

League of American Orchestras
Rachelle Schlosser
Director of Media Relations
rschlosser@americanorchestras.org
646 822 4027
Twitter: @rschlosserpr,
@OrchLeague

EarShot
American Composers Orchestra
Christina Jensen PR
christina@christinajensenpr.com
646 536 7864
Twitter: @AmerCompOrch

**League of American Orchestras and EarShot
Announce Commissions
in Program Supporting Women Composers**

New York, NY (December 1, 2015) – **Andreia Pinto-Correia** and **Xi Wang** have been selected to receive orchestral commissions of \$15,000 each as part of the League of American Orchestras' **Women Composers Readings and Commissions** program, administered with the American Composers Orchestra and EarShot and supported by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation. Partner orchestras to premiere the works will be announced at a later date.

This year's Women Composers Readings and Commissions program included readings with Buffalo Philharmonic, Berkeley Symphony, and American Composers Orchestra. The program featured career development workshops, as well as mentoring opportunities with composers such as Robert Beaser, Derek Bermel, Rob Deemer, Gabriela Lena Frank, Kevin Puts, Ken Ueno, and Melinda Wagner. Adjudicators for the commission awards were composers Melinda Wagner and Chen Yi, and conductor Joana Carneiro.

Jesse Rosen, the League's President and CEO, said, "We are thrilled to be able to support these two very talented composers, and are grateful to the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation for helping us raise the profile of women composers in the United States."

"In two short years the Toulmin Foundation's support of women composers has already made a substantial impact on the field. By leveraging the EarShot network, we are providing needed exposure and development opportunities to some incredibly talented and deserving composers, and through the commissions and performances with multiple orchestras we will start to see and hear performances with orchestras around the country," said Michael Geller, President of American Composers Orchestra.

This is the second year of the Women Composers Readings and Commissions program. Commission recipients in 2014 were Julia Adolphe, whose viola concerto for New York Philharmonic Principal Viola Cynthia Phelps will be premiered by the New York Philharmonic at a later date, and Melody Eötvös, whose work *Red Dirt | Silver Rain* was premiered recently by

American Composers Orchestra and Music Director and Conductor George Manahan at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall as part of the SONiC: Sounds of a New Century festival.



Photo: Tiago Miranda-Expresso

Andreia Pinto-Correia

Andreia Pinto-Correia is a 2015 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellow. Honors include commissions from the European Union Presidency, Fromm Music Foundation at Harvard University, Boston Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet, American Composers Orchestra at Carnegie Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, Albany Symphony Orchestra, and Culturgest National Bank of Portugal. Her work *Timaeus*, a concerto for orchestra commissioned by the Boston Symphony's Tanglewood Music Center in memory of Elliott Carter, was recently premiered at the opening concert of the Contemporary Music Festival's 75th anniversary to rave reviews by *The Boston Globe*. Her works have been performed by the Minnesota Symphony Orchestra, Berkeley Symphony Orchestra, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation Orchestra, Orquestra Metropolitana de Lisboa, and the Borromeo and the Mivos String Quartets. She has also been the recipient of a League of American Orchestras/ New Music USA Music Alive Composer Residency, a Rockefeller Foundation Center Fellowship, a Civitella Ranieri Foundation Fellowship, the Alpert Award in the Arts/Ucross Residency Prize, and the Toru Takemitsu Composition Award by the Japan Society. In addition, she was the curator of the Fertile Crescent Festival for Contemporary Music at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. Future commissions include works for the National Symphony Orchestra and the National Dance Company, in Portugal; a work for American virtuoso Peggy Pearson for oboe and string trio (oboe quartet); and a piano trio for the extraordinary Horszowsky Trio.

Born in Portugal, Ms. Pinto-Correia began her musical studies in her native Lisbon and received her Masters and Doctoral of Music degrees with Academic Honors from the New England Conservatory of Music as a student of Bob Brookmeyer and Michael Gandolfi. She attended the Minnesota Composer Institute, the European Network of Opera Academies (ENOA), the American Opera Projects (AOP), the Composers Conference, and the Tanglewood and Aspen Festivals. She was a participant in the first EarShot New Music Reading with the Memphis Symphony in 2009.



Photo Credit: Eason King

Xi Wang

Since arriving in the USA from her native China in 2001, Xi Wang has pursued a whirlwind of musical activities that have made her a rising star in new music. Her unique fusion of Asian and Western instruments and techniques with theatrical and choreographic elements has captivated audiences. She is increasingly in demand for orchestral, chamber, and vocal music.

Xi Wang's original concert music has been performed worldwide by notable orchestras and ensembles such as the Minnesota Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony, American Composers Orchestra, Shanghai Philharmonic, Spokane Symphony, Voices of Change, Soli Chamber Ensemble, Tippet String Quartet, among others. She is the recipient of the Charles Ives Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the National Endowment for the Arts award, Meet the Composer, New Music USA, American Music Center, MacDowell Colony residency, as well as prizes from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

Xi Wang received her B.M. from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, M.M. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and D.M.A. from Cornell University. Currently, she is an Associate Professor at the Meadow School of Arts of Southern Methodist University. She was a participant in ACO's 2010 Underwood New Music Readings.

EarShot, a nationwide network of new music readings and composer-development programs, is the nation's first ongoing, systematic program for identifying emerging orchestral composers. EarShot provides professional-level working experience with orchestras from every region of the country and increases awareness of the participating emerging composers and access to their music throughout the industry. Recent and upcoming Earshot programs have included the Detroit, Berkeley, La Jolla, Nashville, Memphis, Colorado, Columbus, and San Diego Symphonies, the New York Philharmonic, New York Youth Symphony, and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. The program is administered by **American Composers Orchestra** with partner organizations the **American Composers Forum**, **League of American Orchestras**, and **New Music USA**.

League of American Orchestras

The **League of American Orchestras** leads, supports, and champions America's orchestras and the vitality of the music they perform. Its diverse membership of approximately 800 orchestras across North America runs the gamut from world-renowned symphonies to community orchestras, from summer festivals to student and youth ensembles. The only national organization dedicated solely to the orchestral experience, the League is a nexus of knowledge and innovation, advocacy, and leadership advancement for managers, musicians, volunteers, and boards. Its conferences and events, award-winning *Symphony* magazine, website, and other publications inform music lovers around the world about orchestral activity and developments. Founded in 1942 and chartered by Congress in 1962, the League links a national network of thousands of instrumentalists, conductors, managers and administrators, board members, volunteers, and business partners. Visit americanorchestras.org to learn more.

Now in its 39th season, **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. To date, ACO has performed music by more than 750 American composers, including over 300 world premieres and newly commissioned works. ASCAP has awarded its annual prize for adventurous programming to ACO 37 times, singling out ACO as "the orchestra that has done the most for American music in the United States." ACO recordings are available on ARGO, CRI, ECM, Point, Phoenix USA, MusicMasters, Nonesuch, Tzadik, and New World Records. In the last three years, ACO has released five digital albums of live recordings, including *Orchestra Underground: A-V*, a groundbreaking album of multimedia works available for free streaming at www.vimeo.com/channels/orchestraunderground. Visit www.americancomposers.org to learn more. Recently ACO produced SONiC: Sounds of a New Century, a festival of 21st-century music with over 80 composers aged 40-and-under.

###