2010/2011 Season

in vain Strikes Again
November 12, 2010
The Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center
110 8th Street, EMPAC Building, Troy, NY 12180 (map and directions)
Tickets: $15

A contrast of light and dark, harmony and dissonance, in vain startles and captivates the senses. Performed by a 24-member chamber orchestra, much of this intense 75-minute composition takes place in total darkness. In this state, the musicians must perform from memory, communicating with each other and the audience only through sound. The cycles between light and darkness are accompanied by dramatic microtonal deviations in the musical plane, which underscore a desire for perfect harmony, while understanding the futility of achieving a perfect harmonic co-existence, both musically and in the world.

Review in the New York Times

PROGRAM

Georg Friedrich Haas – in vain for 24 musicians

Composer Portrait: Fred Lerdahl
October 01, 2011
Miller Theatre
2960 Broadway, New York [Subway: 1 train to 116th Street]
Tickets: $25, $15 students/under 25/seniors, $7 Columbia University students

Fred Lerdahl characterizes his music as "both tonal and highly organized in a fresh rather than retrospective way. He composes with "the mind of a Classicist and the heart of a Romantic."

Argento performs the world premiere of Lerdahl's new chamber concerto Arches with cellist Anssi Karttunen, and his Pulitzer finalist composition Time after Time, in which "the bright sound of the ensemble refracts in constantly shifting colors." On the same program is the New York premiere of another Pulitzer finalist, the Third String Quartet, "a remarkable work that displays impeccable technical facility and palpable emotion" commissioned and performed by the Daedalus Quartet.

PROGRAM
All works by Fred Lerdahl

Arches (2010)
for cello and chamber ensemble
World premiere
Anssi Karttunen, cello; Argento Chamber Ensemble, Michel Galante, conductor
Time after Time (2000)
for flute, clarinet, violin, cello, percussion and piano
Argento Chamber Ensemble, Michel Galante, conductor

Third String Quartet (2008)
New York premiere
Daedalus Quartet

Argento in Los Angeles
January 10, 2011
Zipper Hall at the Colburn School
200 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, 90012 (directions)
Admission: $25; $10 students

PROGRAM

Brian Ferneyhough – La chute d’Icare
for clarinet with flute, oboe, violin, cello, bass, piano and percussion

Gérard Pesson – La lumière n’a pas de bras pour nous porter (1994)
[The light has not the arms to carry us]
for amplified piano

Gérard Pesson – La vita è come l’albero di natale (1992)
[Life is like the tree of birth]
for violin and piano

Gérard Pesson – Non sapremo mai di questo mi (1991)
[We will never know of this me]
for flute, violin and piano

Salvatore Sciarrino – Let Me Die Before I Wake
for solo clarinet
Carol McGonnell, clarinet

Romitelli – Professor Bad Trip: Lessons I, II, III
for flute, clarinet, electric guitar, keyboard, percussion, violin, viola, cello and electronics

Argento at the Tune In Festival
February 18, 2011
Park Avenue Armory
643 Park Avenue (at 66th St), New York
Subway: 6 train to 68th Street; F train to 63rd St
Free with admission to installation


PROGRAM
Georg Friedrich Haas – *in vain*
Argento New Music Project – Michel Galante, conductor

Steve Reich – *Music for 18 Musicians*
eighth blackbird, red fish blue fish, and Newspeak

*Additional works to be announced*

**Residency at Cornell University**
March 04, 2011  
**Friday-Sunday, March 4-6, 2011**  
Cornell University

Workshop Syllabus

Premieres of student compositions

Roberto Sierra – *Cancionero Sefardi*
for mezzo-soprano, flute, clarinet, piano, violin, and cello

Arnold Schoenberg – *Pierrot Lunaire*
for mezzo-soprano, flute, clarinet, piano, violin, and cello

**Argento at the Cutting Edge Series**
April 11, 2011  
Leonard Nimoy Thalia at the Peter Norton Symphony Space  
2537 Broadway (at 95th Street)  
Subway: 1 train to 96th Street  
Admission: $15; $10 for seniors and students

*PROGRAM*

Jeffrey Mumford – *through a stillness brightening* for violin and ensemble  
World premiere commissioned by the Argento New Music Project  
Miranda Cuckson, violin

Brian Ferneyhough – *La Chute d'Icare* for clarinet and ensemble  
Carol McComb, clarinet

Program also includes *Exiles* by Harold Meltzer and the NY premiere of *Instruments of Revelation* by Victoria Bond, performed by the Da Capo Ensemble

**Spaces of Haas between fragments of Mozart's Requiem**
April 19, 2011  
St. Paul's Chapel, Columbia University  
Amsterdam Avenue at 118th Street
Subway: 1 train to 116th Street
Admission free

Argento hosts the College of New Jersey Orchestra and Chorale, performing the U.S. premiere of Georg Friedrich Haas’s Sieben Klangraume (Seven Soundscapes), which serve to link together the fragments of Mozart’s unfinished Requiem, K.626.

PROGRAM

Georg Friedrich Haas – Sieben Klangraume
New York premiere

An Evening for Composer/Choreographer Collaboration
May 02, 2011
Joyce Theater SoHo
155 Mercer Street (between Houston and Prince)
Admission free

To foster creative interdisciplinary dialogue, the Moving Sounds Festival®, the Argento New Music Project, and the Joyce Theater will jointly host an event bringing together composers and choreographers. The evening will offer composers and choreographers the opportunity to meet one another, discuss ideas, and gain contacts for future collaborations. We invite all involved to bring their laptops, videos, music, business cards, and an open mind!

We envision the event as a free exchange of ideas in which creators from the dance and music worlds can introduce their work to one another and discuss whatever they wish, and hope the composers and choreographers will keep in touch with Moving Sounds and the Joyce Theater ready to be involved with whatever plans materialize in the next 3 to 5 years.

We are especially grateful to the Ditson Fund and the American Composers Orchestra for facilitating what will be the first of many composer/choreographer collaborations.

Gotham Dance Festival
June 07, 2011
Tuesday, June 7, 7:30 PM
Thursday, June 8, 8 PM
Saturday, June 11, 8PM

Joyce Theater
175 8th Avenue at 19th Street
Subway: A/C/E to 14th Street; L to 8th Avenue; 1 to 18th Street

Argento Artistic Director Michel Galante collaborates with the Kate Weare Dance Company in the revival of his 2009 work Lean-To, described by Deborah Jowitt of The Village Voice as "eroticism in its primal, devouring purity--challenging, at times ambiguous, and infinitely complex."