FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Marlisa Monroe 212-875-5776 mmonroe@chambermusicsociety.org



# THE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER DAVID FINCKEL AND WU HAN, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS PRESENTS

**NEW MUSIC** 

# WORKS BY MELTZER, LARCHER, SAARIAHO, & MACMILLAN

ARTISTS INCLUDE SOPRANO TONY ARNOLD, PIANIST GILLES VONSATTEL, VIOLINIST YURA LEE, & FLUTIST TARA HELEN O'CONNOR

> TWO PERFORMANCES OCTOBER 27, 6:30 PM & 9:00 PM

9:00 PM CONCERT STREAMED LIVE TO COMPUTERS & MOBILE DEVICES

www.ChamberMusicSociety.org/watchlive

#### **ROSE STUDIO**



The Chamber Music Society opens its new season of *New Music* series concerts on Thursday, October 27. Inaugurating a new format, the popular series moves to the intimate Rose Studio where identical programs will be performed twice in the same evening. Audiences now have the choice of attending the one hour concerts at either 6:30 PM or 9:00 PM. In addition, the 9:00 PM performance will be streamed live.

The program features works by Harold Meltzer: *Brion* for Flute, Oboe, Violin, Cello, Guitar, and Mandolin (2007-08); Thomas Larcher: *My Illness is the Medicine I Need* for Soprano, Violin, Cello, and Piano (2002); Kaija Saariaho: *Die Aussicht* for Soprano, Flute, Guitar, Violin, and Cello (1996); and James MacMillan: Trio No. 2 for Piano, Violin, and Cello (2013). The program will be performed soprano Tony Arnold, pianist Gilles Vonsattel, violinist Yura Lee, cellist Nicholas Canellakis, guitarist Oren Fader, mandolinist William Anderson, flutist Tara Helen O'Connor, and oboist James Austin Smith.

[Pictured: Tony Arnold; photo: Claudia Hansen.]

Meltzer's *Brion*, a finalist for the 2009 Pulitzer Prize, was written after the composer visited the Brion-Vega cemetery in the countryside east of Venice. Meltzer said he was inspired by the location's "sculptured concrete walls, reflecting pools, and unexpected traces of bright primary colors..." A reviewer for *American Record Guide* described the composition as "uniquely descriptive, in that each of its three movements describes an actual visit to the site, down to the approximate relative durations: an initial visit; a second, more extended visit after a break; and then a final short look about after yet another break. The piece is pattern-oriented, with sections of unchanging pulse overlaid with melodic structures. It brings to mind the clean, harmonious lines of the architecture in an uncanny way, and contains much delicacy and expert instrumental writing."

Larcher's *My Illness is the Medicine I Need* is a setting of various aphoristic texts written by people undergoing psychiatric care that, by their very nature, stretch the voice to extremes of delicacy and power.

Saariaho's *Die Aussicht* is set to the German Romantic poet Friedrich's Hölderlin's late poem, possibly written on the last day of his life. The composer's intent, she has stated, was to simply convey her impressions of its beautiful text. German philosopher Martin Heidegger has written of the poem: "It opens to those who hear a view into the being of the poet, who speaks from out of the silent brightness of the dark height of his spirit that has come to rest."

Closing the program will be MacMillan's high-spirited and often comedic Piano Trio No. 2.

## **About Soprano Tony Arnold:**

Soprano Tony Arnold is a luminary in the world of chamber music and art song. Today's classical composers are inspired by her inherently beautiful voice, consummate musicianship, and embracing spirit" (*Huffington Post*). Hailed by *The New York Times* as "a bold, powerful interpreter," she is recognized internationally as a leading proponent of new music in concert and recording, having premiered over 200 works "with a musicality and virtuosity that have made her the Cathy Berberian of her generation" (*Chicago Tribune*). Since becoming the first-prize

laureate of both the 2001 Gaudeamus International Competition (NL) and the 2001 Louise D. McMahon Competition (USA), Tony Arnold has collaborated with the most cutting-edge composers and instrumentalists on the world stage, and shares with the audience her "broader gift for conveying the poetry and nuance behind outwardly daunting contemporary scores" (*Boston Globe*). "Simply put, she is a rock-star in this genre" (*Sequenza 21*).

### **Listing Information:**

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Thursday, October 27, 6:30 PM & 9:00 PM Rose Studio (165 W. 65<sup>th</sup> St., 10<sup>th</sup> Fl.)

Tickets: \$35 available at box office; by calling 212.875.5788;

on-line: www.ChamberMusicSociety.org

Free live stream at 9:00 PM: www.ChamberMusicSociety.org/watchlive

#### NEW MUSIC

Tony Arnold, soprano; Gilles Vonsattel. piano; Yura Lee, violin; Nicholas Canellakis, cello; Oren Fader, guitar; William Anderson, mandolin; Tara Helen O'Connor, flute; James Austin Smith, Oboe

MELTZER Brion for Flute, Oboe, Violin, Cello, Guitar, and Mandolin (2007-08)

LARCHER My Illness is the Medicine I Need for Soprano, Violin, Cello,

and Piano (2002)

SARRIAHO *Die Aussicht* for Soprano, Flute, Guitar, Violin, and Cello (1996)

MACMILLAN Trio No. 2 for Piano, Violin, and Cello (2013)

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