



NEWS

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2016 COPLAND HOUSE RESIDENCY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

9 Composers from 9 States Chosen for Coveted Stays at "One of the Best Working Spots on Earth"

Cortlandt Manor, NY - Nine gifted American composers from nine states have been selected for the 2016 **Copland House Residency Awards**. These coveted, all-expenses-paid stays at Aaron Copland's National Historic Landmark home in New York's Lower Hudson Valley provide composers with the opportunity to focus undisturbed on their creative work in the same inspiring, bucolic environment that Copland himself enjoyed for the last 30 years of his life.

This year's winners are **Nilo Alcalá**, 38 (North Hollywood, CA); **Daniel Gilliam**, 37 (Louisville, KY); **Christopher Hopkins**, 59 (Ames, IA); **Howard Kenty**, 36 (Brooklyn, NY); **Mark Kilstofte**, 57 (Greenville, SC); **Texu Kim**, 35 (Hillsboro, OR); **Peter Van Zandt Lane**, 31 (Athens, GA); **Eric Nathan**, 32 (Providence, RI); and **Juri Seo**, 34 (Lawrenceville, NJ). **David Biedenbender**, 31 (Mount Pleasant, MI) was selected as an Alternate. (Kilstofte has won the Residency Award three times previously, and Biedenbender was a 2014 Fellow of CULTIVATE, Copland House's emerging composers' institute.) This brings to over 150 the number of residencies hosted by Copland House since its flagship composers' program was launched in 1998.

They were selected out of nearly 100 applicants from 25 states by this year's eminent jury, which included composers Pierre Jalbert (a two-time Copland House Resident), Carman Moore, and Robert Sirota (former President of the Manhattan School of Music). "I was so honored to serve on this panel," said Sirota. "We are experiencing a time of extraordinary creative energy and expertise among composers working today, and I was struck by the high quality and broad stylistic range of the works submitted."

Reflecting on his recent stay, 2015 Resident Jeremy Gill said "Copland House is a unique residency and benefitted me tremendously. I will carry fond memories of my time there for the rest of my life. I wouldn't change a thing about it; it was perfect. It is one of the best working spots on earth."

The Residents will live and work, one at a time, for three to eight weeks in the prairie-style, hilltop house near New York City that Copland called "my hideaway, my solitude," and was his home from 1960 to 1990. As Copland House Residents, they will also become eligible for post-residency awards, commissions, and various performance and recording opportunities from the Music from Copland House ensemble that advance their work, including the Sylvia Goldstein Award, Borromeo String Quartet Award, Hoff-Barthelson Music School Commission, and others.

An Official Project of the federal Save America's Treasures program, Copland House is the only composer's home in the U.S. devoted to nurturing and renewing America's rich musical heritage through a broad range of public, educational, musical, and electronic-media activities that embrace the entire creative process and reach across the U.S. Additional information about Copland House and its activities can be found at www.coplandhouse.org or by calling (914) 788-4659.

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2016 COPLAND HOUSE RESIDENCY AWARDS - composer bios

Philippine-born **Nilo Alcala** has been commissioned by the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Andrea O. Veneracion International Choral Festival, Korean Ministry of Culture, Asia-Europe Foundation, and National Music Competition for Young Artists. His works have been performed in Asia, Europe, Africa, and North and South America by the Metro Manila Concert Orchestra, Philippine Madrigal Singers (UNESCO Artist for Peace), of which he was Composer-in-Residence, and many other ensembles. Among his many honors are the Polyphonos Young Composer Award from The Esoterics (Seattle, WA), Asian Composers League Young Composer Award (Israel), and Ani ng Dangal (Harvest of Honor) from the Office of the Philippine President. An Asian Cultural Council grantee, he is also a recipient of a Billy Joel Fellowship at Syracuse University, where he earned his Master's degree in Composition, and is a graduate of the University of the Philippines.

The music of **Daniel Gilliam** has been commissioned and performed by Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts, Longleash Piano Trio, violinist Rob Simonds, Kentucky Center Chamber Players, Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony and Jason Weinberger, bass Nathan Wilson, Center City Opera Theater, Arsenal Trio, Louisville Youth Choir, and Turin Philharmonic Orchestra. He has been Composer-in-Residence at Louisville's Christ Church Cathedral and has been a composer fellow at The Seasons Music Festival. He is a Board member of The Phoenix Concerts.

Christopher Hopkins's special interests include composing with dialectics of historical musical styles, electroacoustic music, and experimental integration of composition, instrument design, and graphical notation (including 3D virtual reality). He is also a performer of Renaissance and Baroque music for the viola da gamba. As a young orchestral musician performing with the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra and Nebraska Chamber Orchestra, he performed two concerts with Aaron Copland conducting (including a Lincoln Portrait performance narrated by legendary newscaster Walter Cronkite), and cites conversations with Copland during rehearsal breaks as the stimulus to begin composing. His works have been performed at major festivals in Athens, Basel, Grenoble, Hong Kong, Honolulu, Melbourne, New York, Toronto, Vienna, and Zürich, as well as in Belgium, Canada, England, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and the U.S., and have been heard on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Austrian Radio, Radio Canada, WNYC, and Public Radio International. He has a Doctorate from Cornell University and a Master's degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music, and is director of the Center for Excellence in the Arts and Humanities and Associate Professor of Music at Iowa State University of Science and Technology.

