

10-13-1997

Concert: Voices of Our Time - Music of Tania Leon

Tania Leon

Arthur E. Levering

Ellen Jewett

Gordon Stout

Ithaca College Faculty Chamber Ensemble

See next page for additional authors

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Recommended Citation

Leon, Tania; Levering, Arthur E.; Jewett, Ellen; Stout, Gordon; Ithaca College Faculty Chamber Ensemble; Ithaca College Orchestra; Cooper, Grant; and Park, James, "Concert: Voices of Our Time - Music of Tania Leon" (1997). *All Concert & Recital Programs*. 5308.
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Authors

Tania Leon, Arthur E. Levering, Ellen Jewett, Gordon Stout, Ithaca College Faculty Chamber Ensemble, Ithaca College Orchestra, Grant Cooper, and James Park

*“It is
my plan
to build
a school
of music
second
to none.”*

—William
Grant Egbert
(1867–1928)
Founder,
Ithaca
Conservatory
of Music

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

ITHACA

VOICES OF OUR TIME

A Celebration of Contemporary Composers and their Music

Featuring the music of

Tania León

The 1997-98 Karel Husa Visiting Professor of Composition

De Color for Violin and Marimba (1996-97)†

Tania León

1. *Pastel-blu*
2. *Bronce*
3. *Cobre*
4. *Mestizo*

Ellen Jewett, violin
Gordon Stout, marimba

Twenty Ways Upon the Bells (1994)

Arthur E. Levering

The 1997 Heckscher Composition Contest Prize Winner

Ithaca College Faculty Chamber Ensemble
Wendy Mehne, flute/piccolo; Michael Galván, clarinet/bass clarinet
Ellen Jewett, violin; Debra Moree, viola; Elizabeth Simkin, cello
Karl Paulnack, piano/celeste; Gordon Stout, percussion
Grant Cooper, conductor

Batá

Tania León

Ithaca College Orchestra
James Park, graduate conductor

Wailin' (1997)

Dana Wilson

Ithaca College Orchestra
Grant Cooper, conductor

† *De Color* is made possible by a grant from Meet The Composer-Reader's Digest Commissioning Program in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Lila Wallace Reader's Digest Fund.

Ford Hall Auditorium
Monday, October 13, 1997
8:15 p.m.

Tania León, the Karel Husa Visiting Professor of Composition for 1997-98, is an internationally acclaimed composer and conductor. A professor of music at Brooklyn College, Ms. León has received awards for her compositions from the National Endowment for the Arts, American Academy of Arts and Letters, Chamber Music America, New York State Council on the Arts, Reader's Digest, ASCAP, CINTAS, and Meet the Composer. She has been the recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Residency at Yaddo and a Rockefeller Foundation resident at the Bellagio Festival in Italy. In 1993 she was appointed to a three year post as the Revson Composer Fellow by the New York Philharmonic, and continues on today as new music advisor for Kurt Masur and the orchestra. She is also the co-founder and artistic director of the American Composer's Orchestra annual festival, Sonidod de las Americas. Ms. León's music is recorded on compact discs by CRI, Louisville Orchestra First Edition Series, Albany Records, Newport Classic Recordings, Leonardo, and Mode Recording labels. Her music is published by Peer Southern Music. In addition to her work as a composer, Ms. León is noted for her work as a conductor, often in the performance of new music. Previously, she served as the music director for the Broadway production of *The Wiz* and was for several years the musical director for the Dance Theatre of Harlem. In her role as Karel Husa Visiting Professor of Composition, Ms. León will visit Ithaca College three times to teach composition lessons, coach performances, and deliver lectures on new music, including her own. Her following visits will be in February and April of 1998.

Arthur E. Levering received his musical education from Colby College, Yale University and Boston University. He has been a fellow in composition at the Aspen Music Festival, June in Buffalo Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Bowdoin Summer Music Festival, MacDowell Colony, and Yaddo. His awards include a 1996 Barlow Foundation Commission, a 1994 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, the 1992 Lee Ettelson Composer's Award from Composers, Inc., two Composer's Guild First Prizes, and the 1988 Malloy Miller Composition Prize (Boston University). In 1996 he was awarded the Frederic A. Juilliard/Walter Damrosch Rome Prize Fellowship from the American Academy in Rome. He has received commissions from the Music Teacher's National Association, Dinosaur Annex Music Ensemble, Brass Consortium, Boston University Chamber Ensemble, Boston Musica Viva, and pianists John McDonald and Donald Berman. His works have been performed in France, Britain, and Italy, as well as the United States. Highlight performances include those by the Boston Composer's String Quartet, British ensemble Ondine, Alternate Currents, Boston Musica Viva, and Cleveland Chamber Symphony.

