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SF Contemporary Music Players present 'A Celebration of the Elements:' a community music event
December 8, 2019 at The Women's Building in San Francisco, featuring the U.S. premiere of a new work by composer Vivian Fung, with special guest artist Haruka Fujii.

SAN FRANCISCO (November 14, 2019) – San Francisco Contemporary Music Players announces an event on Sunday, December 8, from 3-4:30 pm at The Women's Building in San Francisco's Mission District, featuring the U.S. premiere of a new work by composer Vivian Fung, with special guest artist Haruka Fujii. This event is a part of the Contemporary Players' annual *In the Community* series, which presents contemporary musical works in a fun, festive and welcoming atmosphere.

Vivian Fung, Bay Area resident and internationally renowned Canadian composer, has created a work with a strongly topical and urgent meditation about the beauty and importance of our natural resources. As California and the west coast continues to experience the effects of droughts and increasingly destructive wildfires, we pause for a moment of reflection, remembrance and communal gathering to consider the life-sustaining qualities of nature's most essential elemental force through Fung's recently composed piece for solo percussion, *The Ice is Talking*.

Premiered in the summer of 2018 at the Banff Centre in Alberta- itself situated in the midst of snow-capped mountain peaks and nearby retreating glacial flows in the Canadian Rockies- the piece utilizes taps and swishes on three blocks of ice 'to illustrate the beauty and fragility of our environment.' Augmented by electronic means, which might suggest in sideways fashion mankind's impact on the forces of nature, the piece weaves its thesis through the very act of performing on a medium that is ever so slowly melting away over the course of the performance itself.

We then open the door for group interaction and commentary through a communal piece called "How to (blank)," by composer and member of Sō Percussion Quartet Jason Hussein Treuting, where audience members are invited to join in creating music based in part on the day's news headlines (and, avid instrumentalists with portable instruments are invited to bring them!).

The concert will take place at The Women's Building in San Francisco, located at 3543 18th St, #8, San Francisco, CA 94110 on December 8, 2019. Doors open at 3:00pm, with light snacks and refreshments available before and after the performance.

TICKETS

Admission is free, and more information is available at <https://sfcmp.org/individual-tickets/?eid=34822>

SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 8, 2019 at The Women's Building in San Francisco

3:00pm, Doors open, light snacks and refreshments available

3:30pm, Performance with Haruka Fujii, soloist, and participation in a community-made work by Jason Treuting

4:10-4:30pm, time for more snacking, mingling, and discussion



About Vivian Fung, Composer

<http://vivianfung.ca/>

<http://sfcmp.org/press-kits/>

JUNO Award-winning composer Vivian Fung has a unique talent for combining idiosyncratic textures and styles into large-scale works, reflecting her multicultural background. NPR calls her “[o]ne of today’s most eclectic composers.” This is supported by many of her recent works, including *Humanoid* for solo cello and prerecorded electronics; *Clarinet Quintet: Frenetic Memories*, a reflection on her travels to visit minority groups in China’s Yunnan province; *Earworms*, commissioned by Canada’s National Arts Centre Orchestra, which musically depicts our diverted attention spans and our multi-tasking lives; and *The Ice Is Talking* for solo percussion and electronics, using three ice blocks to illustrate the beauty and fragility of our environment.

Highlights of Fung’s 2018–2019 season include a new orchestral work commissioned by the Winnipeg New Music Festival; a new work for two solo violins and strings for the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, to be premiered in Winnipeg and then taken on MCO’s tour of the Maritime provinces; and a new string quartet for the American String Quartet, commissioned by the Red Bank Chamber Music Society.

Born in Edmonton, Canada, Fung received her doctorate from The Juilliard School in New York. She currently lives in California, where she is on the faculty of Santa Clara University, and currently serves as Vice Chair of the board of the American Composers Forum. For more information, please visit www.vivianfung.net

About Jason Hussein Treuting, Composer

<http://www.goodchildmusic.com/jason-treuting/>

<http://sfcmp.org/press-kits/>

Composer/performer/improviser Jason Treuting enjoys making pieces that translate numbers and letters into patterns of sound. He has made music with and for Sō Percussion, QQQ, Alligator Eats Fish, Matmos, Kneebody, Steve Mackey, Big Farm and many other experimental artists. As a composer, Jason has written and recorded a film score for Jenise Treuting’s “Invitations and Ultimatums.” This project led to “Amid the Noise,” a collection of 12 short pieces paired with films of street scenes from Japan and the US. Described as “rich and engrossing” by *Time Out NY*, ‘Amid the Noise’ premiered at the Whitney Museum and toured the US and Canada in Fall of 2006 with stops at the Wexner Art Center, the Warhol Museum, the Boston MFA, the Walker Art Center and the Lincoln Center Festival. His newest band, Alligator Eats Fish, with longtime collaborator Grey McMurray, mixes composed music with improvisation and film and is gathering music for their first release, ‘A Scattered Week.’

