, the other two being its *In the Laboratory* Series, showcasing large-scale contemporary classical works that push the boundaries of the concert format and experience, and its "On Stage" Series, bringing to the stage some of the most influential national and international contemporary classical composers of the 20th and 21st centuries.

About the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players

San Francisco Contemporary Music Players (SFCMP) provides world-class contemporary classical music performances of the leading national and international artists of our time to San Francisco Bay Area audiences. SFCMP expands and enhances the contemporary music repertoire by collaborating with composers on the interpretation, recording and commissioning of new works. SFCMP helps develop emerging audiences for this genre of music through the education and mentorship of emerging composers and players.

SFCMP was founded by Jean-Louis LeRoux, Marcella DeCray and Charles Boone in March 1971 and incorporated as a nonprofit in August 1974. Throughout its history, SFCMP has been led by six Artistic Directors and seven Executive Directors with continuous support and oversight by an active Board of Directors. SFCMP plays an important role in the regional and national cultural landscape as the most long-standing, continually performing new music ensemble outside the East Coast.

About Steven Schick

Percussionist, conductor, and author, Steven Schick was raised in an Iowa farming family. For forty years he has championed contemporary music by commissioning or premiering more than 150 new works. He was the founding percussionist of the Bang on a Can All-Stars (1992-2002) and served as Artistic Director of the Centre International de Percussion de Genève (2000-2005). Schick is founder and Artistic Director of the percussion group, "red fish blue fish." Currently he is Music Director of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus in addition to serving as SFCMP's Artistic Director. In 2012 he became the first Artist-in-Residence with the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE). Schick founded and is currently Artistic Director of "Roots and Rhizomes," a summer course on contemporary percussion music held at the Banff Centre for the Arts. He maintains a lively schedule of guest

conducting including appearances this season with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Nova Chamber Ensemble and the Asko/Schönberg Ensemble. Schick was music director of the 2015 Ojai Festival. Among his acclaimed publications are a book, *The Percussionist's Art: Same Bed, Different Dreams*, and numerous recordings of contemporary percussion music including a three-CD set of the complete percussion music of Iannis Xenakis (Mode). Mode released a companion recording on DVD of the early percussion music of Karlheinz Stockhausen in September of 2014. Steven Schick is Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of California, San Diego. He was named Artistic Director of SFCMP in 2011.

Biographies of SFCMP ensemble members can be accessed online at: <http://sfcmp.org/category/players>.