

CONTINUUM® - 44th Season
Cheryl Seltzer & Joel Sachs, Directors
Continuum (for office use only): (212)873-3258; Continuum-ny@nyc.rr.com

NORTHERN EXPOSURES
Canadian Music – The New Individualists

CONTINUUM, Cheryl Seltzer and Joel Sachs, directors, presents the first concert of its 44th New York season. The concert is Tuesday, December 8, 7 PM, at Americas Society, 680 Park Avenue at 68th Street.

Continuum has been acclaimed throughout its long history for its discoveries of exceptional composers worldwide, virtually unheard in New York City as well as the country as a whole. The goldmine of creative composition across our border is one of these areas waiting to be explored.

Canadian composers tend to be individualists, bucking the trends and following their own fascinating pathways. They have flourished under a government that provides an unusual degree of support services, and the country's special hospitality to immigrants has had a great impact as well, with composers bringing their own distinctive cultural traditions.

Continuum's concert will focus on the younger generations, with a wide variety of styles. Heard in their U.S. Premieres will be PAUL FREHNER's Slowdown (2004), a wild, irrepressible trio for three pianists at one keyboard; JOCELYN MORLOCK's Curvilinear (2003), an accordion solo inspired by archaic folkmusic; ANA SOKOLOVIC's portrait parle (2006) for piano trio, a fantasy interpreting the physiognomy of the face; and MICHAEL OESTERLE's Sunspot Letters (2006), a high energy evocation of writings of Galileo. New York Premieres are Tajikistan-born FARANGIS NURULLA-KHOJA's Blind Flower (2008), a striking ensemble for voice and unearthly instrumental sounds written for Continuum; MELISSA HUI's Wish You Were Here (2003) an Asian-inspired meditation for flute, cello, percussion, and piano; and LINDA CATLIN SMITH's Mois qui tremblais (1999), a haunting work for violin, bass drum, and piano in which the musicians perform from an annotated text of Rimbaud. ANDREW STANILAND's Blue (2008), on a moving poem of Walt Whitman, was actually premiered in New York by Continuum's mezzo-soprano, Abigail Fischer.

Artists are Abigail Fischer, mezzo-soprano; William Schimmel, accordion; Ulla Suokko, flute; ToniMarie Marchioni, oboe; Moran Katz, clarinet; Renée Jolles, violin, Stephanie Griffin, viola; Karen Ouzounian, cello; Jared Soldiviero, percussion; Sahan Arzruni, Cheryl Seltzer, piano, and Joel Sachs, piano, conductor.

Continuum's signature Retrospective Series has been a hallmark of New York's musical life since the organization's founding in 1966. Its innovative programming has been especially valued for introducing New York to unknown extraordinary composers from around the world, many of whom later achieve worldwide standing. Continuum, in turn, has had remarkable opportunities to bring American and other new music to festivals in far corners of the world, in the ensemble's travels to such locations as Brazil, Venezuela, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Bulgaria,

Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Indonesia, and Korea. Continuum has recorded on Nonesuch, Musical Heritage Society, Bridge, CRI, Capstone, Cambria/Troppe Note, TNC Recordings, Naxos, and New Albion, and has been broadcast extensively on national and European television and radio.

This concert is made possible in part with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency, and support from the Amphion Fund, the Aaron Copland Fund, Meet The Composer's Cary New Music Performance Fund, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, the Virgil Thomson Foundation, and other private and business donors. The MetLife Foundation Music of the Americas concert series at Americas Society is presented with the generous support of MetLife Foundation.

Americas Society concerts are admission free, but reservations are required and accepted beginning December 1: online at www.musicoftheamericas.org, culture@americas-society.org, or at (212)277-8359, ext.2.

Continuum's website: www.continuum-ensemble-ny.org.