



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Media Contact: Emily Thomas

media@leftcoastensemble.org

Left Coast Chamber Ensemble:

www.leftcoastensemble.org 415/617-LCCE (5223)

**Left Coast Chamber Ensemble presents
ART SONG AND KEYBOARD MUSIC OF CALIFORNIA
Sunday, November 12, 2023, Albany
Sunday, November 19, 2023, San Francisco**

Left Coast Chamber Ensemble (LCCE) presents *Art Song and Keyboard Music of California*, a concert that explores the voices of Californian women composers through song, both historical and contemporary. Featured composers range from Elinor Remick Warren and Carrie Jacobs-Bond to Vivian Fung, Addie Camsuzou and Gabriela Lena Frank. Works for piano by Gabriella Smith and Henry Cowell complement the program, which spans more than a century of Californian music. The performances represent the second installment in LCCE's participation in The California Festival: A Celebration of New Music, which runs throughout the state from Nov. 3-19. The concert will be performed live on Sunday, November 12, at 4:00pm at Calliope East Bay Music & Arts, 1501 Washington Ave, Albany; and again on Sunday, November 19, at 7:30pm at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St, San Francisco. For details, visit www.leftcoastensemble.org or call 415/617-LCCE (5223).

Tickets for individual LCCE concerts can be purchased at the door for \$38 for general admission and \$18 for student admission. Subsidized ARTS ACCESS tickets invite concertgoers to pay what they are able. In-advance tickets are available at \$35/general and \$15/student. For more information, call 415/617-5223 or visit www.leftcoastensemble.org/art-song.

About the Contemporary Composers

Composer **Gabriella Smith** grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area playing and writing music, hiking, backpacking, and volunteering on a songbird research project. Described as "the coolest, most exciting, most inventive new voice I've heard in ages" (Musical America) and an "outright sensation" (LA Times), Gabriella's music comes from a love of play, exploring new sounds on instruments, building compelling musical arcs, and connecting listeners with the natural world in an invitation to find joy in climate action.

Born in Berkeley, California (September, 1972), to a mother of mixed Peruvian/Chinese ancestry and a father of Lithuanian/Jewish descent, **Gabriela Lena Frank** explores her multicultural heritage through her compositions. Inspired by the works of Bela Bartók and Alberto Ginastera, Gabriela has traveled extensively throughout South America in creative exploration. Her music often reflects not only her own personal experience as a multi-racial Latina, but also refract her studies of Latin American cultures, incorporating poetry, mythology, and native musical styles into a western classical framework that is uniquely her own.

Juno Award-winning composer **Vivian Fung** has a unique talent for combining idiosyncratic textures and styles into large-scale works, reflecting her multicultural background. NPR calls her "one of today's most eclectic composers," and *The Philadelphia Inquirer* praises her

LEFT COAST CHAMBER ENSEMBLE



"stunningly original compositional voice." Recent and upcoming highlights include international performances of *Prayer*, her critically acclaimed elegy for the pandemic; the digital world premiere of two operatic scenes based on Fung's oral family history in Cambodia with librettist Royce Vavrek; a new project about identity with Vavrek and soprano Andrea Nunez; percussion works for Network for New Music and *Ensemble for These Times*; and a commission from Cape Cod Chamber Music Society. Born in Edmonton, Canada, Fung received her doctorate from The Juilliard School and currently lives in California. Learn more at www.vivianfung.ca.

Addie Camsuzou is a composer and violinist from the central coast of California. She graduated magna cum laude from Sacramento State University with a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Theory/Composition; while there, she studied music composition with Dr. Stephen Blumberg, and violin with Ian Swensen and Anna Presler. She is currently pursuing a PhD in music composition at University of California, Davis. Her music has been featured at events such as the Pacific Rim Music Festival and the Festival of New American Music. Additionally, she was a winner of the Festival of New American Music Student Composers Competition and a finalist in the 2018 ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards.

About the Featured Musicians

Allegra Chapman is a pianist and presenter dedicated to connecting with audiences. She is the pianist of the Delphi Trio and Chordless, a voice and piano duo with soprano Sara LeMesh. As a presenter, she is the founding artistic co-director and executive director of Bard Music West, a San Francisco music festival that explores the worlds of composers from the past 100 years. Chapman has performed at prestigious international venues including the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series, Alice Tully Hall, SFJazz Center, Herbst Theatre, and festivals including New York City Center's Fall for Dance, and the Aspen, Bard, and Kneisel Hall music festivals. An avid chamber musician, she has collaborated with renowned artists including members of International Contemporary Ensemble and the Eusebius, Orion, and Telegraph String Quartets, and worked with Charles Wuorinen and Joan Tower, among many other living composers. She performs regularly with leading Bay Area ensembles including Left Coast, San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, Earplay, Ensemble Illume, and UC Berkeley's Eco Ensemble. Chapman is currently a faculty member at MTSY Studio in Xi'an China and at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music's Pre-College division.

Canadian-born lyric coloratura soprano **Nikki Einfeld** has been widely recognized for her "high flying virtuosity" (New York Times) as well as "a bright, lithe tone, pinpoint accuracy and a saucy stage demeanor" (San Francisco Chronicle). Recent highlights from the operatic stage include the title role in the world premiere of *Death with Interruptions* by Kurt Rohde, and Curley's Wife in Carlisle Floyd's *Of Mice and Men*. A highly adept interpreter of a wide range of repertoire from baroque to contemporary music, she has made guest appearances on the concert stage with the San Francisco Symphony, Berkeley Symphony Orchestra, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra New Music Festival, Montreal Chamber Orchestra, and the Empyrean Ensemble. As a champion of contemporary music she regularly premieres works by modern composers. Nikki is a former Adler Fellow and Merola alumna with the San Francisco Opera. She received acclaim as a Grand Finalist in the 2006 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

About Left Coast Chamber Ensemble

Founded in 1992, Left Coast Chamber Ensemble (LCCE) is a consortium of 15 San Francisco

LEFT COAST CHAMBER ENSEMBLE



Bay Area musicians who create exciting performances of all types of classical music for all types of audiences. Working as a cohesive collective of artists who share values of integrity, quality, inclusion, service, curiosity, and advocacy, LCCE centers the music of our time in conversation with musical influences of the past, combining a vast repertoire into thematic performances in our established and well-received concert series. LCCE is also committed to continuing and evolving a broad-based education program, sponsoring an annual composition contest, championing new music through the commissioning of new works, and collaborating with current and diverse artists, thinkers, and scholars.

LCCE brings all types of music including small ensemble, vocal, orchestral, multi-media, and operatic productions to listeners, conveying an essential and profound experience. With Left Coast Chamber Ensemble, nothing is out of bounds, and anything is possible.

CALENDAR LISTING:

CONCERT: Left Coast Chamber Ensemble explores the voices of Californian women composers through song, both historical and contemporary. Featured composers range from Elinor Remick Warren and Carrie Jacobs-Bond to Vivian Fung, Addie Camsuzou and Gabriela Lena Frank. Works for piano by Gabriella Smith and Henry Cowell complement the program, which spans more than a century of Californian music.

WHEN: 1) 4:00pm, Sunday, November 12, 2023
2) 7:30pm, Sunday, November 19, 2023

WHERE: 1) Calliope East Bay Music & Arts, 1501 Washington Ave, Albany
2) Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St, San Francisco

TICKETS: In Advance: \$35 General Admission / \$15 Students
At the Door: \$38 General Admission / \$18 Students / ARTS ACCESS