

PRESS RELEASE
ART MENTOR FOUNDATION LUCERNE announces CONNECT



ART MENTOR FOUNDATION LUCERNE announces CONNECT, a new pan-European initiative to promote new music commissions by creating a dynamic relationship between ensemble, composer and audience. CONNECT unites leading ensembles to develop new ways of engaging with audiences interactively starting with two ground-breaking music commissions by emerging composers Christian Mason and Huang Ruo that place the audience as artist, to be premiered across Europe in autumn 2016.

Christian Mason In the Midst of the Sonorous Islands

Huang Ruo The Sonic Great Wall

UK: London Sinfonietta | London | 22 October 2016

Germany: Ensemble Modern | Frankfurt | 30 October 2016

Holland: Asko | Schönberg | Amsterdam | November Music 2016

Portugal: Remix Ensemble | Porto | 6 December 2016

Both works can be performed on any stage, ensuring their place in the contemporary classical repertoire after these European premieres. Further cycles of CONNECT will enable associate ensembles to perform these new commissions and will commission further new composers to build a bank of music with public participation at its very heart.

Through exploring the relationship between composer, musician and audience, the project will inspire composers to experiment with the idea of shared curation, encourage musicians to lead public participation, and

empower audiences to play their own role in great art. The resulting works will be shared and enjoyed by an international community.

FURTHER LINKS

artmentor.ch/en

londonsinfonietta.org.uk

askoschoenberg.nl/en/the-ensemble

ensemble-modern.com/en

casadamusica.com

For more information on CONNECT please contact Barbara Palczynski, Projects Consultant at the London Sinfonietta on:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

ART MENTOR FOUNDATION LUCERNE is committed to promoting the general interest in and understanding of the arts and seeks to contribute to its communication to the public. It aims to promote the general understanding of new music and to support innovative projects for the development of professional music culture. CONNECT focuses on new ways of communicating music to the audience. ART MENTOR FOUNDATION LUCERNE promotes exemplary projects that will have a long-term and sustainable effect.

ART MENTOR FOUNDATION LUCERNE



Ensemble
Modern
Frankfurt

a^s K^o
sch Öⁿ
b^{erg}



remix
ensemble
casa da música

In the Midst of the Sonorous Islands

The British composer Christian Mason will create a new work for ensemble and audience immersing listeners in a range of metallic and blown sounds. *In the Midst of the Sonorous Islands* will disperse different 'islands' of sound throughout the audience, exploring the spatial sonic experience of placing large groups of similar sounds around the venue, and engaging the public as follows:

- Notated music for professional ensemble, with chamber ensembles moving and changing size and shape within the audience
- Sounds for the general public to create and rehearse in advance, to be placed in site specific locations around the audience
- Spontaneously curated sounds for the general public to learn and perform on the night within the audience

The work will blur the boundary between 'listener' and 'performer', with all participants contributing vital elements to the sonic experience

<http://www.christianmason.net>

The Sonic Great Wall

Asian-American composer Huang Ruo has proposed to create a sonic, spatial visual and interactive performance piece using the Great Wall of China as a musical metaphor for communication. *The Sonic Great Wall* seeks to connect the audience via different 'mini-stages' to represent the watchtowers of the wall around the performance space. The ensemble and public are engaged through:

- Workshops in advance to explore spacial and musical perspectives; to create and experience the logistical aspects of the sonic great wall; to feed into the artistic visuals for the 'set'; and to create percussive sounds that link the 'set' to the music
- Audience ballot box to determine the order in which the 'mini-stages' are connected and presented
- Digital and social media global engagement to further develop the wall metaphor
- Promenade performance of audience around the 'mini-stages'
- Audience engagement through humming, breathing, whispering to represent the 'spirits' that protect the wall

The new work can be interpreted through both single and multiple performances as *The Sonic Great Wall* grows from ensemble to ensemble, linking audiences wherever it is performed.

<http://www.huangruo.com>

Lucerne, 17 November 2015