



S A N F R A N C I S C O
F R I E N D S O F C H A M B E R M U S I C

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**SAN FRANCISCO FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC ANNOUNCES
THE MUSICAL GRANT PROGRAM AWARDEES OF 2017**

May 8, 2017 - SAN FRANCISCO— The San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music (SFFCM) proudly announces the **23 awardees** of this year's **Musical Grant Program**, a funding initiative designed to support outstanding projects of Early Music, Chamber Music, New Music, Jazz, and Creative Music in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area.

The Musical Grant Program awards grants through a competitive process to projects that showcase the artistry of local ensembles and enhance the careers of professional chamber musicians. The program aims to foster excellence in the Bay Area's diverse musical community while cultivating greater access and genuine engagement for new and existing audiences.

Every year, applications are accepted from both emerging and established organizations with budgets below \$100,000, including professional chamber ensembles, composers with collaborating ensembles, and presenting organizations. The MGP is one of a very small number of grants available to this community, and as such plays a crucial role in maintaining cultural opportunities for the public. Now in its ninth cycle, the MGP has proven an extraordinary resource in contributing to the variety and breadth of Northern California's musical landscape.

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In April 2017, the Musical Grant Program awarded grants of up to \$4,000 to 23 ensembles, composers, and presenters. The projects described below tell the story of the tremendous diversity and creativity within San Francisco Bay Area's chamber music community. **We extend our deepest gratitude to the [San Francisco Grants for the Arts](#), the [Clarence E. Heller Foundation](#), and the [William and Flora Hewlett Foundation](#) for supporting these dynamic musical activities and creating countless opportunities for audiences to be enriched by the results of these projects.** Since 2008, SFFCM has awarded more than **\$668,000** to help support **234** projects in the Greater Bay Area.

2017's MGP Awardees:

(List of Ensembles by Genre)

CLASSICAL & CHAMBER MUSIC

[BERKELEY CHAMBER PERFORMANCES](#) to present the [THALEA STRING QUARTET](#) in a public evening concert on March 20, 2018 at the Berkeley City Club as part of BCP's 2017–2018 Season.

[LIEDER ALIVE!](#) to commission and premiere four "neue Lieder," by [KURT ERICKSON](#), Composer-in-Residence, and three additional composers, to be paired with Lieder from the standard repertoire. To be performed by soprano [HEIDI MOSS](#), mezzo-soprano [KINDRA SCHARICH](#), and bass KIRK EICHELBERGER in January 2018.

[NICHOLAS PHAN RECORDING PROJECTS](#) to record and film Ralph Vaughan Williams' vocal chamber works "The Unquiet Grave," "Blake Songs," and "Along the Field," performed by NICHOLAS PHAN, tenor; [BENJAMIN BEILMAN](#), violin; [JAMES AUSTIN SMITH](#), oboe; and [ROBERT MOLLICONE](#), piano.

[ROSSOROSE DUO](#) to present their concert project "Nocturnes: Nightfall Illuminated," and to commission [ALISA ROSE](#) to compose "Nocturne for America," a piece to be included in the concert project.

JAZZ & CREATIVE MUSIC

[ANTHONY BROWN](#) to compose "Down by the Riverside: Requiem for a King," commemorating the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. To be premiered at the 2018 SF International Arts Festival by the [ASIAN AMERICAN ORCHESTRA](#) and [VOICES OF A DREAM](#) vocal ensemble with recitation by Dr. Cornel West.

[NATHAN CLEVINGER](#) for the recording and production of a new album by the Nathan Clevenger Group.

[ERIK JEKABSON TRIO](#) to complete the production of Erik Jekabson's album featuring [PETER BARSHAY](#) and VINCE LATEANO.

[ANDREW JAMIESON](#) to compose and record a set of original arrangements that integrate experimental and traditional African American spirituals, in partnership with the [TROUBLE ENSEMBLE](#) made up of San Francisco Bay Area musicians.

[JAZZ IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD](#) to present "Emerging Voices – Edition 1," a concert with three local rising jazz professionals—IAN FAQUINI, guitar; [ERIKA OBA](#), piano; and [DILLON VADO](#), vibraphone—and their respective ensembles—at the San Francisco Community Music Center, October, 2017.

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[KUGELPLEX](#) to commission and perform "The Hungarian Gospel Suite," a collection of traditional American Gospel songs set to original music inspired by Transylvanian Romany dance music, composed by [DAN CANTRELL](#) and performed by the Kugelplex ensemble, featuring guest vocalist, [LINDA TILLERY](#).

