



SAN FRANCISCO
CONTEMPORARY
MUSIC PLAYERS

Contact:
Cheryl Steets

Marketing and Communications Director
press@sfcmp.org - (415) 633-8802

SFCMP KICKS OFF 2018 WITH MEREDITH MONK IN CONCERT

Concert Including Works by Monk, Zorn, Rzewski, Byron, Brown, and Fung is Incoming Artistic Director Eric Dudley's first with SFCMP

SAN FRANCISCO (December 20, 2017) – **San Francisco Contemporary Music Players (SFCMP)** announces its January 19, 2018, seven-work concert, which contains a full spectrum of unusual highlights, including a special guest appearance by world-renowned maverick composer and singer Meredith Monk, who will be present for a performance by SFCMP and discussion of two of her more cinematic works, *Ellis Island* for duo pianos (featured in her award-winning film of the same name) and *Cave Song* from her feature-length film, *Book of Days*. Additionally, Grammy-nominated SFCMP percussionist and frequent John Zorn collaborator William Winant will lead a performance of Zorn's *Cobra*, in which the performers are prompted to execute different instrumental techniques, sonic textures, or playing styles in various ensemble formations, resulting in a dynamic and often surprising real-time musical compositions. Also on the program are Frederic Rzewski's *Les Moutons de Panurge*, selections from Pulitzer Prize finalist Don Byron's *7 Etudes*, and two works by Bay Area composers, *Under the Rug* by Ryan Brown, and *Twist* for guitar and violin by Vivian Fung. The concert will be led by incoming SFCMP artistic director Eric Dudley, whose position will officially begin in the 2018-19 season.

The event takes place at the Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 50 Oak St., San Francisco, CA 94102, at 7:30 p.m. Preceding the concert is an open dress rehearsal of *Twist* by Vivian Fung from 4:00 - 4:30 p.m., followed by a composer talk with Fung and Ryan Brown, "How Music Is Made," facilitated by incoming SFCMP artistic director Eric Dudley, from 4:30 - 5:20 p.m. Both of these pre-concert events are free and open to the public. Ticketholders are also invited to a pre-concert discussion between Dudley and SFCMP musicians at 6:45 p.m. Tickets for the concert are on sale now.

This concert is part of SFCMP's ongoing *In the Laboratory* concert series, which showcases large-scale contemporary classical works that push the boundaries of the concert format through experimentation and exploration. This concert is also part of SFCMP's [Side-by-Side program](#) with the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, a program that encourages and mentors the next generation of new music performers.

Considering the concert program, incoming SFCMP artistic director Eric Dudley said, "This January's *In the Laboratory* Series concert will be an enthralling combination of virtuosity and spontaneity, as we feature through-composed works by Vivian Fung, Ryan Brown, and Don Byron alongside exploratory pieces for open instrumentation. Student performers from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music join SFCMP players to create fresh and dynamic side-by-side interpretations of John Zorn's *Cobra* and Frederic Rzewski's *Les Moutons de Panurge*, and as a special addition to the program, we're overjoyed to welcome all-star composer/singer and creative maverick Meredith Monk for an onstage discussion and presentation of two of her works. This concert is a thrilling alignment of forces not to be missed!"

Tickets for the concert range from \$15-35 and can be purchased at the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sfcmp-in-concert-with-monk-works-by-zorn-monk-rzewski-byron-fung-brown-tickets-36660814483><https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sfcmp-in-concert-with-monk-works-by-zorn-monk-rzewski-byron-fung-brown-tickets-36660814483>.

For ease of reference, here are the extended details of the expansive January 19 concert program, including the scheduled performers.

