



NEWS

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Aaron Copland
COPLAND HOUSE

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COPLAND HOUSE NAMES *CULTIVATE* FELLOWS FOR 2020

**6 Composers from 5 States from Largest Applicant Pool
for Coveted Emerging Composers' Institute;
2 Concerts and Telecast to Feature World Premieres of New Works**

Cortlandt Manor, NY – Copland House has named the six Fellows who will participate in *CULTIVATE* 2020, its acclaimed, annual emerging composers institute. The selected composers are (*clockwise from upper left in photo*) **inti figgis-vizueta**, 26 (New York, NY); **Baldwin Giang**, 27 (Chicago, IL); **Will Healy**, 29 (Brooklyn, NY); **Sunbin Kim**, 29 (North Bergen, NJ); **Scott Lee**, 31 (Gainesville, FL); and **Shuying Li**, 30 (Boston, MA). They were chosen from the highest number of applicants since *CULTIVATE* began in 2012 – 180, from every corner of the U.S., plus 3 countries. This year’s eminent jury was comprised of former Copland House Residents and *CULTIVATE* Fellows: *CULTIVATE* Director **Derek Bermel**, **Viet Cuong**, **Du Yun**, **Takuma Itoh**, **Pierre Jalbert**, and **Liliya Ugay**. Commenting on the exceptional pool of applicants, Bermel said, “I was bowled over by the talent. The list of applicants included most of the real up-and-comers. The level of creativity and the enormous variety of styles, artistic goals, and backgrounds were truly impressive.”

An all-scholarship, intensive creative workshop and mentoring program, *CULTIVATE* will take place this year between June 8 and 15 at Aaron Copland’s National Historic Landmark home in northern Westchester County, NY. Launched in 2012, it quickly became an important destination for highly-gifted composers on the threshold of their professional careers. 2019 ASCAP Foundation Bart Howard Fellow **Flannery Cunningham** called *CULTIVATE* “invaluable ... and a rare opportunity. I deeply appreciated the knowledge and candor of Derek Bermel and visiting industry professionals. The warmth of the Music from Copland House ensemble, impressive range of my colleagues' compositional voices, and clear audience engagement at the end-of-week concert made for an all-around exciting and rewarding experience.”

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The six Fellows will each create a new composition that serves as the focus of an intensive week of collective and individual daily rehearsals and workshops with Bermel and Principal and Guest Artists from Music from Copland House, “one of the leading champions of contemporary music” (*Louisville Weekly*). Evening discussion sessions focus on practical career matters, and feature prominent, forward-looking arts leaders. CULTIVATE concludes with a concert by the ensemble on Sunday afternoon, June 14 on Copland House's mainstage performance series at the historic John Jay Homestead in Katonah, NY, featuring the World Premieres of all the new works.

Added this year is a second concert, bringing all of the new works to Manhattan for their New York City Premieres, as part of Music from Copland House's inaugural series at The Graduate Center of the City University of New York. This concert will be filmed for delayed telecast by CUNY-TV.

Support for CULTIVATE comes from the ASCAP Foundation, BMI Foundation, Alice M. Ditson Fund, Jandon Foundation, and John G. Strugar. Additional program support comes from ArtsWestchester, the Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Amphion Foundation, Friends of Copland House, National Endowment for the Arts, and New York State Council on the Arts.

Tickets & info:

June 14, 3pm. John Jay Homestead, 400 Jay Street (Route 22), Katonah, NY.
\$25, general public; \$20, Friends of Copland House; \$10, students (with ID).
Online at www.coplandhouse.org; (914) 788-4659, office@coplandhouse.org.

June 15, 7.30pm. The Graduate Center – CUNY, 365 5th Avenue, NYC.
\$30, general public; \$20, CUNY faculty, staff, students, Friends of Copland House, seniors.
Online at www.gc.cuny.edu/mch; (914) 788-4659, office@coplandhouse.org.



