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Chapman New Music Ensemble

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# NEWMUSIC ENSEMBLE

**SEANHEIM**  
Director

**MAY 4, 2023**



CHAPMAN  
UNIVERSITY

**College of  
Performing Arts**

Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Dear Friends:

Without you, our audience, the performance you are about to enjoy would be incomplete. On behalf of our students, faculty, and staff, thank you for supporting the College of Performing Arts (CoPA) and our next generation of artists.

Our students are at the core of everything we do and we are passionately dedicated to providing the best possible education for them in all areas of study within Dance, Music, and Theatre. Our mission is to help them master their craft and prepare for today's performing arts professions by providing access to all the tools necessary to succeed.

Here at CoPA we are training artists and transforming lives. Our students have exceptional opportunities to learn from master artists and to perform in venues ranging from small studios to state-of-the-art facilities, thanks to the extended support of patrons like you. The end result is a strong record of alumni who have enjoyed rich and diverse careers in the performing arts around the world.

Please enjoy this performance and come back for another CoPA event soon! To view our full season of events, visit [tickets.chapman.edu](https://tickets.chapman.edu).

**Giulio Ongaro, Ph.D.**

Dean and Professor  
Bertea Family Chair in Music  
College of Performing Arts

**Chapman University**

**CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY  
HALL-MUSCO CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC PRESENTS:**

# **NEW MUSIC ENSEMBLE**

**Sean Heim**  
Director

May 4, 2023  
8 p.m.

**SALMON RECITAL HALL**

## PROGRAM

**Nocturne** Thomas Yamada (b. 2002)

CJ Prat, guitar

**The Lay of Hyndla** Tyler Fraser (b. 2003)

Jessica Tonai, soprano

Jackson Forte, piano

**A Storm's Gesture** Connor Low (b. 2003)

Sean Hoss, saxophone

Connor Low, piano

**Missing Joyful Memories** Sawyer Livsey (b. 2003)

Tadan Baartz-Bowman, violin

Kelly Picton, cello

Benjamin Davidson, piano

**Aconite** Kaylee Laird (b. 2003)

Bryson Chaudhary, clarinet

Sean Hoss, saxophone

Kaylee Laird, bassoon

**Take Off** Thomas Yamada

Connor Low and Jason Mitrakos, trumpet

Lizbeth Ramirez, French horn

Aidan Chun, trombone

Nicholas Lippold, tuba

# PROGRAM

## *The Fleeting Nature of Time*

Benjamin Davidson (b. 2003)

Ian McFarland, marimba

Eli Furie, marimba

Tyler Fraser, marimba

Sawyer Livsey, marimba

## *Lightning*

Matthew Kaminski (b. 2002)

Josephine Lee, flute

Kaylee Laird, bassoon

Thomas Yamada, French horn

Tadan Baartz-Bowman, violin

Kelly Picton, cello

Sawyer Livsey, percussion

Tyler Fraser, percussion

Jackson Forte, piano

Matthew Kaminski, conductor

## PROGRAM NOTES

**Nocturne** is dedicated to my dad, Gregg. As a young child, I remember when he would come home from a long day at work, sit in the living room, and play his guitar completely in the moment. The rich sound would fill the room, traveling throughout the house, enticing me to come over. The guitar's timbre is one of my earliest musical memories. It holds a special place in my heart, and this piece attempts to look back at the sounds that first swayed me to have such a passion for music today.

I based **The Lay of Hyndla** off the Old Norse poem of the same name in which the Goddess Freyja and the seeress Hyndla meet and ride towards Valhalla. It begins with a rubato piano intro to set the tone and hint at some of the musical themes to come. Once the voice adds in, there is a sense of urgency created through the use of odd time signatures and rhythms, meant to reflect Hyndla and Freyja's haste in reaching Valhala. As this is my second piece about mythology, I wanted to have a large contrast from my last piece. Whereas my piece about Greek mythology uses a simpler harmonic language with modal mixture to represent different areas of the Underworld, this piece uses more spectral and mystic sounds to evoke unease.

**A Storm's Gesture** is a meditation on the dichotomy between tranquility and chaos. The work is designed to ebb and flow- never truly in full mayhem, yet never truly at rest. Portrayed here are the highs and lows of Earth's mightiest oceans - and the sailors upon them. The dread of crashing waves mixed with the serenity of still water. The swell of a current as it moves all it passes by. When performing this piece, how notes and phrases stay in motion should be of utmost concern. Specifically, the piano's rising and falling arpeggios should always be expressed as the rising and falling of a wave. Similarly, any drone notes should be likened to drops upon a still glass.

## PROGRAM NOTES

***Missing Joyful Memories*** is a ternary piano trio with each section representing a different emotion. The introduction of the first theme represents the negative state of mind of the present. The second theme represents reminiscing about an easier, more joyful time in life. And the return of the first theme is the call back to reality of what is happening in the present. However, as the piece ends, there's a small twist that represents hope for the future and the end of the negativity.

I wrote ***Aconite*** without any vision or plan as to what it would be about. I'm a big fan of the minor 7th interval and improvised a melody around that one day while I was playing bassoon. I liked the melody a lot, so I worked with it and turned into the basis for this trio.

***Take Off*** is a short, sweet, and energetic piece for brass quintet. From the beginning, the trumpets blare a fanfare-like melody, with the rest of the brass joining in soon after. The work consists of many dynamic contrasts but always ends each section triumphantly. As the piece nears its completion, the brass climb even higher to the upper limit of their range, ending powerfully.

