

Bold New Music, Passionate Performance



Earplay: *Gathering, Gratitude & Music*

This Wednesday December 9th! Earplay will be hosting a free online event at **6pm** via Zoom. This is going to be a nourishing evening of wonderful music, conversation and connection. If you haven't already, you can receive the link to this virtual gathering by registering through our **Brown Paper Tickets link below!**



Our Evening of Music includes...

"Mirages" (Carla Magnan)

Mirages is a collection of pieces for cello and piano (2018). The pieces (Mirages I, II, III and IV) are inspired by the optical phenomenon of the same name, a natural illusion transfigured into music. The mirage is a visual perception of distorted images of distant objects, which seem suspended in the air or turned upside down like reflections from a mirror, a projection of a parallel universe causing a vain and deceptive hope, an illusion or a kind of premonition, depending on the (natural) event that causes it. The concept exists as something magical and dreamlike: from the score the sound combinations come to life and move in front of our imagination, suggesting to the listener an image between the border of the animated and the inanimate, between the real and the ephemeral, placing them as the protagonist of a dreamlike world.



Performed by: [Keisuke Nakagoshi](#) and [Thalia Moore](#) (pictured above).

"Perfect Storm" (Shulamit Ran)

"When violist Melia Watras approached me about composing a solo viola piece for her, she presented an idea that added an intriguing extra dimension to this commissioning project. Her hope was to have me create a work that, in some way, alluded to, or made use of, an existing work of my choice from the viola repertoire, enabling both works to be performed side by side. As I began reviewing, in my head, an imaginary strip of 'famous viola licks' (harder to do than with violin or cello...), along with some favorite 19th century music I found myself



returning time and again to the central motif, played by viola, from the first song of Luciano Berio's Folk Songs for singer and instruments. This gesture was playing in my mind also through another "filter" – an instrumental ensemble work composed in 1985 by my friend, the Israeli composer Betty Olivero, who was a student and protégé of Berio's and who made recurring use of that particular fragment in her composition *Presenze*. My memory of her rendition, though quite faint now, seems to have helped etch that little 'viola moment' into my mind."

Performed by: [Ellen Ruth Rose](#) (pictured above).

"Phoenix Rising" (Stacy Garrop)



Legends of the phoenix are found in stories from ancient Egypt and Greece. While each culture possesses a range of stories encompassing the phoenix myth, these tales tend to share similar traits: a sacred bird with brilliantly colored plumage and melodious call lives for typically five hundred years; then the bird dies in a nest of embers, only to be reborn among the flames. In Egyptian stories, the phoenix gathers scented wood and spices for its funeral/rebirth pyre, then collects the ashes from its earlier incarnation and flies them to the temple of the sun in Heliopolis to offer as a tribute to the sun god. In Greek myths, the phoenix was approximately the size of an eagle and was adorned with red and gold feathers; it would fly from either India or Arabia to Heliopolis to give its offering. The bird's association with immortality and resurrection are particularly intriguing aspects of these tales, giving numerous writers (including William Shakespeare, C.S. Lewis, and J.K.

Rowling) a rich resource for their own stories. Phoenix Rising consists of two movements. I. Dying in embers represents an old phoenix who is settling on top of a pile of embers and breathing its last breath;

II. Reborn in flames depicts the newly born phoenix getting its first taste of flight. Phoenix Rising was commissioned by saxophonist Christopher Creviston. The composer has also made arrangements of the work for flute, clarinet, and violin.

Performed by: [Terrie Baune](#) (pictured above).

This will certainly be an online event to remember! Earplay wishes to see your smiling faces there with us, so if you haven't registered for your tickets yet, now is the time! You may register your tickets **via Brown Paper Tickets** by clicking **below**:



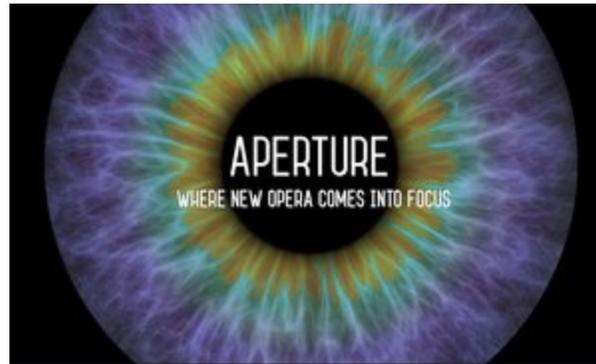
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