



NEWS

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2021 COPLAND HOUSE RESIDENCY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

9 Composers Selected for Stays at “Artist’s Paradise”



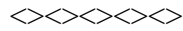
Cortlandt Manor, NY, November 22, 2021 – Copland House today announced the winners of its 2021 Residency Awards. The nine composers selected, from seven states and Puerto Rico, are (*clockwise, from top left in photo*) [Claude Baker](#), 73 (Bloomington, IN); [Eric Chasalow](#), 66 (Newtonville, MA); [Sarah Gibson](#), 35 (Los Angeles, CA); [Pierce Gradone](#), 35 (Chicago, IL); [Lansing McLoskey](#), 57 (Miami, FL); [Ali Can Puskulcu](#), 32 (New York, NY); [Christian Quinones](#), 25 (Arecibo, PR); [Kareem Roustom](#), 50 (Sharon, MA); and [Laura Schwendinger](#), 59 (Madison, WI). Chasalow, McLoskey, and Schwendinger are each returning for their second Residencies, while Gradone was a CULTIVATE Emerging Composers Fellow. They are awarded all-expenses-paid stays for three- to eight-weeks in Aaron Copland’s National Historic Landmark home near New York City – a place 2010 Resident **Alvin Singleton** called “an artist’s paradise,” where they can focus uninterruptedly on their creative work. As Residents, they also become eligible for a wide variety of post-residency performance, recording, and commissioning opportunities.

As Artistic and Executive Director **Michael Boriskin** noted, “these highly-accomplished, richly imaginative outstanding artists were selected from the largest group of applicants that we have ever received – 221 composers from 33 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and four countries. Ranging in age from 25 to 73, they come from widely-varied backgrounds, and work across the creative spectrum, from concert, symphonic, and chamber music to jazz, electronics, and theater compositions.” They were chosen by a large, diverse jury of eminent composers, comprised of **Karim Al-Zand, Chen Yi, Sebastian Currier, Pierre Jalbert, Laura Kaminsky, Carman Moore, Shawn Okpebholo, Dan Visconti, and Zhou Long.**

Two-time Resident **Lembit Beecher** recalled, “the magic of Copland House, which makes it unlike any other residency that I have experienced, is that it combines a focused, solitary working environment, with a sense of deep history, and a sense of home. My time there felt like a time of beautiful centering, a time to ask big questions about the music I was writing, and a time to try to delve as deeply and as far as possible.”

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An award-winning creative center for American music, Copland House has, for over 20 years, championed and collaborated with musical explorers and innovators, who, like Copland, change the way we interact with the world around us. The only composer's home in the U.S. devoted to nurturing and renewing America's vibrant musical legacy, Copland House's broad range of programs singularly embrace the entire artistic process, from creation and development to performance and preservation. Praised by *The New York Times* for "all the richness of its offerings," Copland House's activities resonate far beyond its walls, and are built upon multi-faceted composer support, live and recorded performances, and educational and community engagement. For more information, visit www.coplandhouse.org or call (914) 788-4659.



2021 Copland House Residency Awards – Composer Bios

Among veteran composer **Claude Baker**'s many honors are an Academy Award in Music from the American Academy of Arts and Letters; two Kennedy Center Friedheim Awards; the Manuel de Falla Prize from the Government of Spain; the Pogorzelski-Yankee Prize from the American Guild of Organists; the Eastman-Leonard and George Eastman Prizes; awards from ASCAP, BMI, and the League of Composers/ISCM; commissions from the Koussevitzky and Fromm Music Foundations, Barlow Endowment for Music Composition, and Meet the Composer (now NewMusicUSA); a residency at the American Academy in Rome; and fellowships from the Guggenheim, Rockefeller, and Bogliasco Foundations, National Endowment for the Arts, and the state arts councils of Indiana, Kentucky, and New York. During his eight-year tenure as Composer-in-Residence of the St. Louis Symphony, he initiated numerous community-based projects, most notably the establishment of composition programs at multiple grade levels in the St. Louis Public Schools. He is Chancellor's Professor Emeritus of Composition at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music.

2004 Copland House Resident **Eric Chasalow** is a composer, sound artist, multi-instrumentalist, record producer, teacher, and advisor to non-profits. Well-known for works that combine instruments with electronic sound, he has collaborated on a wide range of projects for the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, Talea Ensemble, New York New Music Ensemble, Network for New Music, and many others. An album of ten new genre-bending songs, *Ghosts of Our Former Selves*, was released in Fall 2020. Upcoming projects include a violin concerto for Miranda Cuckson and a song cycle on found poetry related to climate change. In addition to residencies at Copland House, Camargo, the MacDowell Colony, and Bogliasco, he has been honored by the Guggenheim, Fromm, and Koussevitzky Foundations, National Endowment for the Arts, New York Foundation for the Arts, the American Academy of Arts & Letters, and Copland House's Sylvia Goldsetin Award. The Eric Chasalow Collection in the Library of Congress was established in 2009. He was a longtime professor of music at Brandeis University, where he directed the Brandeis Electro-Acoustic Music Studio (BEAMS).

The music of Los Angeles-based composer-pianist **Sarah Gibson** draws on her breadth of experience as a collaborative performer with a deep interest in the creative process across various artistic mediums. Her music has been performed by the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Atlanta and Seattle Symphonies, violinist Jennifer Koh, and at various venues across the U.S. and Europe. Her work has been recognized by the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra's Sound Investment program, American Composers Orchestra Underwood New Music Readings, and Chamber Music America, and she has been commissioned by the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Tanglewood Music Center, and Seattle Symphony, among others. Alongside Artistic Director Andrew Norman (another Copland House Resident), she is the Lead-Teaching Artist for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Composer Fellowship Program. She is also Assistant Teaching Professor in Composition at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she is the director of the Ensemble for Contemporary Music. She is co-founder of the piano duo HOCKET, a core artist for the acclaimed Los Angeles series, Piano Spheres. She received degrees in piano and composition from Indiana University and the University of Southern California.

