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# Red Note New Music Festival Composition Competition and Workshop Announcement, 2014

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# RED NOTE

## NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL 2014

### COMPOSITION COMPETITION & COMPOSITION WORKSHOP

Now in its seventh season, RED NOTE New Music Festival at Illinois State University is a week-long event which features outstanding performances of contemporary concert music. Highlights of past seasons include appearances by the Orchid Ensemble, Fulcrum Point New Music Ensemble, Color Field Ensemble, Spektral Quartet, and flute-percussion duo Due East. Featured guest composers have included Joan Tower, Laura Schwendinger, and Augusta Read Thomas. RED NOTE also holds an annual Composition Competition which brings in entries from around the world.

This year, we are pleased to host featured guest composer Lee Hyla and the dynamic Ensemble Dal Niente. Together with the ISU music composition faculty, Professor Hyla and Ensemble Dal Niente will lead a workshop which is open to all student composers.



CO-DIRECTORS: YAO CHEN & CARL SCHIMMEL

### RED NOTE NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL COMPOSITION COMPETITION

#### GENERAL GUIDELINES

(applicable to both categories)

- The competition is open to all composers, regardless of age or nationality.
- This year there are two categories: Category A (Works for Chamber Ensemble) and Category B (Works for Chamber Orchestra).
- See information to the right for details about the separate categories.
- Works may include non-interactive electroacoustic elements (e.g., CD playback).
- Works may have been performed before, but should not have been composed before 1998.
- An entry fee of \$25 must be included with the first score submitted, regardless of category. There is an entry fee of \$10 for each additional score submitted, regardless of category. For example, a composer who submits one score to Category A and another to Category B must submit a \$35 entry fee. Composers may submit as many works as they like in either category.
- Previous winners of the RED NOTE New Music Festival Composition Competition may not enter in Category A, but they may enter in Category B if they wish.
- Students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Illinois State University may not enter.
- The winning composer in each Category must agree to provide parts by January 20, 2014, in order to guarantee a performance of the winning work at the RED NOTE New Music Festival.
- Attendance at the Festival is encouraged but not required.
- In the event that no entry is worthy of the award, the University reserves the right to award no prizes or prize money.
- **SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** October 15, 2013. Results will be announced by January 1, 2014.
- For details on past competitions, visit <http://finearts.illinoisstate.edu/rednote>

#### GUIDELINES - CATEGORY A

##### Chamber Ensemble

Submitted works should be scored for any number of players/vocalists drawn from the ensemble listed below. In addition, ONE more instrument or vocalist may be added (e.g., a second violin, a soprano, an oboe, etc.).

Flute (1) <i>(doubling piccolo or alto flute)</i>	Viola (1)
Clarinet in B-flat (1) <i>(doubling A, E-flat, bass)</i>	Violoncello (1)
Bassoon (1) <i>(doubling contrabassoon)</i>	Double Bass (1)
Trumpet (1)	Piano (1)
Trombones (2)	Percussion (2 players)
Tuba/Euphonium (1)	Mezzo-soprano (1)
Violin (1)	Baritone (1)
	Acoustic Guitar (1)
	Saxophones (2)

- The composer of the winning work in Category A will receive a \$1000 prize, and the work will be performed by faculty members of the Illinois State University School of Music at the RED NOTE New Music Festival in Normal, Illinois, on April 2, 2014.
- If the instrumentation of the winning work is a subset of Ensemble Dal Niente's core ensemble (flute, clarinet, saxophone, violin, cello, piano), it may instead be considered by Ensemble Dal Niente for their performance at RED NOTE on March 31, 2014 (see <http://www.dalniente.com>).
- Works must not exceed 15 minutes in duration.
- The final round of the Competition will be judged by established composers from around the United States.

#### GUIDELINES - CATEGORY B

##### Chamber Orchestra

Submitted works should be scored for chamber orchestra, with the following maximum instrumentation:

2 Flutes <i>(1 doubling piccolo or alto flute)</i>	2 Trumpets
2 Oboes <i>(1 doubling English horn)</i>	1 Trombone
2 Clarinets in B-flat <i>(1 doubling A, E-flat, or bass clarinet)</i>	Timpani
2 Bassoons <i>(1 doubling contrabassoon)</i>	Percussion <i>(2 players)</i>
2 Horns	Keyboard
	Strings

- The composer of the winning work in Category B will receive a \$750 prize, and the work will be performed by the Illinois State University Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Glenn Block, at the RED NOTE New Music Festival in Normal, Illinois, on March 30, 2014.
- The ISU Chamber Orchestra is an advanced ensemble which features the School of Music's top performers. However, judges reserve the right to consider playability in their deliberations.
- Works must not exceed 12 minutes in duration.
- Works featuring soloists (e.g., concertos) may be submitted with the understanding that the soloist must be supplied at no expense to the ISU Chamber Orchestra, and that the soloist must be able to attend at least one full rehearsal with the orchestra in advance of the concert date, as well as the dress rehearsal before the concert.
- The final round of the Competition will be judged by Dr. Glenn Block, conductor of the ISU Chamber Orchestra.