Twenty Ways Upon the Bells is based on a fragment of three-part counterpoint played by clarinet, viola, and piano at the outset. Each of these three contrapuntal parts is treated as a separate theme and what follows is a series of intertwining variations (twenty to be precise). The title alludes to a small body of Elizabethan works for lutes or keyboards, early examples of program music. These pieces consist of variations over a short ground in imitation of church bells. While my "bell" theme (in the right hand of the piano at the start) is very strange by Renaissance standards, the use of open fifths and modal harmonies in some sections reinforces the allusion to early music. *Twenty Ways Upon the Bells* was commissioned by Dinosaur Annex Music Ensemble for their 20th anniversary season with funding provided by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Arthur E. Levering

Karel Husa Visiting Professors of Composition

Joseph Schwantner (1987)
John Corigliano (1988)
Joan Tower (1989)
William Bolcom (1990)
Karel Husa (1991)
Shulamit Ran (1992)
Jacob Druckman (1993)
Samuel Adler (1994)
George Crumb (1995)
Christopher Rouse (1996)
Tania León (1997)

ITHACA COLLEGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Grant Cooper, conductor

Violin I

Sandra Lascarro, concertmaster
Jennifer Bolcar
Angela Comprone
Cheryl O. Cory
Lorraine A. Davis
Stephanie J. Koppeis
Kelly J. Kroeck
Tracey Matthews
Christine Menter
Agnes Pietraho
Nicholas Relyea
Yoonhee Shim
Matthew Sloboda
Nathan Sutter
Julie Tollen
Laura Twomey
Colleen Youngsma

Violin II

Shana Hobin, principal
Serena M. Su, assistant principal
Victoria Alaimo
Michele D. Aurori
Sonja Bode
Sonja Bundy
Gabrielle Craig
Jennifer A. Gallien
Michele George
Maureen Lyden
Andrea G. Militello
Alissa Nanna
M. Arthur Ohm
Dana Paolone
Nicole Petit
Sabrina Schollmeyer

Viola

William J. McClain, principal
Marjorie Amatulli
Stephanie Dabruzzi
Katrina Desmarais
Catherine Freeman
Nathan Kaiser
Eric Martin
Kevin Matias
Suzanne L. Miller
Liza Mooney
Sarah E. Pantaleo
Marisa C. Reynolds
Alison Shorter
Brian P. Silliman
Heather D. Wallace
Heather Weeks
Sarah D. Wright

Violoncello

Carrie Cimildoro, principal
Karen Bergmann
Steven M. Duckworth
Ruth I. Fisher
Katherine Jensik
Ana R. Jesse
Francis L. Koiner
Zachary M. Levi
Daniel McCarter
Theodore Phelps
Patrick Pressley
Kathryn Pritt
Christine Sweetzer
Kristin Zdunowski

All string personnel are listed alphabetically
in their sections to emphasize the individual
contribution made by each player.

Double Bass

Michael Fittipaldi, principal
Bradley Aikman
Shannon M. Berndt
Christopher Jevens
Kristin Latini
Michael Murphy
Matthew Noll
Andrew Scheef
Gregory M. Stone
Audrey Wang
Michael W. Ward
Nicholas Wehr

Piccolo

Maureen McCoy

Flute

Jaimie Chester
Serena Cameron

English Horn

Melissa Pelkey

Oboe

Erin Finn
Keri E. McCarthy

Clarinet

John Waytena
Joleen Walas

Bassoon

Edward Montoya
Gregory Crystal

Contra Bassoon

Suzanne Snyder

Horn

Jason Varga
Lindsey MacNab
Amy Sanchez
Greta Houk

Trumpet

Todd Jenkins
Brian Pitt

Trombone

Colleen Curry
Phil Obado
Benji Osborne

Tuba

Rich Denton

Timpani

Jaimie Bernstein

Percussion

Tim Collins
Michael Correa
Brian Czach
Mark Heinsman

Harp

Barbara Dechario†

Piano and Celeste

Matthew Baram
Siew Lan Sung

Graduate Assistant

Joseph Caminiti
James Park

† guest artist