



NEWS

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10 COMPOSERS SELECTED FOR 2015 COPLAND HOUSE RESIDENCY AWARDS

Composers from 8 States Chosen for Coveted Stays at Aaron Copland's National Historic Landmark Home

Cortlandt Manor, NY, September 15, 2015 – Ten gifted American composers from eight states have been chosen for the 2015 Copland House Residency Awards, all-expenses-paid stays at Aaron Copland's National Historic Landmark home in New York's Lower Hudson Valley.

The winners are **Carlos Carrillo** (45, Urbana, IL), **Viet Cuong** (24, Princeton, NJ), **William Dougherty** (27, New York, NY), **Melody Eotvos** (30, Bloomington, IN), **Jeremy Gill** (40, Jamaica Plain, MA), **Charles Halka** (32, Houston, TX), **Gabriella Smith** (23, El Cerrito, CA), **Christopher Stark** (34, St. Louis, MO), **Christopher Trapani** (35, Astoria, NY), and **Roger Zare** (29, Evanston, IL). Several of the composers have previously been honored by Copland House: Carrillo was among Copland House's first Residents in 1998, and Cuong, Dougherty, and Zare were Fellows of Copland House's acclaimed CULTIVATE emerging composers' institute.

They were selected out of 86 applicants from 26 states and two countries by this year's eminent jury, which included composers Sebastian Currier, Louis Karchin, and Christopher Theofanidis (a 2014 Copland House Resident). This brings to nearly 140 the total number of residencies hosted by Copland House since its flagship composers' program was launched in 1998.

"Knowing from personal experience what a Copland House stay can mean to a composer's work and mental space made it even more difficult to select this year's Residents," Theofanidis explained. "The applicants were at the very highest level – astonishing, really – and the variety of stylistic and technical approaches was impressive." Reflecting on her Residency earlier this summer, composer Anne LeBaron said "I had an amazingly productive time at Copland House, where the isolation and inspiring surroundings did a great deal to contribute to my creative process, and was absolutely necessary as I was faced with imminent deadlines."

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 for the last 30 years of his life. As Copland House Residents, they will also become eligible for post-residency awards, commissions, and performances that advance their work, including the Sylvia Goldstein Award, Borromeo String Quartet Award, Hoff-Barthelson Music School Commission, and others, and their music may be showcased in performance by the Music from Copland House ensemble.

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 creative, educational, and performance programs. Additional information about Copland House and its activities can be found at www.coplandhouse.org or by calling (914) 788-4659.

(Residents' bios follow)

2015 COPLAND HOUSE RESIDENCY AWARDS – composer bios

Born in Puerto Rico and a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Yale, and the University of Pennsylvania, **CARLOS CARRILLO** has received the Bearns Prize, Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, BMI and ASCAP awards, and many others. He has been commissioned by MATA for the Da Capo Chamber Players, New York Youth Symphony, Concert Artists Guild, Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association, and American Composers Orchestra. His work has been performed by the Casals Festival, Puerto Rico and New Jersey Symphonies, New York Youth Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Young Musician Foundation's Debut Orchestra, Sequitur, Network for New Music, and Prism Quartet. He has also received fellowships from John Duffy Composers Institute at the Virginia Arts Festival, Italy's Civitella Ranieri Foundation, and the American Composers Orchestra. He was musical director of the Wabash Valley Youth Symphony, and, after having taught at DePauw University, Reed College, and the San Juan Conservatory of Music, is now on the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign faculty.

