



NEWS

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Aaron Copland
COPLAND HOUSE

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COPLAND HOUSE NAMES *CULTIVATE* FELLOWS FOR 2016

**6 Composers from 5 States Selected for Coveted Emerging Composers' Institute;
June 12 Concert to Feature World Premieres of New Works;
Schlosberg Chosen as Nashville Symphony ComposerLab Fellow**

Cortlandt Manor, NY – Copland House announces the six Fellows chosen to participate this June in *CULTIVATE*, its acclaimed, annual emerging composers institute. The composers selected are **Jenny Beck** (29, Philadelphia, PA), **Ryan Chase** (28, Cohoes, NY), **Carolyn Chen** (32, Pasadena, CA), **Patrick Harlin** (31, Ann Arbor, MI), and **Michael Small** (27, Washington, DC), as well as **Daniel Schlosberg** (28, Brooklyn, NY), who was selected as part of Copland House's collaboration with the Nashville Symphony's new ComposerLab. The six Fellows were chosen out of nearly of 93 applicants from 26 states and 3 countries by an eminent jury of acclaimed composers – *CULTIVATE* Director **Derek Bermel**, **Donnacha Dennehy**, and **Reiko Fueting**.

CULTIVATE, an all-scholarship intensive creative workshop and mentoring program, will take place between June 6 and 12 in northern Westchester County, NY, at Aaron Copland's National Historic Landmark home in Cortlandt Manor and at the Merestead estate in nearby Mount Kisco. Launched in 2012, it has quickly become a coveted destination for highly-gifted composers on the threshold of their professional careers.

"This is an exceptional group of composers, with diverse styles and influences," said Bermel. "The applicants were truly outstanding, which made a final selection difficult. We look forward to working with the 2016 Fellows in a spirit of intensity and generosity that we think Copland himself would have appreciated."

The six Fellows will each create a new composition that will be the focus of an intensive week of collective and individual daily rehearsals and workshops with Bermel and artists from the widely-praised Music from Copland House ensemble. Evening discussion sessions focus on practical and professional career matters, and feature prominent, forward-looking arts leaders. *CULTIVATE* will conclude with a public concert by the ensemble on Sunday afternoon, June 12 on Copland House's mainstage performance series at Merestead, featuring the World Premieres of all the new works. All costs of composer participation, working sessions and rehearsals, travel, accommodations, and meals are covered by Copland House.

As 2015 Fellow **Gity Razaz** noted, "*CULTIVATE* offers a rare and exceptional opportunity, as not many programs provide a chance for dialogue with the participating musicians in a collaborative setting. During the workshops, I was able to receive insightful artistic guidance through group discussions, mentoring sessions and career-related masterclasses. I left *CULTIVATE* feeling more inspired and determined to take on new artistic challenges."

Support for *CULTIVATE* comes from the Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Amphion Foundation, ASCAP Foundation, BMI Foundation, Alice M. Ditson Fund, Jandon Foundation, Friends of Copland House, and John G. Strugar. Additional program support comes from ArtsWestchester, the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, Ruth M. Knight Foundation, and Westchester Community Foundation. Tickets for the June 12 *CULTIVATE* concert are \$25 for the general public, \$20 for Friends of Copland House, and \$10 for students (with ID). Ticket or reservation information is available at (914) 788-4659, office@coplandhouse.org, or www.coplandhouse.org.

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Friends of Copland House Fellow **JENNY BECK** grew up in rural Pennsylvania where the sounds of the woods stirred her imagination at a young age. She went on to study composition at the Peabody Conservatory and Rutgers University. "I work in an intensely distilled musical language," she explained, "the goal of which is to forge significance for each sound. I create a concise musical palate and aim to maintain its purity while traversing fully the dramatic range of a relatively limited set of materials." She has participated in the Norfolk New Music Workshop, Atlantic Center for the Arts Residency (with Martin Bresnick), June in Buffalo, Wellesley Composers Conference, Tanglewood Music Center, and Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute Professional Training Workshop (with Kaija Saariaho). She currently lives in Philadelphia.