#### HOW TO ENTER

- Submit an ANONYMOUS pdf and audio file (mp3 or MIDI) of each score, via the RED NOTE webpage: <http://finearts.illinoisstate.edu/rednote>.
- Exceptions to the mp3/MIDI requirement may be made in the case of works which use unconventional notation.
- The submitted pdf's and audio files must be free of names and identifying marks.
- Composers should make every effort to enter and submit payment electronically, but hard copies and payments by check are also acceptable if necessary; contact one of the RED NOTE New Music Festival directors for details about payment or concerns about online submission.
- Questions may be addressed to Professor Yao Chen at (309) 438-5174 or Professor Carl Schimmel at [rednote@ilstu.edu](mailto:rednote@ilstu.edu).

# RED NOTE

## NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL 2014



**HYLA**

### **DISTINGUISHED GUEST FACULTY COMPOSER**

**Lee Hyla** was born in Niagara Falls, New York, and grew up in Greencastle, Indiana. He studied composition with Malcolm Peyton and John Heiss at the New England Conservatory, and at S.U.N.Y. Stony Brook with David Lewin. His musical background also includes extensive experience as a pianist in new music, rock and free improvisation. He is writing or has written for numerous performers including the Midori/Vadim Repin commissioning project, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, the Kronos Quartet (with Allen Ginsberg), the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Speculum Musicae, the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, the Lydian String Quartet, Triple Helix, the Firebird Ensemble, Tim Smith, Tim Berne, Rhonda Rider, Stephen Drury, Mia Chung, Judith Gordon, Mary Nessinger, and Boston Musica Viva. Current commissions include a piece for solo marimba for She-e Wu, and pieces for eighth blackbird, the Callithumpian Ensemble and the Spektral Quartet.

His honors include the Stoeger Prize from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Guggenheim and National Endowment for the Arts fellowships, the Goddard Lieberman Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the St. Botolph Club Award, and the Rome Prize. Hyla has served as Resident Composer of the American Academy in Rome and was a composition fellow at the Camargo Foundation in Cassis, France.

His music has been recorded on Nonesuch, New World, Avant, Tzadik, and C.R.I., and is published exclusively by Carl Fischer. For several years he was chairman of the composition department at the New England Conservatory, where he taught from 1992 to 2007. He currently lives in Chicago where in September 2007 he began appointment at the Wyatt Chair of Music Composition at the Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University.



**ENSEMBLE DAL NIENTE**

### **GUEST ENSEMBLE**

**Ensemble Dal Niente** is a 20-member Chicago-based contemporary music collective that presents and performs new music in ways that redefine the listening experience and advance the art form. Their programming, brought to life by a flexible repertoire-based instrumentation, seeks to challenge convention and create engaging, inspiring, and immersive experiences which connect audiences with the music of today.

Described as "super-musicians" and noted for "bracing sonic adventures by some of the best new-music virtuosos

around" (Chicago Tribune), Dal Niente became the first-ever ensemble recipient of the Kranichstein Music Prize at the 2012 International Summer Courses for New Music in Darmstadt, Germany. The ensemble has premiered over 200 works in its history and has performed throughout North and Central America.

The ensemble's name, Dal Niente ("from nothing" in Italian), is a tribute to Helmut Lachenmann's work for clarinet *Dal niente* (*Intérieur III*), the courageously revolutionary style of which serves as an inspiration for its musicians. The ensemble's name also references its humble beginnings -- founded in 2004 by a group of music students at various Chicago schools, the ensemble has risen from obscurity to a position as one of North America's most prominent new music groups.

### **RESIDENT FACULTY COMPOSERS**



**HORST**

#### **Martha Callison Horst**

Martha Callison Horst has been commissioned by groups such as Earplay, Empyrean Ensemble, Dal Niente, and the Left Coast Ensemble, and her music has also been performed by such notable groups as the Fromm Players, Alea III, and The Women's Philharmonic. Recent accolades include Winner of the Aaron Copland Award and Residency, Co-winner of the 2005 Alea III International Composition Competition, Co-winner of the Rebecca Clarke International Composition Competition, and resident at the MacDowell Colony. She currently serves as Associate Professor of Music Composition and Theory at Illinois State University School of Music.