Throughout the creations of Brooklyn-based **Howie Kenty** (sometimes known by his musical alter-ego Hwarg) runs the idea that the experience of a piece is more than just listening to the music. He strives for a wholeness of vision and an awareness of environment to fully draw the audience into his works. His music is stylistically diverse, encompassing contemporary classical, electronic, rock, sound art, and more, often with visual and theatrical elements. Besides regularly premiering pieces internationally, serving as an executive producer of the New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival, teaching, and working with artists like DJ Spooky and Amanda Palmer, he plays guitar in the progressive rock band The Benzene Ring. A Graduate Council Fellow doctoral student at Stony Brook University, his *We Have Less Time Than You Think* won first prize at the 2013 Shanghai Electronic Music Week, and his *Scherzo; Dance* received an Honorary Mention in the 2008 Prix Ars Electronica.

In addition to three previous Copland House Residency Awards, **Mark Kilstofte's** honors include the Rome Prize, Guggenheim and Fulbright Fellowships, ASCAP's Rudolf Nissim Prize, and the Goddard Lieberman Fellowship and Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His music has been featured on NPR's Performance Today and From the Top and performed by the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, New York Virtuoso Singers, New Amsterdam Singers, and Dale Warland Singers. His song cycle, *The White Album* (commissioned by the Fromm Foundation and developed during a Copland House Residency) will be premiered by Musiqa (Houston) this January. He is a graduate of St. Olaf College and The University of Michigan where he was a Rackham Predoctoral Fellow. He teaches composition at Furman University in Greenville, SC, and is guest researcher at the University of Oslo's Center for Ibsen Studies, where he is writing an opera based on Ibsen's Brand.

South Korea-born **Texu Kim**'s works have been performed by Ensemble Intercontemporain, Ensemble Modern, Alarm Will Sound, Minnesota Orchestra, Seoul Philharmonic, National Orchestra of Korea, Indiana University New Music Ensemble, Ensemble 212, Ensemble Reconsil Vienna, C4: Choral Composer/Conductor Collective, Ensemble Mise-en, Red Clay Saxophone Quartet, and Verona Quartet, and at the Brucknerfest, American Composers Orchestra SONiC Festival, and the Bratislava, Aspen, June in Buffalo, Oregon Bach, Tongyeong International, and Mizzou International Festivals. He has a doctorate from Indiana University, teaches at Lewis and Clark College and Portland State University (Oregon), and is Composer-in-Residence at the Korean Symphony Orchestra. He also has degrees in composition and chemistry from Seoul National University, and was a Silver Medalist at Australia's International Chemistry Olympiad.

Peter Van Zandt Lane has received fellowships from the MacDowell Colony, Composers Now, Yaddo, Atlantic Center for the Arts, and Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. He has been commissioned by the American Chamber Winds (for an upcoming concerto for famed trombonist Joseph Alessi), Barlow Endowment, Sydney Conservatorium Wind Symphony, Composers Conference, and Dinosaur Annex, among others. His work has been performed by the Cleveland Orchestra, Lydian String Quartet, International Contemporary Ensemble, Atlanta Chamber Players, and New York Virtuoso Singers. He won the American Prize for his ballet HackPolitik and was a Finalist for the Lili Boulanger Memorial Prize. He holds degrees from Brandeis University and the University of Miami Frost School of Music, and he is currently Assistant Professor of Composition and Director of the Roger and Phyllis Dancz Center for New Music at the University of Georgia Hodgson School of Music. His music may be heard on the PARMA/Navona, New Dynamic, and Innova labels.

The music of **Eric Nathan** has been performed at the New York Philharmonic's 2014 and 2016 Biennials, the Louvre, and the Aldeburgh, Tanglewood, Aspen, MATA, Cabrillo, and Ravinia Festivals. His music has also been featured by the Berlin Philharmonic's Scharoun Ensemble, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, and JACK Quartet, as well as such acclaimed performers as sopranos Dawn Upshaw, Lucy Shelton, and Tony Arnold, violinist Jennifer Koh, trombonist Joseph Alessi, and pianist Gloria Cheng. Recent projects include two commissions from the Boston Symphony Orchestra, including a chamber work for its Chamber Players and a symphonic work to be premiered with Music Director Andris Nelsons. He has also had commissions from the New York Philharmonic for its CONTACT! series, Tanglewood, Aspen Music Festival for the American Brass Quintet, and the New York Virtuoso Singers. A 2013 Rome Prize Fellow and 2014 Guggenheim Fellow, he has been Composer-in-Residence at New York's Chelsea Music Festival and Italy's Chamber Music Campania. He received his doctorate from Cornell and holds degrees from Yale and Indiana University, and is currently Assistant Professor of Music in Composition-Theory at Brown University.

Composer-pianist **Juri Seo** seeks to write music that encompasses extreme contrast through a unified and fluid, yet complex, structure. She merges some of the fascinating discoveries from the music of the past century - particularly an expanded timbral imagination and structural open-mindedness - with her deep love of functional tonality, counterpoint, and classical form. Her music explores the serious and humorous, the lyrical and violent, and the tranquil and obsessive, and hopes to create work that speaks to the subconscious - music that loves, and that makes a positive change, however small, in the world through the people who are willing to listen to it. She has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Goddard Lieberman Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the University of Illinois's Kate Neal Kinley Memorial Fellowship, and the Otto Eckstein Fellowship from Tanglewood. She holds a doctorate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and also attended Rome's Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia and Seoul's Yonsei University. She has been a composition fellow at the Tanglewood, Bang on a Can, and SoundSCAPE Festivals, Wellesley Composers Conference, and Atlantic Center for the Arts, and is an Assistant Professor at Princeton University.