[MONTCLAIR WOMEN'S BIG BAND](#) to record and produce the ensemble's second album, a collection of original big band tunes and arrangements primarily by women including ensemble members [ELLEN SEELING](#), [JEAN FINEBERG](#), and [CHRISTY DANA](#) and featuring many of the outstanding women jazz soloists in the Bay Area.

[PT. RICHMOND JAZZ QUARTET](#) to record their debut album of 10 pieces in several different styles of music written and arranged by ensemble leader EMILY ONDERDONK.

[RATATET](#) to record, mix and manufacture a 6 song EP of original compositions by leader [ALAN HALL](#), exploring, in a modern jazz context, the unique tonal possibilities of Bassoon, English Horn, Cello, Vibraphone, Trombone, Voice, Piano, Organ, Double Bass, Electric Bass, Percussion and Drum Set.

[VERETSKI PASS](#) for composing and recording works utilizing formerly lost melodies of pre-Holocaust traditional, Czech-Jewish music. [COOKIE SEGELSTEIN](#), [JOSHUA HOROWITZ](#), and [STUART BROTMAN](#) will create a program of music that combines traditional folk resources from Bohemia and Moravia with new compositions.

NEW MUSIC

[BLACK CEDAR](#) to commission [URSULA KWONG-BROWN](#)'s "In Transit," for flute, cello, guitar, and electronic tape, incorporating the voices of Bay Area residents and their experiences as transplants from other regions and cultures. To be performed around the Bay Area in October 2017, and in February and June 2018.

[COMPOSING TOGETHER](#) to present "My Words, My Music," a concert series partnering composer/musicians [KATRINA WREEDE](#), [MOSES SEDLER](#), [SARAH ZAHARAKO](#), and [BRENDAN LAI-TONG](#) with Poet in Residence, ALAN BERN, to be performed in libraries throughout the bay area.

[KRISTINA DUTTON](#) with electronic musician [SILVIA MATHEUS](#) to compose and perform "Horizontal Cobalt," a musical reimagining of famed Bay Area artist Sonya Rapoport's visual work.

[ENSEMBLE FOR THESE TIMES](#) to commission and perform "*Die eichne Tür*," (working title) by composer [DAVID GARNER](#) for soprano, English horn, violin, cello, and piano. Preview and premiere performances in April 2018.

[AMY FOOTE](#) to produce "The Voice and The Machine," a concert program that examines the role technology has in our emotional well-being. Including the commission and premiere of [DENNIS AMAN](#)'s new work for invented instruments and five performers.

[GALAX QUARTET](#) to record works written or arranged for the ensemble including Robert Morris's "Radif IV (Galax Quartet version)," Joseph Schwantner's song cycle "Dream Drapery: Thoreau Songs," and Marc Mellits's "String Quartet no. 2: Revolution," To be released with the label Music & Arts (Berkeley CA).

[AARON GERVAIS](#) to compose and present a new piece for live electronics and a variable ensemble of 1-5 instruments, to be premiered by the [STENBERG-CAHILL](#) DUO in 2018.

[GUERRILLA COMPOSERS GUILD](#) to present the [SIROKO DUO](#) for its season opener, commissioning two new chamber works from local composers [NICK BENAVIDES](#) and [MICHAEL KROPF](#).

[VAN-ANH VO](#) to compose and perform "Songs of Protest," with her VA'V Ensemble of Vietnamese traditional instruments as the core sound, complemented by electronic music and Western instruments. To be performed at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in spring 2019.

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ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC

San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music (SFFCM) was incorporated in 1998 as an organization dedicated to making chamber music a vital part of the cultural life in the San Francisco Bay Area. SFFCM's mission is to increase audiences for all kinds of chamber music, and generate support for a wide range of musical activity through performance opportunities, career development, workshops, education and training. Today, SFFCM serves artists and communities across Northern California, a region rich in the arts, but also competitive and challenging for small ensembles across genres as diverse as baroque and classical to contemporary, jazz and improvised music. SFFCM creates pathways to sustainable careers for musicians dedicated to ensemble music while reaching out to diverse audiences by providing accessible concert experiences. In 2010, SFFCM was nationally recognized by Chamber Music America when it received the prestigious CMAclaim Award for its contributions in the field of chamber music.

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

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Information: For more information visit www.sffcm.org, or call (415) 967-3326.

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