



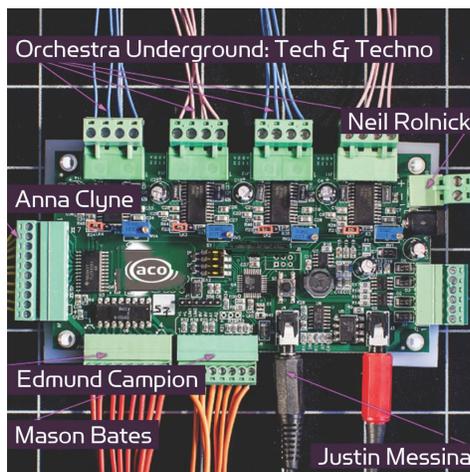
american composers orchestra

news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS CONTACT: Christina Jensen PR
646.536.7864 | christina@christinajensenpr.com

American Composers Orchestra Releases Fifth Digital Album Orchestra Underground: Tech & Techno



**Music by Mason Bates, Edmund Campion,
Anna Clyne, Justin Messina, and Neil Rolnick**

Available August 5, 2014 from iTunes, Amazon, & all major digital retailers

**Press-Only Download: <http://bit.ly/TechTechnoDownload>
(Not for Publication. Review CDs available on request.)**

For more information: www.americancomposers.org

New York, NY – **American Composers Orchestra (ACO)** announces the release of its fifth digital album, *Orchestra Underground: Tech & Techno* on August 5, 2014 on iTunes, Amazon.com, InstantEncore, and all major digital retailers. The intrepid works on *Orchestra Underground: Tech & Techno* inhabit a musical zone that is part underground dance club, part computer science lab, and part symphony hall – hip-hop, trip-hop, techno, laptop, and even a “cyborg” fiddle.

The album features live recordings of scores by **Mason Bates, Edmund Campion, Anna Clyne, Justin Messina**, and **Neil Rolnick** performed by ACO as part of *Orchestra Underground*, ACO’s cutting-edge orchestral series at Carnegie Hall’s Zankel Hall, and recorded later. Justin Messina’s *Abandon* is an orchestral quest for the semiotics of the term, played to a soundtrack of early 1990s Detroit techno. Mason Bates uses computer and drum pad with the orchestra in *Omnivorous Furniture*, a piece heavily influenced by down-tempo electronic

American Composers Orchestra Announces Fifth Digital Album

music with roots in the British hip-hop movement. Neil Rolnick, one of the pioneers of electronic music, pairs up with the fearless violinist Todd Reynolds, creating a new virtual instrument for their *iFiddle Concerto* (also included on *Orchestra Underground: X10D*). *Tender Hooks*, by Anna Clyne featuring Jeremy Flower and Joshue Ott on laptops, merges electronics new and old in a multidisciplinary piece that grew out of Playing It UNSafe, ACO's laboratory for experimental multimedia collaborations. And Edmund Campion's *Practice* merges computers and the orchestra in an answer to the hackneyed one-liner about how to get to Carnegie Hall.

Each of these pieces was commissioned or premiered by ACO for *Orchestra Underground*, which seeks to re-invent and re-imagine the orchestra with unusual instruments, eclectic influences, new collaborations and technologies, and important new compositional voices. By making available never-before-recorded orchestral music, ACO goes beyond the concert hall, reaching new listeners and gaining greater exposure and visibility for the composers it showcases on its recordings. ACO's previous digital albums include *Playing It Unsafe* (2011), *Emerging Composers Series: Vol. 1* (2012), *Orchestra Underground: X10D* (2012), and a groundbreaking music-video album *Orchestra Underground: A-V* (2013).

Orchestra Underground: Tech & Techno Track Listing

1. *Practice* by Edmund Campion (9:04)
Steven Sloane, conductor
2. *Abandon* by Justin Messina (9:06)
Steven Sloane, conductor
3. *Tender Hooks* by Anna Clyne (9:36)
Jeremy Flower and Joshue Ott, laptops
Jeffrey Milarsky, conductor
4. *iFiddle Concerto* by Neil Rolnick (18:55)
Todd Reynolds, violin
Neil Rolnick, electronics
Steven Sloane, conductor
5. *Omnivorous Furniture* by Mason Bates (18:52)
Steven Sloane, conductor

More Information

American Composers Orchestra: www.americancomposers.org

Mason Bates: www.masonbates.com

Edmund Campion: www.edmundcampion.com

Anna Clyne: www.annaclyne.com

Justin Messina: www.instantencore.com/contributor/contributor.aspx?CIId=5109602

Neil Rolnick: www.neilrolnick.com

About ACO

Now in its 37th 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 700 American composers, including 300 world premieres and newly commissioned works. Among the orchestra's innovative programs have been SONiC: Sounds of a New Century, a nine-day citywide festival in New York of music by more than 100 composers age 40 and under; Sonidos de las Américas, six annual festivals devoted to Latin American composers and their music; Coming to America, a program immersing audiences in the ongoing evolution of American music through the work of immigrant composers; Orchestra Tech, a long-term initiative to integrate new digital technologies in the symphony orchestra; Improvise!, a festival devoted to the exploration of improvisation and the orchestra; coLABoratory: Playing It UNsafe, a new laboratory for the research and development of experimental new works for orchestra; and Orchestra Underground, ACO's entrepreneurial cutting-edge orchestral ensemble that embraces new technology, eclectic instruments, influences, and spatial orientation of the orchestra, new experiments in the concert format, and multimedia and multi-disciplinary collaborations.

Composer development has been at the core of ACO's mission since its founding. In addition to its annual Underwood New Music Readings and Commission, ACO also provides a range of additional educational and professional development activities, including composer residencies and fellowships. In 2008, ACO launched EarShot, a multi-institutional network that assists orchestras around the country in mounting new music readings. Recent and upcoming Earshot programs have included the Detroit, Berkeley, La Jolla, Nashville, Memphis, Colorado, San Diego Symphonies, the New York Philharmonic, New York Youth Symphony, and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. For more information visit www.EarShotnetwork.org.

Among the honors ACO has received are special awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and from BMI recognizing the orchestra's outstanding contribution to American music. 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 received the inaugural MetLife Award for Excellence in Community Engagement, and a proclamation from the New York City Council. ACO recordings are available on ARGO, CRI, ECM, Point, Phoenix USA, MusicMasters, Nonesuch, Tzadik, New World Records, InstantEncore.com, Amazon.com and iTunes. ACO's digital albums include *Playing It UNsafe* (2011), *Emerging Composers Series: Vol. 1* (2012), and *Orchestra Underground: X10D* (2012), an album featuring unusual and extended solo instruments with the orchestra, and *Orchestra Underground: A-V* (2014), an

American Composers Orchestra Announces Fifth Digital Album

album of multimedia works available for free streaming at www.vimeo.com/channels/orchestraunderground. More information about American Composers Orchestra is available online at www.americancomposers.org.

#

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

ACO's recording initiative is made possible with the support of The Aaron Copland Fund for Music. Practice, Abandon and iFiddle Concerto were commissioned by American Composers Orchestra. Tender Hooks was developed as part of ACO's first Playing It UNSafe research and development laboratory.

american composers orchestra

Derek Bermel, Artistic Director | George Manahan, Music Director
Dennis Russell Davies, Conductor Laureate | Robert Beaser, *Artistic Advisor Laureate*
244 West 54th Street, Suite 805
New York, NY 10019-5515
Phone: [212.977.8495](tel:212.977.8495) | Fax: [212.977.8995](tel:212.977.8995) | Web: www.americancomposers.org