



August 23, 2016

Earplay new chamber music

- *Earplay needs your vote! Best of the Bay 2016*
- *Powder Her Face: Collaborating on West Edge Opera's iconic production*
- *09.25.16: Earplay performs at SFFCM's SFMUSIC DAY*

earplay.org

Best of the Bay

[Vote for Earplay](#)



Earplay is honored to be nominated in two categories for San Francisco Classical Voice's Best of the Bay Awards!

The **voting** will remain open until Wednesday, August 24, end of day.

Winners will be announced the following week on the website and in SFCV's August 30 newsletter.

Powder Her Face

Earplay was excited to partner with West Edge Opera (WEO) in their recent production of *Powder Her Face*, a chamber opera in two acts by Thomas Adés with a libretto by Philip Hensher. As described on WEO's website: 'With a plot drawn from real life – the 1963 divorce proceedings of the “Dirty Duchess,” Margaret Campbell, Duchess of Argyll, this modern masterpiece provokes and challenges. Laura Bohn sings the role of the Duchess and Emma McNairy returns after her stunning performance as last season’s Lulu, to sing the Maid. Tenor Jonathan Blalock and baritone Hadleigh Adams round out the cast. Elkhanah Pulitzer, who stunned audiences with last summer’s Lulu, is the stage director.'

From Steve Winn in his San Francisco Classical Voice article, "Everything about the writing, both for the voices and a gaudily orchestrated band (new music ensemble Earplay in this production), engages and delights. Under conductor Mary Chun’s alert baton, the piece lit up like a tinderbox at Sunday afternoon’s opening performance. The strings chattered, and the woodwinds cawed and blurted. Chimes rang out solemnly. A harp served as a pseudo-serioso motif for the Duchess (soprano Laura Bohn). And lest anyone make the mistake of investing too deeply in all the squalor onstage, everything from fishing reels and electric bells to unctuous saxophones and whoopee-cushion Swanee whistles served notice to enjoy the wild ride." <https://www.sfcv.org/.../powder-her-face-is-sordid-and-brilli...>

More reviews of *Powder Her Face* can be found here:

Opera News:

http://www.operanews.com/Opera_News_Magazine/2016/8/In_Review/OAKLAND,_CA_Powder_Her_Face.html

Mercury News:

http://www.mercurynews.com/entertainment/ci_30194146/review-west-edge-opera-opens-summer-season-winning

Financial Times: (need subscription)

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/0ce49dc0-5898-11e6-9f70-badea1b336d4.html>

Opera Tattler:

<http://operatattler.typepad.com/opera/2016/07/west-edge-opera-powder.html>

SFGate:

<http://www.sfgate.com/music/article/West-Edge-s-Powder-is-a-brash-erotic-8994667.php>

SFMUSIC DAY

For the first time in several years, Earplay will perform in SFMUSIC DAY, curated and produced by San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music. Now in its ninth year, this year's free festival will celebrate the living legacy of the string quartet, from the perspective of classical, new, and jazz perspectives, among others.

When: September 25, 2016

Time: Event starts at noon, and runs until roughly 9:00pm; Earplay performs at 6:15pm

Where: Green Room, San Francisco's War Memorial Performing Art Center, 401 Van Ness, San Francisco

More Info: [SF Friends of Chamber Music website](#)

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