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[Press kits](#)

SAN FRANCISCO (September 18, 2018) - **San Francisco Contemporary Music Players** (SFCMP) announces its season-opening concert featuring a celebration of the music of Elliott **CARTER** on Saturday, October 20, 2018 at the Taube Atrium Theater in San Francisco. The **on STAGE Series** features large-ensemble contemporary works of the most influential and innovative composers of the 20th and 21st centuries. Carter was the grandest of the grand American composers from the 20th century, who lived beyond his 100th birthday and yet wrote music that was fresh, inventive, and forward-looking to the very end of life. SFCMP welcomes its newly arrived artistic director, Eric **DUDLEY**, with a program featuring three of Carter's works, including the rhythmically energetic and emotionally powerful *Penthode* for twenty players. Complementing Carter's enduring voice will be a wry work by the young American composer, Asher Tobin **CHODOS**, written for an instrumentation uniquely drawn from Carter's *Penthode*, plus Canadian composer Sabrina **SCHROEDER**'s *Bone Games/Shy Garden*, an essay in the sensuality of noises. The series will begin with our popular *How Music is Made* Composer Talk and Open Rehearsal with composer Tobin Chodos.

Audiences can expect to see a number of compositional voices brought into the mix that have never been a part of the ensemble's lexicon. This season-opening performance will begin with Asher Tobin Chodos, a young California-based composer who will showcase his world premiere of *Big Show*, an Elliot Carter-inspired piece commissioned by SFCMP. In his piece *Big Show*, Chodos exhibits a fresh take on aspects of Carter's work:

"Carter's endlessly stimulating polyphonic writing has been seen by many as a sort of musical version of an idealized democracy: a harmony that emerges from many dissenting voices. The central idea of this piece is to model the polity that I actually inhabit, which is quite different from the idealized one people usually associate with Carter. In *Big Show*, I use various formal techniques derived from my engagement with Carter, but this is ultimately a piece where dissenting voices are corralled and disciplined rather than encouraged. That may sound like a grim vision, and in some ways it is, but at its heart this piece is my attempt to find room for beauty and humor in that brutal sonic environment" (Chodos).

Dudley shares, "Our season-opening concert reflects a dialogue between composers and their works from across generations and many miles—we're able to hear staple pieces of the modern repertoire by a voice as enduring as Elliott Carter's, alongside brilliant new works by up-and-coming composers that respond and interact in some way to those pieces and to Carter's legacy. These are the kinds of musical conversations I will continue to explore in future seasons with the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players."

This concert is made possible through the generous support of The Amphion Foundation Special Projects

OCT 20 PROGRAM

Elliott Carter, *A 6 Letter Letter* (1996)

Elliott Carter, *Changes* (1983)

Sabrina Schroeder, *Bone Games/Shy Garden* (2016) (12') (USP)

Tobin Chodos, *Big Show* / Elliott Carter-inspired (2018) (SFCMP Commission, world premiere)

Elliott Carter, *Penthode* (1985)

SAT, OCT 20, 2018

SFCMP Performances on STAGE Series

Carter and Beyond: Invention and Inspiration

at Taube Atrium Theater 401 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco, CA 94102

4:00pm-5:15pm *How Music is Made Program*: Open dress rehearsal of “New Work” by Chodos followed by a composer talk hosted by Eric Dudley (**no ticket required**)

6:45pm Pre-concert discussion with SFCMP Players

7:30pm Concert (**ticket required**)

Tickets available at <https://sfcmp.org/individual-tickets/?eid=26832>

Tickets \$35 General Admission/\$15 Student



About Eric Dudley, SFCMP Artistic Director

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 genre-defying vocal octet Roomful of Teeth, touring worldwide and recording a wide array of newly commissioned works with the Grammy Award-winning ensemble. He moved to the Bay Area in 2016 to oversee the orchestra program at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, becoming the next Artistic Director for the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players in 2017. This year, Eric also returns to Australia as principal conductor for the Bendigo Festival of Exploratory Music, and leads Roomful of Teeth and Ensemble L'Instant Donné in a production with Peter Sellars at the Paris Festival d'Automne.

While living in New York City, Eric 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. He was an assistant conductor for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra under Paavo Järvi and the Princeton Symphony Orchestra under Rossen Milanov for several seasons, and some of his recent guest engagements include the Ojai Festival in California, International Contemporary Ensemble (*ICE*) in New York and Finland, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra in Australia, and the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center.

Eric served on the faculty of Mannes College of Music at the The New School in New York, where he directed the Mannes Prep Philharmonic and The New School Chorus. He currently teaches the graduate conducting majors at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and has been appointed to a year-long Artist-in-Residence position at the Conservatory of Music at University of the Pacific in Stockton.

As a pianist and chamber musician, he has performed with members of Novus New York and the Cincinnati and Princeton symphony orchestras. His own music has been premiered and recorded by the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, Quey Percussion Duo, and by Roomful of Teeth.

Eric holds a bachelor's degree in composition from the Eastman School of Music, and both a master's and doctorate degree in orchestral conducting from Yale, where he was the recipient of the Dean's Prize. He lives in Walnut Creek, California with his wife Melanie and their infant son Ethan.

About San Francisco Contemporary Music Players

The San Francisco Contemporary Music Players (SFCMP), is a unionized ensemble of twenty-four highly skilled musicians. SFCMP nourishes the creation and dissemination of new works through world-class contemporary music performances, commissions, and community outreach. SFCMP features the work of iconic and emerging composers while shining a spotlight on California artists. SFCMP performs the music of composers from across cultures and stylistic traditions who are creating a vast and vital 21st-century musical language.

Now in its forty-eighth year, SFCMP is one of the most active ensembles in the United States dedicated to contemporary music. Led by Artistic Director Eric Dudley since 2018, SFCMP plays an important role in the regional and national cultural landscape. The most long-standing, continually-performing, new music ensemble outside the East Coast, SFCMP has greatly contributed to the art form and the new music sector. SFCMP is a recent award winner of the Fromm Foundation Ensemble Prize, and a ten-time winner of the CMA/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming. SFCMP has performed more than 1,200 works by over 600 composers; Over 300 of these performances have been premieres, and the organization has commissioned some 80 new works from composers such as John Adams, John Cage, Mel Powell, Du Yun, and Julia Wolfe. SFCMP has been presented by leading cultural festivals and concert series including San Francisco Performances, Los Angeles Monday Evening Concerts, Cal Performances, the Stern Grove Festival, the Festival of New American Music at CSU Sacramento, the Ojai Festival, and France's prestigious MANCA Festival.

For more information, and hi-resolution images visit [SFCMP.org/press-kits/](https://www.sfcmp.org/press-kits/)