



american composers orchestra



THE UCLA HERB ALPERT SCHOOL OF MUSIC

news release

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**American Composers Orchestra
presents the third Jazz Composers Orchestra Institute (JCOI)**

August 8-13, 2015 at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music
**35 jazz composers of all ages will converge at UCLA to explore
writing for the symphony orchestra**

Culminating with a public concert by JCOI ensemble-in-residence:

wild Up

Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at 8pm
Ostin Music Center at UCLA | 445 Charles E. Young Drive East | Los Angeles, CA
Tickets: \$15 general admission, \$10 for students
at www.americancomposers.org/wildupucla

**Music by Gabriela Lena Frank, James Newton, Anthony Cheung,
Steve Coleman, Chris Kallmyer, Vince Mendoza**

For more information: www.americancomposers.org

Los Angeles, CA – The **American Composers Orchestra (ACO)** in cooperation with **The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music** and **Center for Jazz Studies at Columbia University**, and **EarShot**, the National Orchestra Composition Discovery Network, will present the third **Jazz Composers Orchestra Institute (JCOI)** from **August 8-13, 2015 at UCLA**. JCOI brings together 35 jazz composers at various stages in their careers chosen from a national pool of applicants, to explore the challenges of writing for the symphony orchestra. Composers working in jazz, improvised, and creative music have been selected based on their excellent musicianship, originality, and potential for future growth in orchestral composition. **James Newton** directs JCOI.

The Institute features a public performance **on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at 8pm** at UCLA's **Ostin Music Center** performed by **wild Up**, an LA-based 24-member experimental classical/contemporary ensemble led by artistic director and conductor **Christopher Rountree**, known nationally for its performances of new music which often embrace improvisation and cutting-edge new music techniques. The program features music by JCOI mentor composers and includes Gabriela Lena Frank's *Journey of the Shadow* (2013); James Newton's *Elisha's Gift* (2014); Anthony Cheung's *Time's Vestiges* (2013); Steve

Coleman's *Tempest* and *Synovial Joints Movements I & IV*; the world premiere of a new work by Chris Kallmyer; and selections from Vince Mendoza's quintet *Funky Diversions in Three Movements*.

Participants in JCOI will study with leading composers, conductors and performers in a curriculum designed and led by **James Newton** (JCOI Director; University of California, Los Angeles), **Derek Bermel** (Artistic Director, ACO), **Anthony Davis** (University of California, San Diego), **Gabriela Lena Frank** (composer in residence, Houston Symphony), **Anthony Cheung** (composer, University of Chicago), **Vince Mendoza** (composer/arranger), **Nicole Mitchell** (composer/flutist), Steve Coleman (saxophonist/composer/MacArthur Fellow), and **Christopher Rountree** (conductor). While in Los Angeles, JCOI participating composers will attend a series of workshops and seminars topics including study of scores and compositional techniques, contemporary performance practice, orchestration, notation and score preparation, and practical work with the symphony orchestra. Composers will also receive live demonstrations of instrumental techniques from wild Up.

JCOI is a new development in the jazz field. While many jazz composers seek to write for the symphony orchestra, opportunities for hands-on experience are few. JCOI aims to provide new resources for both jazz and classical music, promoting the emergence of composers trained in both jazz and new orchestral techniques.

Up to 16 of the composers participating in JCOI this August will go on to put what they have learned into practice by composing a new symphonic work for the second phase of the Institute, **the JCOI Readings**. Readings will be held in the spring and fall of 2016 with American Composers Orchestra, Buffalo (NY) Philharmonic, and Naples (FL) Philharmonic. Each composer will receive coaching from mentor composers and a professional music engraver as they write their new musical works. Once completed, each piece workshopped, rehearsed and performed by a host orchestra, through EarShot, the national orchestral composition discovery network. During the Readings, the new works will be heard in rehearsal, open public readings, and a public performance. Composers receive feedback from orchestra principal musicians, conductors, librarians, and mentor composers.

The Jazz Composers Orchestra Institute is made possible by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's Continuing Innovation Program, with additional funding provided The Herb Alpert Foundation and the Fromm Music Foundation.