CULTIVATE 2020: Fellows' bios

The music of New York-based **inti figgis-vizueta** focuses on combinations of various notational schemata, disparate and overlaid sonic plans, and collaborative unlearning of dominant vernaculars. She/they often creates through the lens of personal identities, braiding a childhood of overlapping immigrant communities and Black-founded Freedom schools (in Chocolate City, DC) with Andean heritage and a deep connection to land(s). She has most recently been named one of JACK Quartet's inaugural Studio artists; won the 2019 Hildegard Competition from National Sawdust, culminating in the commission and premiere of *Openwork, Knotted object // Trellis in bloom // lightning ache*; been featured in the American Composers Orchestra's 2019 Underwood New Music Readings; and participated in the 2019 Mizzou International Composer's Festival, which featured Alarm Will Sound premiering *Primavera Crown*. She also curates for score follower, an online archive championing universal access to contemporary musics, and loves reading poetry, particularly Danez Smith and Joy Harjo. She honors her Quechua grandmother, who was the only woman butcher on the whole plaza central and used to fight men with a machete.

The music of Chicago-based **BALDWIN GIANG** aims to empower communities of audiences and performers, by creating concert experiences that are opportunities for collective wonder and judgment. His works have been performed at Carnegie Hall, Chicago's Symphony Center, Chateau de Fontainebleau, Yale in Norfolk, June in Buffalo, Spain's Valencia International Performance Academy, Italy's highSCORE, and France's Concours International de Piano d'Orléans. His collaborators have included the Albany Symphony, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, International Contemporary Ensemble, orkest de ereprijs (Netherlands), the JACK and Arditti Quartets, Indiana University New Music Ensemble, members of Ensemble Intercontemporain and Ensemble Dal Niente, and the Curtis, Yale, and University of Michigan Symphonies. Winner of the Fondation Maurice Ravel's Prix Ravel, and New York Youth Symphony's First Music Prize, He is a graduate of Yale and University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, and currently a Doctoral student and fellow at the University of Chicago.

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New York-based composer-pianist **WILL HEALY**'s work has been heard at the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, (le) Poisson Rouge, The Apollo Theater, and New York Philharmonic Biennial, as well as WNYC Radio's New Sounds. His 40-minute song cycle for rappers, soloists, and chamber orchestra, *Cityscapes*, was recently released on New Amsterdam Records. One of Copland House's *What's the Score?* Fellows (for an in-school commission), he has received a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, two ASCAP Morton Gould Awards, the W.K. Rose Fellowship, and a J-Fund commission. He is the artistic director of ShoutHouse, a collective of artists from diverse genre backgrounds, and is also a pianist with a passion for both new and old music, particularly the works of J.S. Bach, with a repertoire includes the complete Goldberg Variations and Well-Tempered Clavier. He studied at The Juilliard School, where his primary composition professors were Samuel Adler, John Corigliano, and Steven Stucky. He recently moved to Sunset Park, Brooklyn, where he has been exploring Chinatown and trying tons of new types of food.

Korean-born, New York-based **SUNBIN KIM** aims to create philosophical works that challenge preconceptions about art music, aesthetics, and the social norms within them, juxtaposing different styles, particularly those unexplored in the Western canon. His compositions have been performed at the Aspen, Tanglewood, Charlotte, Zodiac (France), and Uzmah/Upbeat (Croatia) Festivals. Sunbin performed his own "Fantasy Concerto" with the American Symphony Orchestra under Leon Botstein. His ensemble works have been performed widely In United States and Europe, He has received commissions from the New Juilliard Chamber Ensemble, Quartet Indigo, Iktus Percussion Ensemble, Da Capo Chamber Players, and Smash Ensemble. Among his many honors are the Charles Ives Scholarship from American Academy of Arts and Letters, ition (2017), North/ South Consonance Award, and seven ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards. A graduate of Bard College (with degrees in music composition and physics) and Juilliard School, he is currently a Doctoral candidate at the Manhattan School of Music.

