

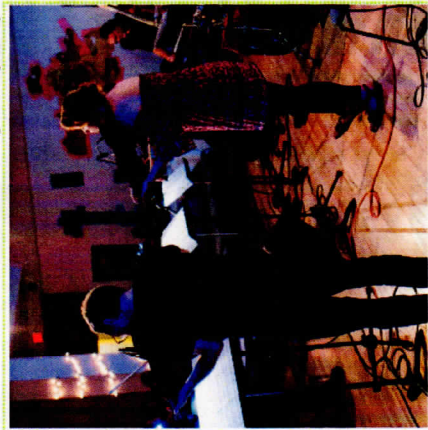
MFA in

music composition

CONCERTS | PUBLIC EVENTS

WINTER 2018

Roger Zahab & Jessica Meyer



Film Music Festival

SUNDAY, 2/4, 8 PM :: noble lounge

This event will feature a variety of approaches to the marriage of music to picture, as offered by VCFA faculty and students—from ethnic and folkloric forms, to non-tonal chamber textures, to jazz-influenced underscoring. A short discussion with the composers will precede the screening of each excerpt.

Electronic Music Showcase

MONDAY, 2/5, 8 PM :: alumni hall

An evening of electronic sound and multimedia; VCFA students and faculty perform new work for instruments with live electronic sound and video.

Concerts :: college hall chapel TUESDAY - SATURDAY

- 2/6, 8 PM: Anna's Ghost
- 2/7, 8 PM: Anna's Ghost & Piano Trio
- 2/8, 8 PM: Piano Trio & Saxophone Quartet
- 2/9, 3 PM: Saxophone Quartet & Counterpoint Vocal Quartet
- 2/10, 3 PM: Counterpoint Vocal Quartet

Four ensembles will premiere pieces during our Winter residency: Anna's Ghost features River Guerquinian, percussion; Russ Johnson, horns; Jim Whitney, bass; John Bernthal, guitars; Anna Webber, flute and saxophone. Piano Trio features Geoffrey Burleson, piano; Mary Roswell, violin; David Russell, cello. Saxophone Quartet features Ken Thomson, Ed Rosenberg, Peter Hess, and Jay Rattman. Counterpoint Vocal Quartet features Mary Bonhag, Erin Granger, Cameron Stienmetz, and Kevin Quigley, with Music Director Nathaniel Lew.

VCFA

Vermont
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Fine Arts

Anna's Ghost

Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 8:00pm

Anna's Ghost & Piano Trio

Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 8:00pm

Piano Trio & Saxophone Quartet

Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 8:00pm

Saxophone Quartet & Counterpoint Vocal Quartet

Friday, February 9, 2018 at 3:00pm

Counterpoint Vocal Quartet

Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 3:00pm

Ron Lieberman



Songwriting Showcase

FRIDAY, 2/9, 8 PM :: college hall gallery

Friday evening, we'll partner with Café Anna to host the Songwriting Showcase, highlighting the diverse songwriting and performing talents of the students and faculty of VCFA's MFA in Music Composition. (cash bar)



Vermont
College of
Fine Arts

vcfa.edu/music-comp

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE
& OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

36 College Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 ~ 802-828-8600 ~ www.vcfa.edu

COUNTERPOINT VOCAL QUARTET

Saturday, February 10, 2018

Revolving Doors: A Vocal Exploration of Bi-polar Disorder

Vanessa D. Littrell

There is beauty, frustration, and growth behind every diagnosis.

This song is not an accurate representation of all mania.

It is the perspective of one person, watching another, and learning to love in a whole new way.

- I: Stepping In
- II: Ramping
- III: Up, Up Away
- IV: Cloud Surfing
- V: Chatter
- VI: Grab and Dash
- VII: Going Home

Night and Memory

First Movement: I am Six

Second Movement: Dark Phantom

Eric Sample

HARD SPRING (Spuyten Duyvil Blues)

Tamara S Cashour

Music and Lyric Poem by Tamara Cashour

Dedicated to the memory of jazz vocalist/composer/band leader

Tina Marsh (1954-2009)

~ Pause ~

Black Line #2

Paul Lorenz

Suscipe

- I. Calm/Tranquil
- II. Jubilant
- III. Driving, With Energy

Erik C. Wendelken

BRIDGET CARSON resides in Kansas with her family. She collects and wears many hats where she currently teaches Developmental English, assists in the Music Department, and occasionally costumes a play at Independence Community College. This semester, under the graceful guidance of Roger Zahab, she has explored writing a tonal work without narrative or programmatic influence in a conversation between violin, cello, and piano. This work takes contrasting ideas and blends them together in such a way that they both retain their respective flavors and become a unified whole, which was what brought her to the title *Mortarium*, an indispensable piece of kitcheware of the Roman Empire, namely a gritted mortar in which to blend the ingredients to the desired consistency.

TAMARA CASHOUR—**HARD SPRING** is dedicated to Tina Marsh, a kaleidoscopic, quirky, technically *en pointe*, emotionally committed jazz vocalist/band leader, who died prematurely at age 54 in 2009. I had met Tina shortly before at her 2008 performance at NYC's *Roulette* (with her Austin-based jazz band CO₂), but I knew her artistry well from her CDs, which one of her longtime pianist collaborators, Bob Rodriguez had given me. Tina applied her crack-vocal and wry narrative skills to new arrangements of lyrics both standard and fresh-off-the-press, and left you remembering a standard starkly different from how you've always heard it. You were stunned into consciousness by the truth of her observations. In my opinion, Tina remains unrivaled in jazz originality.

HARD SPRING honors Marsh by employing some of her rhythmic motifs, strange vocalisms, and humor in an almost-parodic jazz setting. The text is a long lyric—not quite epic—poem I wrote back in 2014, fancifully describing then-current events, as well as details of my and my spouse's traumatic move that year out of Manhattan to Spuyten Duyvil, NYC, the southwestern-most tip of the Bronx. Meaning "Spinning Devil", the name is historically significant in describing the once-turbulent waters that churned up as the Harlem River, flowing west, bent towards, and 'crashed' into the mighty Hudson, which flowed downstream against the tide. Both my husband and I experienced significant health issues that year (the "turbulence"), but this beautifully wooded area, filled with flora and residential/visiting fauna—cats, geese, ducks, and other wildlife—helped us to heal.

The night I met Tina, I gave her my copy of her **OUT OF TIME** CD to sign. In a big, thick, black magic marker pen, she wrote "Thank You For Your Ears". Tina: Thank *You* For Your Song.

Thanks to Andy Jaffe for his expertise, support and guidance as I began to grasp jazz theory. Also thanking: Jan McBride, Bunny Beck, Jenny Davis, Carol, Sarah, David and Edna, Bob Rodriguez and Alex Coke.