



# NEWS

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### **2013 COPLAND HOUSE RESIDENCY AWARDS ANNOUNCED** **8 Composers Selected for Coveted Stays at** **Aaron Copland's National Historic Landmark Home**

Cortlandt Manor, NY, October 8, 2013 – Copland House today announced that eight gifted American composers from five states and Great Britain have been selected for coveted, all-expenses-paid residencies during the 2013-14 season at Aaron Copland's National Historic Landmark home in New York's lower Hudson Valley. The winners of the 2013 Copland House Residency Awards are Keith Fitch (47, Cleveland Heights, OH), Saad Haddad (20, Northridge, CA), Aaron Holloway-Nahum (30, London, UK), Tonia Ko (24, Ithaca, NY), Nicholas Omiccioli (31, Kansas City, MO), Kurt Rohde (46, San Francisco, CA), Christopher Theofanidis (45, New Haven, CT), and Dale Trumbore (25, Los Angeles, CA). This year's eminent jury, which included composers Eric Chasalow (himself a former Copland House Resident), Daren Hagen, and Paul Moravec, reviewed the applications of 99 composers from 26 states and 5 countries. This is the start of the 16<sup>th</sup> round of coveted composer residencies since Copland House, celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this season, welcomed its first composer just before Thanksgiving in 1998.

As Copland House's Artistic and Executive Director Michael Boriskin noted, "These residencies have always embraced both emerging and established artists, and we're very pleased that this year's residents range widely from a well-known, much-performed figure like Chris Theofanidis to young composers at the very beginnings of their careers, like Saad Haddad and Dale Trumbore." The Residents will live and work, one at a time, at Copland's rustic, hilltop home one hour north of Manhattan for stays ranging from three- to eight-weeks. There, they will be able to focus uninterruptedly on their creative work in the same bucolic, inspiring surroundings that Copland so enjoyed during the last 30 years of his life. As Copland House Residents, they will also become eligible for post-residency awards and performances that advance their work, including the Sylvia Goldstein Award, Borromeo String Quartet Award, Hoff-Barthelson Music School Commission, and others, and their work may be showcased in performance by the Music from Copland House ensemble.

Reflecting on his Copland House stay earlier this year, David Hertzberg wrote, "the weeks I spent there were utterly transformative – a remarkably fruitful time for me creatively [and] truly spiritually rejuvenating, as well. I know I will continue to look back on it as an important and even somewhat charmed time in my musical life." Copland House Residencies occupy the House for 42 to 45 weeks throughout the year, and are among the organization's core programs. To date, Copland House has hosted residencies for over 125 composers from nearly 30 states and 4 countries. Works created during Copland House stays have won awards from ASCAP, BMI, the American Composers Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, European American Music Alliance, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, and many others, and have been premiered by leading artists and performing organizations around the world.

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, its residencies, and other activities can be found at [www.coplandhouse.org](http://www.coplandhouse.org).

## **RESIDENT BIOS**

**KEITH FITCH** (47, Cleveland Heights, OH) currently holds the Vincent K. and Edith H. Smith Chair in Composition at the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he also directs the CIM New Music Ensemble. His works have been performed throughout the U.S., Europe, and Japan by The Philadelphia Orchestra, American Composers Orchestra, League of Composers Orchestra, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble, Colorado Quartet, Da Capo Chamber Players, and many others. A native of Indiana, he began composing at age eight and began formal musical training on the double bass at age eleven. He attended the Indiana University School of Music, and has been honored by ASCAP, the National Society of Arts and Letters, Indiana Arts Commission/National Endowment for the Arts, Fromm Foundation, and Ohio Arts Council. Highly regarded as a teacher, chamber music coach, and conductor of new music, he has taught at Indiana University, Bard College, and the Mannes College of Music. His music is published by Non Sequitur Music.

**SAAD N. HADDAD** (20, Northridge, CA) strives to establish and deepen his personal connections with his listeners through the creation of music that emerges solely from his own past emotionally defining experiences. In the last four years, his music has reached audiences from all around the world, with performances by the Los Angeles Philharmonic, American Composers Orchestra, Sonus Quartet, Boston Metro Opera, Vancouver Chamber Choir, and Hollywood Master Chorale. Recently, the American Composers Orchestra selected his orchestral work, *Maelstrom*, as a part of the 2013 Underwood New Music Readings. He won the 2010 ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award, and was a Finalist in both 2011 and 2012. He is soon to graduate from the University of Southern California.

Music by **AARON HOLLOWAY-NAHUM** (30, London, UK) has been played across the world and recorded in London's Abbey Road and Maida Vale Studios. He is currently writing pieces for the BBC Symphony, London Sinfonietta, and clarinetist Tim Orpen (commissioned by the Britten Pears and RVW Trusts). This past summer, he had premieres at the Cheltenham Festival (*Expressions of Sea Level* by the Dr. K Sextet), the Etchings Festival in France (*She Had Become a Map* by harperc), and New Dots in London (*How to Avoid Huge Ships* by the Atea Quintet). In addition to his active schedule as a composer, he works as a recording engineer, is an active advocate of new music as a writer ([icareifulisten.com](http://icareifulisten.com), *Tempo* magazine) and is currently the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of The Riot Ensemble.

