

Program Notes

Doug DaSilva (b. 1965) is a composer, guitarist, performer, concert curator, educator and daddy in New York City. *Wards Island III* is one of a bunch of completed and incomplete pieces inspired by frequent crossings of the Ward's Island Bridge, an oddly blue footbridge that connects Manhattan to Ward's Island.

Luca Vanneschi (b. 1962) has written many works for orchestra, chamber groups and soloists, as well as music for theatre scenes, sound tracks, and musical commentaries for TV and radio programs.

The course of *Aforisma primo* starts from an undefinted point: the sounds lie down hardly in a kind of satisfaction, to look for, immediately afterwards, another new dimension, strewn with almost meditative silences and then changing again, assembling again, looking for something again.

Russ Podgorsek writes music and plays the viola. He graduated from the Hartt School in 2005.

Molly McGowan is a senior music theory major at the Hartt School where she studies cello with Mihai Tetel. In her free time she like to do triathlons, Aikido, and cheer on the Green Bay Packers.

Michelle McQuade Dewhirst (b. 1973) lives, composes, teaches, knits and watches as many marathons of "House" as possible in Chicago, IL. *84 Problems* According to a traditional Buddhist story, everyone has 83 problems, and if you solve one of them, another one will rise to take its place; the biggest problem we all have is the 84th problem, in which we desire to have no problems at all.

Aaron Alon (b. 1981) (aaronalon.com) is a Houston-based composer whose works have been performed internationally and released on three CDs. *Walls* is a musical response to an excerpt from a CP Cavafy poem (trans. Elena Spilioti): "With no care, no pity, no shame / Walls they built all around me, high, thick walls...Alas, while the walls were rising, how could I not have noticed / But I never heard a builder hammering, nor any noise. / I never sensed it when they sealed me off from the world out there."

Kaeza Fearn composed, performed and taught music in Massachusetts previous to coming to school as a Masters student at Hartt in composition; more info can be found at www.kaezafearn.com.

39 Measure Birthday Rag represents the only composition that ever presented itself in a dream, namely as a gift to her big brother who likes to play ragtime.

Peiyong Yuan (b.1984, Singapore) is a Masters composition student at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. In *Bewegung* (2008), sampled material, often short and percussive, are used to create different levels of kinetic energy that transforms itself through the course of the piece.

Daryl Seaver is a senior music composition and mathematics student at the Hartt School of Music.

In *Declaration*, what the occurrence of a single aural event instead of a sequence of many events encourages (or maybe forces) listeners to acknowledge and study the complexity of the sonic life and death of one noise, something which is normally absorbed into a larger mass of sound.

Justin T. Capps (b. 1980) is attempting to conquer chords and such, as a doctoral student at the University of Texas at Austin, and he is also desperately trying to spend more time with his wife, Emma, and daughter, Zoe, while still somehow hoping to compose music that is better suited to concert halls than bathroom stalls.

String:Tone=1/2 is the absurdist comic parallel of musical Sudoku, with the traditional twelve-tone matrix serving to provide pitch organization through contiguous routing rather than acadachemical statement of row forms -- and yes, I mean acadachemical.

Nolan Stolz (b. 1981) is currently pursuing a DMA in Composition and Theory at The Hartt School where he teaches first-year composition students. Listen for the rain and the flowing water in *The Great River*, which is based on a traditional haiku. Waves of Lake Ontario are electronically reconstructed and tuned to the natural overtone series in *Standing Waves*.

David Drexler (b. 1967) is a guy from Madison, Wisconsin who can be easily googled if you want to know more. *Tiny Cheesehead Music* is a series of miniatures, packed with Midwestern goodness, which were written for the New York and Chicago Miniaturist Ensembles.

Darren Buhr is a bassist with the Victoria Symphony (Canada), the new music ensemble Aventa, and is on the faculty of the Victoria Conservatory of Music.

49 Over 60 was written for the 60X60 Project. It is so titled because the piece is 49 seconds in duration.

Reynold Simpson (b. 1954) teaches at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and resides with his wife and three children in Prairie Village, Kansas. *Carousing in Sin* is an expression of my thoughts and feelings when reading the following poem by Stephen Crane: I stood upon a high place, / And saw, below, many devils / Running, leaping, / And carousing in sin. / One looked up, grinning, / And said, "Comrade! Brother!"