VIET CUONG has had works performed on six continents by a number of soloists and ensembles including the PRISM Saxophone Quartet, Sō Percussion, Music From Copland House, American Modern Ensemble, Dolce Suono, London's Nash Ensemble, Anthony McGill, Mimi Stillman, and over fifty conservatory and university wind ensembles. His music has been featured at Carnegie Hall, the Aspen Music Festival, International Double Reed Society Conference, Gamper Festival of Contemporary Music, US Navy Band International Saxophone Symposium, and multiple CBDNA conferences. He has received the ASCAP Morton Gould Award, Suzanne and Lee Ettelson Award, Theodore Presser Foundation Music Award, Walter Beeler Memorial Prize, and two ASCAP/CBDNA Frederick Fennell Prizes. He has had artist residencies at Yaddo, Ucross, and the Atlantic Center for the Arts, and a Copland House CULTIVATE Fellow. A graduate of the Peabody Conservatory, he is currently a Naumburg and Roger Sessions PhD Fellow at Princeton.

The music of **WILLIAM DOUGHERTY** has been performed by the Orchestre National de Lorraine, Geneva's Nemascae Lemanic Modern Ensemble, London's Lontano Ensemble, Ensemble Phoenix in Basel, and TILT Brass in New York. His works have also been performed at the New York Philharmonic Biennale, Internationale Ferienkurse für Neue Musik in Darmstadt, Tectonics Festival New York, New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival, Bowling Green New Music Festival, and broadcast on BBC Radio 3. He has received awards from BMI, PARMA Recordings, the Philadelphia Orchestra Association, PRS for Music Society, Sound and Music, American Composers Forum, Institute for European Studies, and UK Foreign Aid and Commonwealth Office. He graduated from Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance, and, as a Marshall Scholar, earned his Master's degree from London's Royal College of Music, after which he with Georg Friedrich Haas at the Musik Akademie der Stadt Basel. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate of the Musical Arts at Columbia University.

MELODY EÖTVÖS is an Indiana-based Australian composer whose work draws on both multi-media and traditional instrumental contexts. Her work has been performed by the London Sinfonietta, BBC Singers, Tasmanian Symphony, and Australian String Quartet, and she has participated in several electronic music festivals in the U.S., Australia, and New Zealand. Her current projects include an EarShot commission, scheduled for an American Composers Orchestra World Premiere at Carnegie Hall this fall, and a Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation Orchestral Commission administered by the League of American Orchestras. She is also guest composer for the 2015 Bendigo International Festival of Exploratory Music, a Fellow at the Aspen Music Festival & School, and a commissioned composer for the Synergy 40x40 project in Sydney, Australia. She has a Doctor of Music degree from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music USA, and a Master of Music degree from London's Royal Academy of Music

JEREMY GILL's recent works include an oboe concerto for Dallas Symphony principal oboe Erin Hannigan, a clarinet concerto for Christopher Grymes and the Harrisburg Symphony, a piano concerto/choral work for pianist Ching-Yun Hu and the Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia, and *Capriccio*, an hourlong string quartet for the Grammy-winning Parker Quartet (commissioned by Chamber Music America and available on innova Recordings). He has been a Fellow of the American Opera Projects' Composers & the Voice program, and a Fellow at the MacDowell Colony, and was recently selected to join the American Composers Forum's Artistic Delegation to the 2015 Havana Contemporary Music Festival. His music has been featured in *Chamber Music* magazine and *The Strad*, as well as on Minnesota Public Radio and WGBH Boston.

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2015 COPLAND HOUSE RESIDENCY AWARDS – composer bios (continued)

CHARLES HALKA's works have been performed in North America, Europe, and Hong Kong by the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra led by Marin Alsop, Mexican National Symphony, Fort Worth Opera Studio, counter)induction, ÓNIX (Mexico), PRO ARTE eNsemble (Russia), Aquarius (Belgium), and Jauna Muzika (Lithuania), among others. As a Fulbright Scholar, he spent a year in Lithuania writing an opera, *Julius*, which premiered in 2010. Other performances have taken place at ISCM World Music Days, Foro Internacional de Música Nueva, the Coolidge Auditorium of the Library of Congress, and the Intimacy of Creativity in Hong Kong. He has also had residencies with the Foundation for Modern Music and at Houston's Musiqa, the MacDowell Colony, the M.K. Sarbievijaus Cultural Center, where he wrote *And Jill Came Tumbling After*, a chamber opera (libretto by John Grimmer) that was selected for Fort Worth Opera's 2015 Frontiers showcase. His *Imaginary Spaces* is a collaboration with Frame Dance Productions. He is Visiting Lecturer at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