The music of **TONIA KO** (24, Ithaca, NY) has been performed internationally by orkest de ereprijs, ensemble mise-en, Eastman Wind Ensemble, New Morse Code, Luna Nova New Music Ensemble, Momenta Quartet, and members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Tanglewood Music Center, Wellesley Composers Conference, American Conservatory in Fontainebleau, and Brevard Music Center. She received a 2013 Charles Ives Scholarship by the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and has been recognized by the Lin Yao Ji Foundation, New Music USA, Musica Domani International Competition, International Alliance for Women in Music, Austin Peay State University, and Chinese Fine Arts Society. Her own explorations in the visual arts have sparked a curiosity for interdisciplinary connections – recent collaborative projects include a musical for Hong Kong's Perry Chiu Experimental Theatre and a piece for Periapsis Music and Dance. Born in Hong Kong and raised in Honolulu, she is a graduate of Indiana University and the Eastman School of Music, and is currently a Sage Fellow and Doctoral student at Cornell University.

**NICHOLAS OMICCIOLI** (31, Penfield, NY) is currently a residency fellow with the Charlotte Street Urban Culture Project in Kansas City, MO. His music has been performed throughout the U.S., Canada, Italy, Austria, Lithuania, England, Thailand, China, and New Zealand by the Jasper and Calder String Quartets, Curious Chamber Players, le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, l'Orchestre de la francophonie, and the Society for New Music, among others. He has been commissioned by the Wellesley Composers Conference, Shouse Institute at Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, National Arts Centre in Canada, Third Angle Ensemble, and Aspen Contemporary Ensemble. Among his many honors and awards, he was a finalist for the 2013 Rome Prize in music composition, and has received multiple nominations for scholarships from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He is a graduate from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and Heidelberg University.

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Violist and composer **KURT ROHDE** (46, San Francisco, CA) is a recipient of the Rome Prize, the Berlin Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the 2012 Lydian String Quartet Commission Prize. He has received commission awards from New Music USA, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Barlow, Fromm, Hanson, and Koussevitzky Foundations. He recently completed new works for eighth blackbird, the Scharoun Ensemble, pianist Genevieve Lee, and the Left Coast Chamber Ensemble, and is currently working on a new opera with writer Dana Spiotta and artist David Humphrey, and on a cello concerto for Michelle Kesler. His work may be heard on the Mondovibe label (*Oculus – Music for Strings*, with the New Century Chamber Orchestra), and on Innova Recordings (*ONE: Chamber Music of Kurt Rohde*). A Professor of Music Composition at the University of California at Davis, he was a Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for 2012–13, and is a member of the Left Coast Chamber Ensemble and New Century Chamber Orchestra.

**CHRISTOPHER THEOFANIDIS** (45, New Haven, CT) regularly writes for a variety of musical genres, from orchestral and chamber music to opera and ballet. His work, *Rainbow Body*, is one of the most performed orchestral works of the past decade, and has been programmed by over 125 orchestras internationally. His music has been played by the New York Philharmonic, London Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and Moscow Soloists, and he has a long-standing relationship with the Atlanta Symphony and Maestro Robert Spano. In 2007, he was composer of the year for the Pittsburgh Symphony, for which he wrote a violin concerto for Sarah Chang. He has written widely for the stage, from a work for the American Ballet Theatre to multiple dramatic pieces, including *The Refuge* for the Houston Grand Opera and *Heart of a Soldier* for the San Francisco Opera. His large-scale piece, *The Here and Now*, for soloists, chorus, and orchestra, based on poetry of Rumi, was nominated for a 2007 Grammy Award. He is currently on the faculty of Yale University and has taught at the Peabody Conservatory and The Juilliard School.

The compositions of **DALE TRUMBORE** (25, Los Angeles, CA) have been performed widely in the U.S. and internationally by the Kronos Quartet, ACME, and the USC Thornton Symphony. She has received awards from Chanticleer, Center City Opera Theater, Lyrica Chamber Music, the Society for Universal Sacred Music, and the National Federation of Music Clubs, and has been commissioned by the American Choral Directors Association, the Esoterics, and WomenSing, among others. Her dual interest in language and music leads her to collaborate frequently with contemporary poets, and her works for voice have been recorded by the New York Virtuoso Singers (*Toward Lasting Peace*), Six Degree Singers (*Six Degrees of Composers*), and soprano Gillian Hollis (*Snow White Turns Sixty*). Her choral work *The Whole Sea In Motion* is published in G. Schirmer's Dale Warland Choral Series. A New Jersey native and current resident of Los Angeles, she is a graduate of the University of Southern California.