The first JCOI, which took place in New York during the 2010-2011 season, was the subject of two features on National Public Radio, which reported that what the composers discovered while at the Institute has "the potential to shift the course of concert music." The program moved to UCLA-HASM in 2012. With the class of 2015, nearly 100 jazz composers have benefited from the program, and so far 27 new jazz works for orchestra have been created and workshopped. *Listen online at:* www.npr.org/2010/12/19/132146455/teaching-the-symphony-to-swing

About wild Up

wild Up is a modern music collective – a group of Los Angeles-based musicians committed to creating visceral, thought-provoking happenings. Its programs are eclectic studies of people, places, and ideas that we find interesting. The group believes that music is a catalyst for shared experiences, and that the concert venue is a place for challenging, exciting, and igniting the community around us. Since forming in

2010, wild Up has collaborated with orchestras, rock bands and cultural institutions around the world. wild Up has been Orchestra in Residence at the Hammer Museum, Ensemble in Residence with the American Composers Orchestra, and Public Engagement Ensemble in Residence with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. In the 2013-14 season, wild Up made their Los Angeles Philharmonic debut on the Philharmonic's Brooklyn Festival, premiered on Walt Disney Concert Hall's mainstage at the Minimalist Jukebox Festival, and began an ongoing collaboration with the Colburn School. In 2015 they return to Walt Disney Concert Hall for the Next on Grand Composition Intensive, a partnership with the Philharmonic in which 16 young composers and a faculty of eight legendary composers collaborate on new work. The group has been featured at a number of prominent West Coast cultural spaces including: the Music Academy of the West, Santa Barbara Arts and Lectures, the Broad Stage, Zipper Hall at the Colburn School, REDCAT, Beyond Baroque, the Armory Center for the Arts, and the Jensen Rec. Center Studio. www.wildup.la

About American Composers Orchestra

Founded in 1977, **American Composers Orchestra** is the only orchestra in the world dedicated to the creation, performance, preservation, and promulgation of music by American composers. ACO makes the creation of new opportunities for American composers and new American orchestral music its central purpose. Through concerts at Carnegie Hall and other venues, recordings, internet and radio broadcasts, educational programs, New Music Readings, and commissions, ACO identifies today's brightest emerging composers, champions prominent established composers as well as those lesser-known, and increases regional, national, and international awareness of the infinite variety of American orchestral music, reflecting geographic, stylistic, and temporal diversity. ACO also serves as an incubator of ideas, research, and talent, as a catalyst for growth and change among orchestras, and as an advocate for American composers and their music. www.americancomposers.org

About the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music

With its three outstanding departments of Ethnomusicology, Music and Musicology, **The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music** aspires to educate the whole student through productive collaborations between performance and scholarship, a cross-cultural, global understanding of the art of music, and preparatory training for a broad range of careers in music after graduation. Public concerts, lectures, symposia, master classes, and musical theater and opera productions, are a hallmark of The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music. Each department hosts a calendar of events open to the entire community, enriching the lives of both those on stage and those in the audience, and contributing to the quality of life in the city and beyond. The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music was formed in 2007, with the support of a \$30 million endowment from the Herb Alpert Foundation, made possible through the generosity of the renowned performer, producer and philanthropist Herb Alpert and his wife Lani Hall Alpert. www.schoolofmusic.ucla.edu

About Columbia University's Center for Jazz Studies

The **Center for Jazz Studies at Columbia University** sees jazz as a music without borders and ultimately without limits, a model for the integration of forward-thinking models of scholarly inquiry with innovative teaching and community dialogue. Its direction, which emphasizes the themes of internationalization, technology, and community, is realized by promoting research by innovative scholars in the arts,

humanities, and sciences; encouraging excellence in the teaching of music and culture; and presenting public events that complement and extend the Center's research and teaching. The Center for Jazz Studies views the interdisciplinary expansion of the intellectual conversation surrounding jazz, and especially its lifeblood practice, improvisation, as tracing a path toward the development of new knowledge that illuminates the human condition. www.jazz.columbia.edu

About EarShot

EarShot is the newly formed National Orchestral Composition Discovery Network that initiates partnerships with orchestras around the country; provides consulting, production, and administrative support for orchestras to undertake readings, residencies, performances, and composer-development programs; identifies promising orchestral composers, increasing awareness and access to their music; supports orchestras' commitment to today's composers and enhances national visibility for their new music programs. EarShot is coordinated by American Composers Orchestra in collaboration with American Composers Forum, the League of American Orchestras, and New Music USA (formerly the American Music Center and Meet The Composer). It brings together the artistic, administrative, marketing, and production resources and experience of the nation's leading organizations devoted to the support of new American orchestral music. www.earshotnetwork.org

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and The Fromm Music Foundation

This press release is available online at: www.americancomposers.org/press

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