Sheila and Richard J. Schwartz Honorary Fellow **CAROLYN CHEN** has made music for supermarket, demolition district, and the dark. Recent projects include an assemblage on falling, a story for American Sign Language interpreter strung to chimes at a distance, and an opera mashup of Euripides' *Hekabe* and *Red Riding Hood*. The work has been presented at festivals and exhibitions in 19 countries. She has received the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans, and Stanford University Sudler Prize, as well as awards from the University of California Institute for Research in the Arts, American Composers Forum, ASCAP, Emory Planetarium, MATA, Wellesley Composers Conference, and the Machine Project at the Hammer Museum. She earned a PhD in music from the University of California at San Diego, and an MA in Modern Thought and Literature and BA in music from Stanford University, with an honors thesis on free improvisation and radical politics.

ASCAP Foundation Bart Howard Fellow **RYAN CHASE** strives to balance the sonic extremes of the familiar and the experimental. His music has been performed in venues ranging widely from dive bars to Carnegie Hall by Alarm Will Sound, the Chelsea Symphony, Contemporaneous, Flux Quartet, SONAR, and other ensembles. As a jazz pianist, he has shared the stage with Clay Aiken, Blues Traveler, and ?uestlove. Honors for his music include fellowships from Tanglewood and the Aspen Music Festival, a Harvard Fromm Commission, two BMI Awards (including the 2011 William Schuman Prize for Most Outstanding Entry), an ASCAP Morton Gould Award, and the Audience Choice Award from the 2012 American Composers Orchestra Underwood New Music Readings, among others. His music has been presented at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Resonant Bodies Festival, and Cannes Film Festival. He holds degrees from the Mannes College of Music and Indiana University.

A native of the Pacific Northwest and resident of Michigan, Friends of Copland House Fellow **PATRICK HARLIN** frequently incorporates the natural world and soundscapes into his compositions. His doctoral studies at the University of Michigan span both music composition and soundscape ecology, taking him to remote regions worldwide including Utah's Book Cliffs and the Amazon Rainforest. For his dissertation, he captured the disappearing soundscapes of these locations and combined them with string quartet and electronics, drawing parallels between sounds of the natural world and those of the concert hall. He holds a Master's degree from the University of Michigan and a Bachelor's degree from Western Washington University. His music opens the Kansas City Symphony's 2016-17 season, and has been performed by the St. Louis Symphony, Rochester and Calgary Philharmonics, Calidore String Quartet, Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, Alarm Will Sound, and Atlantic Classical Orchestra.

The music of composer and pianist **DANIEL SCHLOSBERG**, Nashville Symphony ComposerLab Fellow, has been performed at venues from Carnegie Hall to London's Victoria & Albert Museum to Beijing's Dusk Dawn Club, and many others, by the Dover and Amphion Quartets, Nashville Symphony, Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, Buffalo Philharmonic, Lorelei Ensemble, Aspen Contemporary Ensemble, and Antico Moderno. He received a 2014 Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and two ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards, and his recent work includes an operatic-theatrical adaptation of a Lorca play for Williamstown Theatre Festival, music for BodyVox's *Cosmosis*, and commissions for Chamber Music Northwest. He continues to perform around the world, collaborating with David Shifrin, Peter Wiley, Ani Kavafian, and other luminaries. In April 2015, he music-directed and performed in Brecht's *Caucasian Chalk Circle* at the Yale Repertory Theatre, premiering a score by David Lang. He co-founded the composer-performer ensemble INVISIBLE ANATOMY, which has been featured at National Sawdust and the Beijing Modern Music Festival, is a core member of Cantata Profana, and is co-Music Director of Heartbeat Opera, both based in New York. He holds a BA from Yale University and is pursuing his DMA at the Yale School of Music, where he wrote his thesis on the music of David Lynch's *Twin Peaks*. He enjoys baking cookies.

