

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**SF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC PLAYERS PRESENT AN EVENING OF 'KINETIC TRANSFORMATIONS' WITH DANCER AND SPECIAL GUEST ARTIST ANTOINE HUNTER AND KATE CAMPBELL, PIANO SOLOIST**

*Concert includes works by Gloria Justen, David Coll, Henry Cowell, Anna Clyne and John Cage, preceded by our "How Music is Made" composer talk and musical demonstration series with composers Gloria Justen and David Coll, and special guest artist Antoine Hunter*

SAN FRANCISCO (December 19, 2019) - San Francisco Contemporary Music Players (SFCMP) announces its January 17, 2020, five-work concert, including special guest artist Antoine Hunter, founder and artistic director of Urban Jazz Dance and producer for Bay Area International Deaf Dance Festival.

This concert is part of the Contemporary Players' ongoing *in the LABORATORY* concert series, which showcases large-ensemble contemporary works that push the boundaries of the concert experience. For this performance, we offer a program of music that engages with the physicality of gestures, through structural alterations to the sounding bodies of instruments, transpositions in the order of musical materials, and works composed for the real-time motion of visual elements and the human form. Commemorating the 100th anniversary of celebrated choreographer Merce Cunningham's birth, as well as his prolific partnership with California composer John Cage, we feature Contemporary Players pianist Kate Campbell in Cage's brilliantly unconventional *Concert for Piano and Orchestra*, a work composed and adapted for Merce Cunningham Dance Company's use in a performance of Cunningham's *Antic Meet*. One of the Bay Area's most exciting and engaging dance artists, Urban Jazz Dance founder and artistic director Antoine Hunter joins us in performance with a riveting original choreography for this work, to be danced within and throughout a group of musicians spread around the stage. Works by Bay Area composers Gloria Justen and David Coll explore the resultant sounds from changes to the physical set-up of instruments, through the re-tuning of strings or alterations to the sounding body that produce shifts in registral and timbral properties. Also known for the exploration of alternative instrumental resources and playing techniques, California's Henry Cowell figures prominently in the conversation through a piece for string quartet that invites the performers to determine the ordering of its sections. A multi-media work by British-born composer Anna Clyne rounds out the program with the union of auditory, visual, and dance elements. In keeping with our mission of encouraging and mentoring the next generation of contemporary musicians, San Francisco Conservatory of Music students will join in the performance as part of the Contemporary Players' education and professional development series.

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 8 p.m. Preceding the concert is the *How Music is Made* program, including musical demonstrations from works on the concert and discussion with composers Gloria Justen and David Coll along with special guest artist Antoine Hunter from 6:30 - 7:20 p.m., with time for refreshments available at SFCM's cafe to follow. These pre-concert events are free and open to the public.

Considering the evening's program, Contemporary Players artistic director Eric Dudley said, "This concert will be a fascinating exploration of the physical and the kinetic as they relate to the act of music-making and the craft of composition - all in celebration of the incredible impact left on multiple art forms by the towering figure of Merce Cunningham. We are absolutely thrilled to bring a dancer of such creativity and imagination as Antoine Hunter to our stage as a guest artist, and immensely pleased to feature our own Kate Campbell as piano soloist as well. This will be an all-star evening of musical and physical fireworks."

Tickets for the concert range from \$15 Students to \$35 General and can be purchased at the following link: <https://sfcmp.org/individual-tickets/?eid=34853>

## Event Details

**FRI, JAN 17, 2019**

**SFCMP Performances in the LABORATORY Series**

***Kinetic Transformations***

Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall, SF Conservatory, 50 Oak St, San Francisco, CA 94102

### **Free and open to the public:**

6:30pm-7:15pm *How Music is Made Program*: musical demonstrations from works on the concert and discussion with composers Gloria Justen and David Coll along with special guest artist Antoine Hunter, hosted by Artistic Director Eric Dudley

### **Ticketed:**

8pm Concert with intermission

9:30pm Post-concert party

## **PROGRAM**

Gloria Justen, *Flowing-Turning Dance* from *Sonaquifer Suite* (2015)

David Coll, *Caldera* (2016) (West Coast premiere)

Henry Cowell, *Mosaic Quartet (String Quartet No. 3)* (1935)

Anna Clyne, *Steelworks* (2006)

John Cage, *Concert for Piano and Orchestra* (1958)

## **About Antoine Hunter, Special Guest Artist**



A Bay Area native, Mr. Antoine Hunter is an award-winning African-American Deaf producer, choreographer, film/theater actor, dancer, dance instructor, model, poet, speaker, mentor and Deaf advocate. Mr. Hunter received his training in dance and acting training at Skyline High School Oakland, CA, California Institute of the Arts (CalArts), and Paul Taylor Dance School in NYC. The founder and artistic director of Urban Jazz Dance, Hunter has performed with Savage Jazz Dance Company, Nuba Dance Theater, Alayo Dance Company, Robert Moses' KIN, Man Dance, Sins Invalid, Amara Tabor-Smith, Kim Epifano, Push Dance Company, Fly Away Productions, Joanna Haigood, OET theater, and the Lorraine Hansberry Theater. He has performed throughout the Bay Area and the world including in Cuba, Rome,