2017 CULTIVATE Fellow **Pierce Gradone**'s music echoes the strange brew of musical cultures that made up his childhood, from playing bluegrass in the hills of Appalachia to sprinting the marathon of blinding-fast Pentecostal shout music. His works explore the notion of music as an embodied art, emphasizing the somatic aesthetic experience by engaging with performative agency and virtuosity. His music been performed by Eighth Blackbird, Ensemble Signal, Imani Winds, the Chicago Civic Orchestra, Pacifica Quartet, and the Quince, Riot, and Switch Ensembles. He has had commissions and awards from the Fromm Music Foundation at Harvard University, American Modern Ensemble, Ensemble Dal Niente, Luna Nova, and Line Upon Line Percussion, among many others. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Music at Knox College.

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2017 Copland House Resident **Lansing McLoskey**'s first experiences at writing music were not exercises in counterpoint, but as the guitarist/songwriter for punk bands in the 1980s. Through this visceral world of punk, he first developed a love for classical music (that's another story). Having spent over 20 years performing Medieval and Renaissance vocal music, choral works remain central to his compositions. Much of his work also addresses political and social justice issues, and his *Zealot Canticles: An oratorio for tolerance* won a 2019 Grammy Award. His music has been performed in 21 countries on six continents, and is heard on 14 CDs. He has won three-dozen national and international awards, including two from the American Academy of Arts & Letters, and a Bogliasco Foundation Fellowship. He has been commissioned by the Fromm Foundation, Barlow Endowment, National Endowment for the Arts, Copland House, Meet The Composer, Pew Charitable Trusts, the International Joint Wind Quintet Project, and numerous ensembles in the U.S. and Europe. He recently completed an opera for Guerilla Opera and a large composition for mezzo-soprano and sinfonietta for the Centennial of James Joyce's *Ulysses* for Network for New Music. A Professor at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music, he is an avid surfer and cyclist.

Turkish-American composer-violinist **Ali Can Puskulcu** has been awarded a Fromm Foundation Commission at Harvard University, and the ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award. Recent works of his have been premiered by Wild-Up ensemble at the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Noon-to-Midnight series in Walt Disney Hall and by the Orkest de Ereprijs in The Netherlands, and his debut album *Gibberish Shreds* was released by New Focus Recordings. He has performed at Jazz at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, the MATA Festival in New York, and Germany's Schwetzingen Festival. He holds both a Bachelor and Master of Arts Diploma from Germany's Robert Schumann Musikhochschule, and completed his Master of Music composition at the University of Southern California. He is currently a Doctoral candidate in composition at Brandeis University.

The music of Puerto Rican-born **Christian Quiñones** explores aspects of cultural identity and the intersection between vernacular music, electronic textures, rock, and Latin music. He was selected for the American Composers Orchestra's Earshot Underwood Readings, and has been commissioned by the Brooklyn Arts Council, Icarus and Bergamot String Quartets, and Victory Players (which he served as Composer-in-Residence). He has also been a fellow at the 2021 Bang on a Can Summer Festival, DePaul University Summer Residency, MIFA Festival, Red Note Music Festival, Connecticut Summerfest, CCI Initiative, and France's Zodiac Festival, where he was awarded the Distinguished Composer Award. A graduate of the Conservatorio de Música de Puerto Rico and the University of Illinois, he is currently a President's Fellow in the Doctoral program at Princeton University.

Syrian-American **Kareem Roustom** is an Emmy-nominated composer whose genre-crossing projects include commissions by conductor Daniel Barenboim and the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, and by the Kronos Quartet; arrangements for pop icons Shakira and Tina Turner; and a recent collaboration with acclaimed British choreographer Shobana Jeyasingh. His work is rooted in the music of the Arab Near East, but its branches reach towards disparate skies, and his compositions have been performed by the BBC, Boston, Cincinnati, and Pittsburgh Symphonies, Minnesota Orchestra, New York and Rotterdam Philharmonics, Boulez Ensemble, The Crossing, and at renowned venues such as the BBC Proms, the Salzburg, Lucerne, and Verbier Festivals, Carnegie Hall, Berlin's Pierre Boulez Saal, and Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires. He has also been Composer-in-Residence at the Grant Park and Grand Teton Music Festivals, Germany's Württembergische Philharmonie Reutlingen, and Mannheim Philharmonic. He has had commissions from Sweden's Malmö Symphony, the Dallas Symphony, Royal Philharmonic Society and London's Sadler's Wells Theatre.

2007 Copland House Resident **Laura Schwendinger** Her music has been heard at the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Berlin Philharmonic, London's Wigmore Hall, the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris, Carnegie Hall, and the Tanglewood, Aspen, and Ojai Music Festivals, and championed by such renowned artists as soprano Dawn Upshaw, the Arditti and JACK Quartets, violinists Jennifer Koh and Janine Jansen, cellist Matt Haimovitz, International Contemporary Ensemble, Eighth Blackbird, New Juilliard Ensemble, American Composers Orchestra, Liszt Chamber Orchestra, and Trinity Wall Street. She has also had fellowships from the Guggenheim, Fromm, and Koussevitzky Foundations, Radcliffe Institute, and Harvard Musical Association, and residencies at Copland House, the MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, Bellagio, and Bogliasco. Head of Composition at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, she is the first winner of the Berlin Prize in Music, and has also been recognized by the American Academy of Arts & Letters.

