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San Francisco Contemporary Music Players Presents *Sound Encounters II*

SAN FRANCISCO (August 9, 2021) – San Francisco Contemporary Music Players continues its 2021-2022 concert season with *Sound Encounters II*, a collaborative program presented in partnership with UC Berkeley's Center for New Music and Audio Technologies. The first event of this season's *in the COMMUNITY series*, *Sound Encounters II* will be presented at the Root Division Gallery in San Francisco at 3:00 PM on December 19, 2021.

This year's line-up includes the world premiere of a new work for percussion and electronics by CNMAT director **Edmund Campion**, setting the stage for four acousmatic, electro-acoustic and multimedia compositions by CNMAT artists **Hallie Smith**, **Jon Yu**, **Andrew Harlan** and **Didem Coskunseven**. And in continued celebration of the 85th birthday season of an American pioneer in electronic media, **Steve Reich's** *Vermont Counterpoint* for percussion and tape rounds out the set with a display of instrumental fireworks, featuring the solo artistry of SFCMP percussionist **Chris Froh**.

Tickets for the *Sound Encounters II* are \$15 for in-person attendance and \$5 for Digital Access (available for viewing 4-5 days after the live concert in an edited format for a 7-day period). SF Contemporary Music Members have free access to in-person attendance and digital streaming. Tickets are available through the organization's website: <https://sfcmp.org/individual-tickets/>.

SUN, DEC 19, 2021

in the COMMUNITY series

Sound Encounters II

in collaboration with CNMAT, UC Berkeley

at 3PM Pacific

at Root Division Gallery, San Francisco

Tickets Members: Free / Non-Members: \$15 Live, \$5 Digital access

PROGRAM

Edmund Campion – *Solving for M*, for solo percussion (marimba) and electronics (2021)

Chris Froh, percussion

Hallie Smith – *The will to nurture* (excerpt), for electronics

Jon Yu – *15 eyes*, for percussion and electronics (2019)

Chris Froh, percussion

INTERMISSION

Andrew Harlan – *HYPHA*

Didem Coskunseven – *Home Within*, for electronics & dance film

Steve Reich – *Vermont Counterpoint*, for percussion (vibraphone) and tape (arr. 2010)

Chris Froh, percussion

About the Performers

Percussionist **Christopher Froh** specializes in promoting and influencing the creation of new music through critically-acclaimed performances and dynamic lectures. Also a member of Empyrean Ensemble, Rootstock Percussion, and San Francisco Chamber Orchestra, Froh has premiered over 100 chamber and solo works by composers from 15 countries. His rich and diverse career also includes performances with the San Francisco Symphony at Carnegie Hall, Gamelan Sekar Jaya at the Stern Grove Festival, and session recording at Skywalker Ranch for a video game about monkeys and pirates. Chris has recorded with the San Francisco Symphony on SFS Media; as a soloist on Albany, Innova, and Equilibrium labels; and as a chamber musician on Bridge Records and Music@Menlo LIVE. As a soloist, he has appeared at festivals and recitals across Japan, China, Turkey, Europe, and the United States including featured performances at the Beijing Modern Festival, Nuovi Spazi Musicali, and Music@Menlo. He studied at the University of Michigan, Eastman School of Music, and Toho Gakuen Conservatory where he was a student of marimba pioneer, Keiko Abe. He teaches percussion and chamber music at UC Davis and CSU Sacramento. Chris joined SFCMP in 2002.

About the Center for New Music and Audio Technologies

CNMAT is dedicated to multidisciplinary research and the creative use of sound, linking the concert hall to the laboratory. We support a dynamic group of educational, performance and research programs focused on the creative interaction between new music and emerging technologies. CNMAT partners with the Department of Music and further collaborates with a number of affiliate departments, presenters, centers, and units on campus, including the Department of Art Practice, the Department of Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies, the Department of Film and Media, the Jacobs Institute for Design Innovation, the College of Environmental Design, the Arts Research Center, the Townsend Center for the Humanities, the Berkeley Institute of Design, the Berkeley Center for New Media, BAM/PFA, Cal Performances, and the Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life.

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 highly skilled musicians performing innovative contemporary music. 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 large-ensemble pieces and California artists. The Players seek to share these experiences with as many people as possible, both in and outside of traditional concert settings.

The San Francisco Contemporary Music Players is one of the most active ensembles in the United States dedicated to contemporary music and play 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.

In 1971, composer [Charles Boone](#) began organizing a series of [avant-garde](#) music [concerts](#) in [San Francisco](#) art galleries. He called the series BYOP (Bring Your Own Pillow), because audience members sat on the floor. Three years later, his colleagues, harpist Marcella DeCray and oboist/conductor Jean-Louis LeRoux, reorganized the concert series as a nonprofit corporation. Since its inception, San Francisco Contemporary Music Players have been led by seven Executive Directors, and eight Artistic Directors, with continuous support and oversight by an active Board of Directors.

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).