Another project with Sō Percussion, *Music for Trains*, culminated in a site specific concert in Brattleboro and Bellows Falls, VT, with two outdoor concerts at the towns train stations, music for a video installation in the train depot and two collaborative pre-recorded scores to accompany the train rides that were written with Josh Quillen and Eric Beach of Sō. The music grew out of a month long residency in the Southern VT, gathering sounds, interviews, materials and inspiration for the evening length score. In Fall of 2009, Sō’s multi-media piece ‘Imaginary City’ toured the US with stops in Helena, Cleveland, Houston, Denver and Burlington, culminating with four nights at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. ‘Imaginary City’ was commissioned by the NPN Creation Fund and the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Other recent commissions include the Greenwall Foundation/Solar One’s support of ‘16 Words,’ a set of shorts based on Merriam-Webster’s 16 new words from 2006, presented in the form of a spelling bee, and the Argosy foundations support for *Music for Trains*. His music has been featured on NPR’s Weekend Edition, WNYC’s Soundcheck and Evening Music. Jason is a member of ASCAP and has been recorded on Cantaloupe Music. His music is published by Good Child Music.

About Haruka Fujii, Percussionist

Multi-percussionist Haruka Fujii has become one of the most prominent solo percussionists and marimbists of her generation. She has won international acclaim for her interpretations of contemporary music, having performed premieres of works from composers including Tan Dun, Nico Muhly, Vijay Iyer, Joji Yuasa, and Maki Ishii. Since 2010 Ms. Fujii has performed as a member of the Grammy Award winning Silk Road Ensemble, joining a group of international musicians founded by Yo-Yo Ma. She has frequently collaborated with composer Tan Dun, performing his Water Percussion Concerto, Paper Percussion Concerto, and opera Tea in major venues across the world. Born in Saitama, Japan, Ms. Fujii began her musical studies on the piano at the age of three. Influenced by her mother, noted marimbist Mutsuko Fujii, she developed an interest in percussion instruments. She studied music at the Tokyo National University, the Juilliard School, and the Mannes College of Music.

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. Eric has also repeatedly appeared as principal conductor for the Bendigo Festival of Exploratory Music in Australia, and he serves as musical director for Roomful of Teeth and Ensemble L'Instant Donné in a production with Peter Sellars by the Paris Festival d'Automne that is currently touring festival stages throughout Europe and the world.

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 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 has recently been appointed as Artist-in-Residence at the Conservatory of Music at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, where he coaches the student-run new



music ensemble and teaches composition, voice and conducting. 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 son Ethan.

About San Francisco Contemporary Music Players



San Francisco Contemporary Music Players is the West Coast's most long-standing and largest new music ensemble, comprised of twenty-two highly skilled musicians. For 49 years, the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players have created innovative and artistically excellent music and are one of the most active ensembles in the United States dedicated to contemporary music. Holding an important role in the regional and national cultural landscape, the Contemporary Music Players are a 2018 awardee of the esteemed Fromm Foundation Ensemble Prize, and a ten-time winner of the CMA/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming. The Players have performed more than 1,200 works by over 600 composers; over 300 of these performances have been premieres, and the organization has commissioned over 80 major works including pieces from composers such as John Adams, John Cage, Earle Brown, Olly Wilson, Michael Gordon, Du Yun, Myra Melford, and Julia Wolfe. The Contemporary Players have 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. The Contemporary Music Players nourish the creation and dissemination of new works through world-class performances, commissions, and community and education programs. The Players perform the music of composers from across cultures and stylistic traditions who are creating a vast and vital 21st-century musical language featuring the work of iconic and emerging composers while shining a spotlight on works for large ensemble and California artists.

For more information, and hi-resolution images visit [SFCMP.org/press-kits/](https://www.sfcmp.org/press-kits/)
Biographies of SFCMP ensemble members can be accessed online at: [sfcmp.org/category/players](https://www.sfcmp.org/category/players).