GABRIELLA SMITH is a composer from the San Francisco Bay Area whose upcoming performances included those by the Bang on a Can All-Stars, Aizuri Quartet, ZOFO, Latitude49, and Gabriel Cabezas and the New York Youth Symphony. Her music has been performed throughout the U.S. and internationally by eighth blackbird, the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra conducted by Marin Alsop, and PRISM Quartet, among others. She is the recipient of the 2014 ASCAP Leo Kaplan Award, three ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards, and a Theodore Presser Foundation Award, and won the American Modern Ensemble Ninth Annual Composition Competition. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, she is currently a Curtis 2015-16 Artist Fellow, dedicating a citizen-artist year of national service in the Philadelphia region. She is also a Doctoral candidate at Princeton. When not composing, she can be found backpacking (and playing trail songs on her ukulele along the way), birding, playing capoeira, or working on small-scale organic farms around the world.

A recipient of the coveted Underwood Commission from the American Composers Orchestra, and winner of the *prix de composition* from the Orléans International Piano Competition, **CHRISTOPHER STARK**'s music has been featured on NPR's *Performance Today* and was broadcast as a fan-voted favorite on WQXR in New York. His works have been performed by the American Composers Orchestra, Buffalo and Sacramento Philharmonics, Los Angeles Piano Quartet, Alarm Will Sound, and Aspen Contemporary Ensemble. He has had recent commissions from the Fromm Foundation at Harvard University and Chamber Music America, and was one of three winners of the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings Commissioning Project. A 2012 resident at Italy's Civitella Ranieri, he also recently worked with the Grammy-winning country music artists Zac Brown Band on an arrangement of their hit song *Free* for the Detroit Symphony and conductor Leonard Slatkin. He currently lives and works in Missouri, where he is Assistant Professor of Music Composition at Washington University in St. Louis.

New Orleans-born **CHRISTOPHER TRAPANI** graduated from Harvard, then spent most of his twenties overseas: in London, working on a Master's degree at the Royal College of Music; then in Istanbul, studying microtonality in Ottoman music on a Fulbright grant; and then seven years in Paris, where he studied with Philippe Leroux and worked at IRCAM. Though now based in New York City, he is spending much of this year in Stuttgart as a fellow at Akademie Schloss Solitude. He is winner of the 2007 Gaudeamus Prize, 2013 Julius F. Ježek Prize, and awards from ASCAP, BMI, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His scores have been performed by Ensemble Modern, ICTUS, Nieuw Ensemble, Talea Ensemble, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, and JACK Quartet, amongst others. His current projects include a new string quartet with electronics for Quatuor Béla and GRAME (Lyon), a Chamber Music America commission for Ekmeles (six voices and electronics), and a commission for orchestra and electronics (IRCAM) for the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and Festival Présences 2015.

Often inspired by science, nature, mathematics, and mythology, **ROGER ZARE**'s music has been performed across the U.S. and on five continents by the American Composers Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Australia-based Trio Anima Mundi, Symphony Orchestra of Minas Gerais, Akropolis Reed Quintet, and Donald Sinta Quartet. He has received the ASCAP Nissim Prize, three BMI Student Composer Awards, an ASCAP Morton Gould award, a New York Youth Symphony First Music Commission, 2008 American Composers Orchestra Underwood Commission, and a 2010 Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and was a Copland House CULTIVATE Fellow. A graduate of the Peabody Conservatory and the Universities of Michigan and Southern California, he has served as composer-in-residence at the Chesapeake and Salt Bay Chamber Music Festivals, the Chamber Music Festival of Lexington, and the SONAR new music ensemble.