Vivian FUNG

Twist (2014) 14'

Electric Guitar: David Tanenbaum

Violin: Roy Malan

Don BYRON

Etudes 1,2,5 and 6 from Etudes for Vocalizing Pianist (2009) 10'

Kate Campbell, piano

Ryan BROWN

Under the Rug (2010) 6'

*Nick Woodbury, Performer; Karen Gottlieb, harp; Clio Tilton**, viola; Kate Campbell, John Jaworski, and Wilton Huang+*

Meredith MONK

in Conversation and a Q&A with

Incoming Artistic Director Eric Dudley

Meredith MONK

Cave Song from Book of Days (1988) 5'

Courtney McPhail+, soprano; Marina Davis+, mezzo-soprano; Karen Gottlieb, harp

Meredith MONK

Ellis Island (1981) 5'

Kate Campbell, piano; Taylor Chan+, piano

~ INTERMISSION ~

Frederic RZEWSKI

Les Moutons de Panurge (1969) 12'

Kyle Bruckmann, oboe; Jeff Anderle, clarinet; David Tanenbaum, electric guitar; Nick Woodbury, percussion; Margarita Pinkosz+, keyboard; Tin Yi Wong+, keyboard; Wilton Huang+, violin; Natalia Badziak+, viola; Hannah Addario-Berry, cello; Qianqian Jin+, electronics

John ZORN

Cobra (1984) 20-25'

Directed by SFCMP ensemble member William Winant

Kyle Bruckmann, oboe; Jeff Anderle, clarinet; Dana Jessen**, bassoon; John Schott**, electric guitar; Nick Woodbury, drumkit; Margarita Pinkosz+, keyboard; Tin Yi Wong+, keyboard; Wilton Huang+, violin; Natalia Badziak+, viola; Hannah Addario-Berry, cello; Qianqian Jin+, electronics; Yihan Lou+, voice.

** guest artists

+ SFCM students

CONCERT-DAY SCHEDULE

HOW MUSIC IS MADE (free and open to the public)

4:00 pm Open Dress Rehearsal of "Twist" by Vivian Fung

4:30 – 5:20 pm Composer Talk: Vivian Fung and Ryan Brown in conversation with incoming Artistic Director Eric Dudley

CONCERT (for ticket buyers)

6:45 pm Pre-concert discussion with incoming Artistic Director Eric Dudley and Players

7:30 pm Concert with special guest Meredith Monk

9:00 pm Post-Concert Party

For more information, visit SFCMP.org.

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.

About Eric Dudley

Born in Toronto and raised in Connecticut, Eric Dudley leads a multi-faceted career as a conductor, composer, vocalist, and pianist deeply engaged in the performance and creation of contemporary music. Since its founding in 2009, Eric has been a member of the new music vocal octet Roomful of Teeth, touring nationally and worldwide and recording commissioned works with the Grammy Award-winning ensemble. In the 2018-2019 season, he returns to Australia as principal conductor for the Bendigo Festival of Exploratory Music, where he has also appeared on the Melbourne Festival, and leads Roomful of Teeth and Ensemble L'Instant Donné in a production with Peter Sellars at the Paris Festival d'Automne. Living in New York City for almost a decade, he conducted and performed with organizations as diverse as Ekmeles and Tenet vocal ensembles, the Choir of Trinity Wall Street, Talea Ensemble, American Symphony Orchestra, Ensemble Signal and the New York Philharmonic. For four years, he served as assistant conductor for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra under Paavo Järvi, and recent guest engagements include the Ojai Festival in California, International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) in New York and Finland, and the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center. He was on the faculty of The New School and Mannes College of Music in New York, and currently directs the orchestra program at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. As a pianist and chamber musician, he has performed with members of Novus New York and the Cincinnati and Princeton symphony orchestras, and his own music has been premiered and recorded by the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, Quey Percussion Duo, and by Roomful of Teeth. Eric lives in Walnut Creek with his wife Melanie and their infant son Ethan.

About Meredith Monk

Meredith Monk is a composer, singer, director/choreographer and creator of new opera, music-theater works, films and installations. Considered one of the most unique and influential artists of our time, she is a pioneer in what is now called "extended vocal technique" and "interdisciplinary performance." Over the last six decades Monk has received numerous awards and honors, most recently the 2017 Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize and a 2015 National Medal of Arts from President Barack Obama. She has made more than a dozen recordings, most of which are on the ECM New Series label, including the 2008 Grammy-nominated *impermanence* and the highly acclaimed *Piano Songs* (2014) and *On Behalf of Nature* (2016). In conjunction with her 50th season of performing and creating work, she was named Carnegie Hall's 2014-15 Debs Composer's Chair. Celebrated internationally, Ms. Monk's work has been presented at major venues throughout the world. www.meredithmonk.org

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