SCOTT LEE writes concert works infused with the visceral sounds of popular music. He has worked with the Baltimore, North Carolina, and Portland Symphonies, JACK Quartet, Symphony in C, yMusic, Da Capo Chamber Players, Deviant Septet, ShoutHouse, and pop artist Ben Folds. Recent commissions include those from the Tanglewood and Aspen Festivals, Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, loadbang, Baltimore Classical Guitar Society, and Raleigh Civic Symphony. His honors include a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters and two ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards. A graduate of Duke University, Peabody Institute, and Vanderbilt University, he was recently appointed Assistant Professor of Composition at the University of Florida School of Music.

Believing that music has the innate power to promote cultural diversity by connecting people through universally human passions and values, **SHUYING LI**'s compositions have been performed by Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Seattle and New Jersey Symphonies, American Lyric Theater, Argus and Donald Sinta Quartets, Hartford Opera Theater, Composers Conference Ensemble, Orkest de ereprijs (Netherlands), Norfolk Contemporary Ensemble, Avanti! Chamber Orchestra (Finland), ICon Arts Ensemble (Romania), Cecilia Quartet (Canada), 15.19. Ensemble (Italy), Atlas Ensemble (Netherlands), and the Argus, Donald Sinta, Ascanio (Italy), and Cecilia (Canada) Quartets. Upcoming are performances by the Shanghai Philharmonic, Moscow Contemporary Ensemble, Alarm Will Sound, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, and Aspen Contemporary Ensemble, as well as commissions for an opera for the Shanghai Conservatory of Music with librettist Julian Crouch, and for a consortium of 20 bands, including those at the Hartt School, New England Conservatory, University of Illinois, and Cornell University, among others. Originally from China, she graduated from the University of Michigan and the Hartt School, and is founder and artistic director of Four Corners Ensemble.

Copland House bios

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 served as Artist-in-Residence at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and 2018-19 Composer-in-Residence of the Seattle Symphony.

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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 by *The New York Times* for "all the richness of its offerings," it is the only composer's home in the U.S. devoted to nurturing and renewing America's rich musical heritage, and fostering greater public awareness and appreciation of our nation's composers and their work through a broad range of programs that embrace the entire artistic process, from creation and development to performance and preservation. Its programs are built upon three core components" multi-faceted composer support, live and recorded performances, and educational and community outreach. Among its many honors are the American Music Center's Letter of Distinction, and *Westchester* magazine's recognition as "Best of the Decade."

MUSIC FROM COPLAND HOUSE (MCH) is the internationally-acclaimed touring ensemble-in-residence based at Aaron Copland's longtime home near New York City. Hailed by *The New York Times* for "illuminating essential truths about the music," MCH has been featured on *CBS Sunday Morning*, National Public Radio, the European Broadcasting Union in a multi-national production aired in 20 countries, and many other media outlets, and has been engaged by Tanglewood, the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Smithsonian Institution's Freer Gallery of Art, Library of Congress, Yale, University of Chicago, Miller Theatre, the Monday Evening Concerts in Los Angeles, the Caramoor, Cape Cod, Bard, Ecstatic, Bowdoin, and SONiC Festivals, and many other leading presenters. The ensemble records for Arabesque, Koch International, and the COPLAND HOUSE BLEND labels. It has been regularly featured for 11 seasons on Copland House's popular main-stage concert series in Westchester County, NY, and has launched a new series this season in collaboration with The Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Inspired by Copland's peerless, lifelong advocacy of American composers, MCH also presents a wide variety of educational and community outreach activities. Launched in 1999 by flutist **Paul Lustig Dunkel**, clarinetist **Derek Bermel**, violinist **Nicholas Kitchen**, cellist **Wilhelmina Smith**, and pianist **Michael Boriskin**, MCH's quality, spirit, and values have been defined by the musical excellence, dynamism, and commitment of its stellar roster of Founding, Principal, and Guest Artists. "Copland," raved *The Chicago Tribune*, "would have been proud of all of them."