Hawaii, Peru and London. Hunter is a faculty member at East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, Shawl-Anderson, Youth in Arts and Dance-A-Vision. He is the founder of Iron Tri-Angel Urban Ballet in Richmond, was an instructor and rehearsal director for the Ross Dance Company, dance captain for Expedia.com commercials and was head Choreographer director for an Philippine's Musical "Amerikana-The Musical." He loves doing short films and long films plus music videos, and was head choreographer for D-PAN: Deaf Professional Arts Network ASL Music Video "Call Me Maybe" by Carly Rae Jepsen.

Awards include the 2011 National Dance Week *Dancer's Choice* Award, Margaret Jenkin's CHIME award, the 2009 VRS Award (the international organization on arts and disabilities), and the 2000 Bay Area Star Award. He received many honors in 2016, including New York's *The Radio City Rockettes'* Pick for Dancer of the Week, who were quoted as saying, "Mr. Hunter is talented and inspiring dancer, proving that you don't need to hear the music to move to it beautifully." He has been featured on the front cover of *Deaf Life Magazine*, plus in *Dance Spirit Magazine*, *Dance Teacher Magazine*, *Dance Magazine*, *Dance Studio Life Magazine*, and more, and has been quoted in several texts books. He is known as former president of the Bay Area Black Deaf Advocate and Director-at-Large for the Northern California chapter of the California Association of the Deaf. He has been featured in *Oakland North*, CNN's *The Great Big Story*, KQED's *Arts*, and in multiple appearances for Purple Technologies, which sells Deaf services and products. Mr. Hunter is an active supporter of DeafHope, an organization whose mission is to end domestic and sexual violence in Deaf communities through empowerment, education, and services. He teaches dance and ASL in both Hearing and Deaf communities, and has been producing the Bay Area International Deaf Dance Festival since 2013. His projects have been awarded funding by both CA\$H Theater Bay Area and the Zellerbach Family Foundation.

Website: <https://www.realurbanjazzdance.com/>

### About Kate Campbell, Piano Soloist



Hailed as a "brilliant pianist" (*Financial Times*) and "powerful player" (*Santa Cruz Sentinel*), Kate Campbell performs frequently as a soloist and chamber musician specializing in contemporary music and interdisciplinary projects. She is at home with styles ranging from thorny modernism to "sleek and spirited" minimalism (*San Francisco Chronicle*). Her most recent projects have involved working closely with internationally renowned composers and performers such as Meredith Monk, Lisa Bielawa, and Steven Schick.

In addition to her work with SF Contemporary Players, she is the pianist for Eco Ensemble in Berkeley, and co-founder and pianist of the interdisciplinary duo [K A T E S](#), which intertwines new solo piano music with new dance. She is also one of the founding organizers for [Omaha Under the Radar Festival](#), featuring new music, dance, and theater in her hometown of Omaha, Nebraska. This year she will continue a guest artist residency at California State University East Bay, workshopping and premiering music by faculty and

student composers, and will begin an interdisciplinary residency at Paul Drescher Studios in Oakland. She was recently honored as a distinguished fellow at [Hambidge Center for the Creative Arts](#). Her recorded work can be heard on [New Amsterdam Records](#), [Pinna Records](#), and [New Focus Recordings](#).

As an in-demand collaborative pianist, Kate has had the pleasure of working with many of the Bay Area's top institutions, including the San Francisco Girls Chorus, West Edge Opera, UC Berkeley, Mills College, Sacred & Profane, and San Francisco Conservatory of Music faculty.

Kate serves on the faculty of Mills College. Kate joined SFCMP in 2013. [www.katecampbellpiano.com](http://www.katecampbellpiano.com)

### **About Eric Dudley, SF Contemporary Music Players 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, pianist Timothy Long, and by Roomful of Teeth.

Eric holds a bachelor's degree in composition from the Eastman School of Music, and both his master's and doctorate degrees 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**



The San Francisco Contemporary Music Players is a unionized ensemble of twenty-four highly skilled musicians. The Contemporary Players nourish the creation and dissemination of new works through world-class contemporary music performances, commissions, and community outreach. Featuring the work of iconic and emerging composers while shining a spotlight on California artists, the Contemporary Players perform 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-ninth year, SF Contemporary Players is one of the most active ensembles in the United States dedicated to contemporary music. Led by Artistic Director Eric Dudley since 2018, it plays an important role in the regional and national cultural landscape. The most long-standing, continually performing new music ensemble outside the East Coast, it has greatly contributed to the art form and the new music sector. SF Contemporary Players is a recent award winner of the Fromm Foundation Ensemble Prize, a ten-time winner of the CMA/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming, and 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. 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.

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