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The works of **MICHAEL SMALL**, Friends of Copland House Fellow, often draw on visual or literary sources and seek to place the listener's imaginative journey at the heart of the music's narrative. Dreams, hallucinations, memory, flight, and surreal landscapes are recurring themes. In 2014, he received the Alan Horne Prize from the Royal Philharmonic Society as part of its annual Young Composer commissions. His solo violin work, *White Space*, was premiered at the Presteigne Festival in 2015, has been presented in Bristol, Oxford, and Liverpool, and will be performed in London and at Edinburgh's National Galleries of Art before a painting by the artist who inspired the work. His *Memory Palace*, written for the Momenta Quartet, received its New York Premiere last year. Upcoming works include a new Oboe Quartet and another solo violin work based on Virginia Woolf's timeless novel, *The Waves*. He received his BMus (Hons) from the Royal Northern College of Music before moving to the U.S. to study at Cornell University.

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CULTIVATE Director **DEREK BERMEL** has received commissions from the Pittsburgh, National, Saint Louis, New Jersey, and Pacific Symphonies, Los Angeles and Westchester Philharmonics, the New York Youth Symphony, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, WNYC Radio, eighth blackbird, the Guarneri String Quartet, Music from Copland House and Music from China, De Ereprijs (Netherlands), Jazz Xchange (U.K.), Figura (Denmark), violinist Midori, electric guitarist Wiek Hijmans, cellist Fred Sherry, and pianists Christopher Taylor and Andrew Russo, among others. His many honors include the Alpert Award in the Arts, Rome Prize, Guggenheim and Fulbright Fellowships, American Music Center's Trailblazer Award, and Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters; commissions from the Koussevitzky and Fromm Foundations, Meet the Composer, and Cary Trust; and residencies at Yaddo, Tanglewood, Aspen, Banff, Bellagio, Copland House, Sacatar, and Civitella Ranieri. He is Artistic Director of the American Composers Orchestra at Carnegie Hall, and recently completed a 4-year stint as Artist-in-Residence at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

MUSIC FROM COPLAND HOUSE (MCH) is the internationally-acclaimed touring ensemble-in-residence at Aaron Copland's longtime home in Westchester County, NY, an award-winning creative center for American music (www.coplandhouse.org). Hailed by *The New York Times* for "illuminating essential truths about the music," Music from Copland House occupies a special place on the musical scene as the nation's only wide-ranging American repertory ensemble, journeying across 150 years of the U.S. musical landscape. MCH has been engaged by Carnegie Hall, the Library of Congress, Miller Theatre, Merkin Hall, Monday Evening Concerts in Los Angeles, the Caramoor, Cape Cod, Bard, and Ecstatic Music Festivals, and many other leading North American concert presenters, and has collaborated with the European Broadcasting Union on a special concert aired in over 20 countries. It has commissioned nearly 50 works, including Sebastian Currier's *Static*, which won the prestigious Grawemeyer Award (2007). The ensemble records for Arabesque, Koch International, and the new COPLAND HOUSE BLEND label, and is regularly featured on Copland House's popular main-stage concert series at the historic Merestead estate near New York City. Inspired by Copland's peerless, lifelong advocacy of American composers, MCH also presents a wide variety of educational and community outreach activities. MCH concerts feature the ensemble's much-admired Founding Artists – clarinetist-composer Derek Bermel, pianist Michael Boriskin, flutist Paul Lustig Dunkel, violinist Nicholas Kitchen, and cellist Wilhelmina Smith – along with an array of stellar Principal and Guest Artists.

COPLAND HOUSE is an award-winning creative center for American music based at Aaron Copland's National Historic Landmark home in New York's lower Hudson River Valley. Praised for "all the richness of its offerings" (*The New York Times*), it 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 programs, and fostering greater public awareness and appreciation of our nation's composers and their work. Building upon Copland's seminal artistic and personal legacies, it furthers this mission through multi-faceted support for composers, live and recorded public performances, and in-school and on-site educational programs. Among its many honors are the American Music Center's Letter of Distinction, and *Westchester* magazine's recognitions as "Best of the Decade" and "Best of Westchester." Support for Copland House's 2015-16 season comes from the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, Aaron Copland Fund for Music, ArtsWestchester, Ruth M. Knight Foundation, Westchester Community Foundation, and Friends of Copland House.