***The Fleeting Nature of Time***, written in May 2022 for 2 Marimbas and 4 players, is a study in writing in a minimalist style. The constant pulse in the marimbas represents the idea that time is infinite as well as repetitious in nature and the odd time signature of 15/8 represents time itself and how it's impossible to truly understand time. The four players trade off variations of the main pattern that go between the upper and lower voices but always finding its way back to the main pattern.



## PROGRAM NOTES

***Lightning*** is a piece written about the energy release between negative and positive charged particles that create the incredible yet horrifying phenomenon of lightning. In the beginning, you will hear sounds representing both the buildup of negative charges in the clouds releasing to the positive charges on the ground. You may also hear very dark and magnetic figures, as well as eerie and metallic sounds that symbolize the flow of electricity. There are parts of this piece that represent rain, being in a thunderstorm, or even getting struck by lightning and coming to terms with the lifelong consequences of having that much electricity run through your body.

All notes by the composers.

## ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



**DR. SEAN HEIM** is Professor of Music in the Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music at Chapman University, where he teaches courses and studio lessons, directs the Music Composition/Theory program, and conducts the New Music Ensemble. He also teaches courses in ethnomusicology and creativity in the University Honors program. His work as a composer, which frequently involves interdisciplinary elements, reflects the techniques and aesthetic of his own western tradition as well as principles and musical elements from numerous cultures. His most recent works explore human interconnectedness with environment/place by means of a musical language that increasingly reflects the intrinsic voice of nature.

Heim has received numerous awards, honors, and commissions from many prestigious institutions including: the Fromm Music Foundation at Harvard, the National Endowment for the Arts, New Music USA, the ASCAP Foundation Rudolf Nissim Prize, the Wang-Fradkin Senior Professorship at Chapman University, and most recently Visiting Professor at Western Sydney University. His discography includes releases on Sono Luminus, Eine Klang, and Capstone Records. He is the Director of Curriculum for the Nirmita Composers Workshop and serves on the board of the Savong Foundation.

## COMING UP NEXT...

### **Chapman University Treble Choir**

Directed by Mikayla Feldman

Friday, May 5, 2023 | 8 p.m.

Salmon Recital Hall, Berteau Hall 100

The University Treble Choir performs advanced treble voice literature from around the world in various styles and languages, ranging from historical works to contemporary compositions.

### **Instrumental Chamber Music**

Saturday, May 6, 2023

Woodwinds & Brass | directed by Tim Hall | 2 p.m.

Strings | directed by Yoshika Masuda | 5 p.m.

Salmon Recital Hall, Berteau Hall 100

### **Piano Collaborative Arts**

Directed by Louise Thomas

Saturday, May 6, 2023 | 8 p.m.

Salmon Recital Hall, Berteau Hall 100

Join us for an exciting collaborative piano concert featuring students from the Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music.

### **Student Pianists Recital**

Directed by Janice Park

Sunday, May 7, 2023 | 11 a.m.

Salmon Recital Hall, Berteau Hall 100

Directed by Janice Park, piano students representing many disciplines from across the University perform in this recital.

Dates, times, venues, and programs are subject to change.

**[TICKETS.CHAPMAN.EDU](https://tickets.chapman.edu)**

## COMING UP NEXT...

### **Early Music Ensemble**

Directed by Bruce Bales

Sunday, May 7, 2023 | 5 p.m.

Salmon Recital Hall, Berteau Hall 100

Bruce Bales leads this talented student ensemble in a concert of 17th-century music and earlier on rare period instruments.

### **Guitar Ensemble**

Directed by Daniel de Arakal

Sunday, May 7, 2023 | 8 p.m.

Salmon Recital Hall, Berteau Hall 100

Under the direction of Daniel de Arakal, Chapman's Guitar Ensemble performs a variety of classical works for the instrument.

### **47th Annual Sholund Concert**

Saturday, May 13, 2023 | 4 p.m.

Musco Center for the Arts

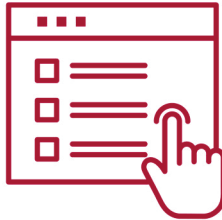
Chapman University's Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music presents this annual grand finale concert, featuring the combined forces of The Chapman Orchestra, Chapman Choirs and the talented winners of Chapman's 2023 Instrumental and Vocal Competition.

Dates, times, venues, and programs are subject to change.

**[TICKETS.CHAPMAN.EDU](https://tickets.chapman.edu)**

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## SUPPORT THE STARS OF TOMORROW

One of the best ways to help support CoPA students is to give to the Fund for Excellence. This invaluable program gives students access to a variety of high-caliber resources so they can create and perform their best work.

Every dollar donated to the Fund has an immediate impact on the performing arts student-experience. Donations are used exclusively to help CoPA students through enhancement of student productions, recruiting professional artists for master classes, and supporting touring student ensembles, to name a few. For example, last year the Fund allowed us to bring Complexions Contemporary Ballet to campus for a week-long intensive with our dance students, giving them a valuable opportunity to train with working professionals from an award-winning, internationally renowned company.

If you're already [a contributor to our Fund for Excellence](#), THANK YOU! And if you haven't yet joined hands with others who support the performing arts at Chapman University, please, *consider making a gift today. Any amount helps!*

Simply click on the support button below or contact Amy-Jo Luna at [ajluna@chapman.edu](mailto:ajluna@chapman.edu)

**SUPPORT CoPA**

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