**YAO**

#### **Yao Chen**

The music of Yao Chen strikes audiences with its innovative ways of bringing the traditions of Eastern and Western musics together, and its poetic telling of the composer's innermost thoughts. His perceptions on musical time, timbre, intonation, pulsation, and expression are always at frontiers: between the old and the new, between the East and the West, between irrational mysticism and rational logic. His music has received a significant amount of recognition through performances by leading orchestras and ensembles in the world, and being presented by many distinguished international festivals such as Tanglewood, Radio France's Festival Présences, etc.



**SCHIMMEL**

#### **Carl Schimmel**

Praised by *The New York Times* as "vivid and dramatic," the music of Carl Schimmel is dense with literary and musical references, often humorous, and combines intensity of expression with mathematical rigor. Schimmel has received the Beams Prize, the Lee Ettelson Award, and residencies at MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, and Copland House, as well as performances in venues worldwide, such as Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall, Merkin Hall, Severance Hall, and St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London. His music has been performed by Left Coast Chamber Ensemble, the Minnesota Orchestra, Da Capo Chamber Players, Lucy Shelton, the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, and many others.

### **RED NOTE NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL COMPOSITION WORKSHOP**

MARCH 30 – APRIL 2, 2014

The RED NOTE New Music Festival Composition Workshop will help composers widen their creative perspectives and hone their craft through open rehearsals with renowned Ensemble Dal Niente, and seminars with distinguished guest faculty composer Lee Hyla and resident faculty composers Martha Horst, Carl Schimmel, and Yao Chen. Invited participants will have the opportunity to compose a 5- to 10-minute piece for Ensemble Dal Niente. Each composition will be carefully rehearsed by the ensemble members during the festival, and will be premiered at a formal concert at the festival. Each composer will receive a recording of his or her piece. Professor Hyla and the resident faculty composers will also attend the rehearsals, offering comments and suggestions.

Participants will also discuss their compositional ideas, techniques and aesthetics with the faculty and other fellows. In addition, each student composer will have the opportunity to meet with the faculty composers individually. Evening concerts featuring innovative programming will provide enrichment as well as inspiration for participants.

#### **FACULTY**

Lee Hyla  
Martha Horst  
Carl Schimmel  
Yao Chen

#### **FEATURED PERFORMERS**

Ensemble Dal Niente

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants must be graduate or undergraduate students.

#### **DINING AND HOUSING**

Dinners will be organized and paid for by the RED NOTE New Music Festival. Workshop participants will be responsible for their other meals, and for their own lodging. Normal, Illinois is a university town with many dining options within walking distance. RED NOTE will assist workshop participants in finding appropriate lodging; options range from staying with one of our graduate student composers at no extra cost, to a room at the new Marriott hotel next door for a discounted rate. We will facilitate room shares and transportation, to reduce lodging costs.

#### **TUITION**

Early Bird Tuition: \$250 (by November 15, 2013)  
Full Tuition: \$300 (by December 1, 2013)

#### **REFUND POLICY**

We do not offer refunds for our workshop. All fees are non-refundable.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

- Submit an ANONYMOUS pdf and audio file (mp3 or MIDI) of your best work for chamber ensemble, via the Student Composer Workshop link on the RED NOTE webpage: <http://finearts.illinoisstate.edu/rednote>.
- Exceptions to the mp3/MIDI requirement may be made in the case of works which use unconventional notation.
- The submitted pdf's and audio files must be free of names and identifying marks.
- Please note that if you would like to submit your work in the Composition Competition you must submit it again separately via the Composition Competition link on the RED NOTE homepage.
- **SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** October 15, 2013.
- 6-8 selected applicants will be notified by email, by November 1, 2013.
- The selected applicants must compose a new work scored for flute, clarinet, saxophone, violin, cello, and piano (or some subset of this ensemble). Score and parts to the new composition must be received by Ensemble Dal Niente no later than February 1, 2014. Alternatively, if the composition submitted with your application has NOT received a previous performance, and is scored for a subset of this ensemble, you may request that this piece be rehearsed and premiered in lieu of a new composition.

Questions? Please contact Yao Chen ([cyao@ilstu.edu](mailto:cyao@ilstu.edu), 309-438-5174).