Matt Sargent is a composer and guitarist from Hartford, CT – more information about his music can be found at www.mattsargentmusic.com.

Summer Night Sea is one of several recent pieces inspired by my travels around Maine, Cape Cod, and Caribbean over the summer. Despite the aquatic night landscape suggested in the title, the source materials of this piece -- a toy zither, a radiator, and a field recording of my backyard -- were all recorded during the day in a landlocked city.

Peter Lucas Hulén (b. 1963) is a composer and music professor living in Indiana where he teaches music theory, composition, computer music and humanities at Wabash College.

Går upp, går ned is Swedish for "going up, going down," and refers to an elevator.

Ulf Grahn Born in Sweden, but since 1972 active composer in the Washington DC area though residing in Takoma Park Maryland where he presently is working on a piece for brass ensemble among other things before starting on his 4th string quartet. **3-4/3** The graphic score is using distorted articulation signs as well as other notation symbols to free up the imagination of the performer(s) and hopefully give an indication of direction even though a graphic score gives a total superimposed picture of the piece not a linear progression of the piece.

Adam Bergeron is a contemporary composer from Massachusetts who has released several CDs and performs regularly; more information can be found at www.adambergeron.com.

Searching for Hope was originally an improvisation which was made into a piece.

Jeremy Beck is a dramatic and lyrical American composer with degrees from Yale, Duke and Mannes College of Music. His recent recorded works were hailed in Gramophone's reviews of the best new recordings from North America.

David Heinick (b. 1954) lives in Norwood, New York, where he writes music when he's not teaching at SUNY-Potsdam or otherwise occupied. **Tremulance** Not nervous, just shaking it.

Don Bowyer is Chair of the Department of Music at the University of Alabama in Huntsville and has taught at every level from kindergarten through university in the United States, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Sweden.

50 + 50 Trombone Triathlon was commissioned in honor of a 50th birthday. The three movements of this theatre piece are meant to represent the three stages of a triathlon, with precisely 100 notes in each movement - 50 for the past and 50 for the future.

Jonathan Crane is a graduate of Bowling Green State University and Lebanon Valley College. He is involved in all styles of composition, which includes improvisation, acoustic and electroacoustic music and performers of his works include the Cleveland Chamber Symphony.

Instantaneous is inspired by the sound of fireworks. It is always a surprise when one goes off because there is no real way to tell when it will happen.

Kenneth Steen's work sits squarely on the frontiers between acoustic, electronic and new media realms of musical expression. He is on the composition faculty and director of Studio D at The Hartt School.

Miniature Cities is a laptop performance version of my Continuous Cities (after Calvino) web installation that can be found at: <http://www.kensteen.com/ContinuousCitiesInfo.htm>. It is constructed entirely from a solo bass clarinet piece composed for Guido Arbonelli.

Monica Lynn of Santa Cruz, California has been honored with awards from ASCAP, the Brevard Institute, and the European American Musical Alliance; her music has been performed throughout the United States, South Korea, China, France and Italy.

The **Ragged March** is made up of two voices, the upper voice being microtonally "out of tune" and the lower voice carrying the contrasting polyrhythm in a dark, ragged timbre; this miniature was inspired by the ragged footsteps of the exhausted soldiers of the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division, returning home from their 16-month deployment to the mountains of Afghanistan.

Stephen F. Lilly (b. 1976) lives in College Park, Maryland, where performs with the Bay Player Experimental Music Collective and helps run www.silenteditions.com. **Appulse Redux** is a resurrection of my earliest attempt at computer music.

Claudio Gabriele was born in Rome in 1963 and completed his studies at Santa Cecilia Conservatory and Istituto Pontificio di Musica Sacra in Rome where he obtained degrees in Composition, Electroacoustic Music, Conducting, Piano, Organ, Harpischord, and Gregorian Chant.

Adam Scott Neal (b. 1981) is from Atlanta, but lived in Northern Ireland last year and now lives in New York.

Arachnida was written using probability: all 12 pitches could be used, but the notes in the c-minor triad could be used the most, notes in the c-minor scale a little bit less, and so on.
