

News Release



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Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago Announces Fall 2020 Programming

2020 fall programming includes annual Collaborative Works Festival, two Lieder Lounge recitals, and the first installment of a Polish song workshop. All programs to be offered online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago has established itself as one of Windy City’s primary musical treasures” – Opera News

CHICAGO— Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago celebrates its **tenth anniversary season** with fall offerings that include the annual **Collaborative Works Festival, two recitals** as part of the **Lieder Lounge** series, and the first installment of a Polish song workshop. The festival's three concerts and master class feature the work of women composers in celebration of the **100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution**. The Lieder Lounge series opens in September with a recital featuring **Ryan Opera Center alumnus tenor Jonathan Johnson** with **Ryan Opera Center music director and pianist Craig Terry**. A December Lieder Lounge features Chicago native and **Grammy Award–winning tenor Karim Sulayman** with **fortepianist Yi-heng Yang**. As part of CAIC’s fall educational programming, Polish-American conductor, keyboardist, and Fulbright Fellowship recipient **Michael Pecak** gives a lecture on the history and performance of Polish art song.

Online Programming

Due to the continued uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, and with the safety of the artists and audience members as its top priority, CAIC will present all of its fall programming online. Concerts will be pre-recorded and available for 48 hours following their premiere broadcast. This shift to online programming will result in new dates for the Collaborative Works Festival: instead of the previously announced dates, the festival will now occur over four consecutive weekends in October.

2020 Collaborative Works Festival: The Women

(More)

Following the success of the 2019 festival, which the *Chicago Classical Review* praised as “**the kind of thoughtful, intelligent programming that should be a model in a city like Chicago,**” the **2020 Collaborative Works Festival: *The Women*** commemorates the **100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment** to the U.S.

Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. **Featuring exclusively the works of women composers**, the festival explores a wide range of music spanning over four and half centuries, shedding light on a long history of musical pioneers who have been overlooked due to centuries of sexism.

The festival opens **October 2** with the broadcast of a **Master Class** led by **Grammy Award–nominated pianist Myra Huang**. Acclaimed by *Opera News* as “**among the top accompanists of her generation**”, and one of the leading women working in the field, Huang will work with Chicago-based young professional singer-pianist duos on repertoire by composers and poets who are women of color.

With a premiere broadcast on **October 9**, the festival’s **first concert, *Women of the Baroque***, presented in partnership with The Poetry Foundation, spotlights the work of women composers of the late Renaissance and Baroque period, including French composers **Elizabeth Jacquet de la Guerre** and **Julie Pinel**, as well as Italian composers **Antonia Bembo**, **Francesca Caccini**, **Barbara Strozzi**, and **Maddalena Casulana**, the first woman in history to have an entire book of her music published. *Women of the Baroque* features performances by soprano **Amanda Majeski**, bass **Anthony Reed**, violinist **Adriane Post**, harpsichordist **Mark Shuldiner**, lutenist **Brandon Jack Acker**, cellist **Anna Steinhoff**, and CAIC Artistic Director and tenor **Nicholas Phan**, who appears on all three festival concerts.

The festival’s **second concert, *Les Parisiennes***, which premieres on **October 16**, features the works of trailblazing women composers during the years of the Parisian *Belle époque*, including **Nadia Boulanger**, **Cécile Chaminade**, **Germaine Tailleferre**, and **Pauline Viardot**. A highlight of this program is a rare complete performance of **Lili Boulanger**’s epic song cycle, *Clairières dans le ciel*. *Les Parisiennes* features soprano **Janai Brugger**, mezzo-soprano **Amanda Lynn Bottoms**, and pianist **Myra Huang**.

The festival’s **closing concert, *Modern Women***, with a premiere broadcast on October 23, showcases songs by some of today’s women composers, as well as American women composers of the 20th century, including **Margaret Bonds**, **Florence Price**, **Ruth Crawford Seeger**, and **Sarah Kirkland Snider**. This program includes Chicago-based composer **Stacy Garrop**’s song cycle *In Eleanor’s Words*, based on the writings of Eleanor Roosevelt, as well as the **Midwestern Premieres** of **Errollyn Wallen**’s *Roundel* and **Iva Bittová**’s *Nezabudka*. *Modern Women* features mezzo-soprano **Amanda Lynn Bottoms**, baritone **Chris Kenney**, and CAIC Director of Education and pianist **Shannon McGinnis**.

Lieder Lounge Series

CAIC’s popular Lieder Lounge series continues with two recitals this Fall. The season opens **September 18** with tenor **Jonathan Johnson**, a recent alumnus of the **Lyric**

Opera's Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center. Johnson is joined by pianist **Craig Terry**, music director of the Ryan Opera Center, for a program including songs by **Benjamin Britten** and **Henri Duparc**.

The Lieder Lounge series continues **December 4** with a recital featuring tenor Karim Sulayman and fortepianist Yi-heng Yang. A native of Chicago, Sulayman won the **2019 Grammy Award for Best Classical Vocal Solo Album** for his debut recording, *Songs of Orpheus*. Presented in **partnership with the Arts Club of Chicago**, the concert will be filmed in the club's beautiful salon and will be a unique opportunity to see this duo perform Schubert Lieder featured on their recent album for Avie Records, *Where Only Stars Can Hear Us*.

Polish Art Song Workshop

On **November 7**, Chicago-based Polish-American conductor and keyboardist **Michael Pecak** presents a lecture on **Polish art song and lyric diction**. A former Fulbright Fellowship recipient, Pecak studied the music of 20th and 21st-century composers at the F. Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, and was an Artist-in-Residence at the Polish Studies Center of Indiana University. This lecture is the first in a series of events on this topic, including master classes for singers and pianists and culminating in a performance in 2021.

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CAIC FALL 2020 CALENDAR

LIEDER LOUNGE RECITAL

September 18, 2020

Broadcast premiere (available on-demand through September 20, 2020)

PROGRAM:

Songs by Benjamin Britten and Henri Duparc

ARTISTS:

Jonathan Johnson, *tenor* | Craig Terry, *piano*

2020 COLLABORATIVE WORKS FESTIVAL: THE WOMEN MASTER CLASS

October 2, 2020

Broadcast premiere (available on-demand through October 4, 2020)

MASTER TEACHER:

Myra Huang, *piano*

**2020 COLLABORATIVE WORKS FESTIVAL: THE WOMEN
CONCERT I - Women of the Baroque**

October 9, 2020

Broadcast premiere (available on-demand through October 11, 2020)
presented in partnership with The Poetry Foundation

PROGRAM:

Songs by Antonia Bembo, Francesca Caccini, Maddalena Casulana, Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre, Julie Pinel, and Barbara Strozzi

ARTISTS:

Amanda Majeski, *soprano* | Nicholas Phan, *tenor* | Anthony Reed, *bass* | Adriane Post, *violin* | Brandon Jack Acker, *lutes* | Anna Steinhoff, *cello* | Mark Shuldiner, *harpsichord*

**2020 COLLABORATIVE WORKS FESTIVAL: THE WOMEN
CONCERT II - Les Parisiennes**

October 16, 2020

Broadcast premiere (available on-demand through October 18, 2020)

PROGRAM:

Songs by Nadia and Lili Boulanger, Cécile Chaminade, Germaine Tailleferre, and Pauline Viardot

ARTISTS:

Janai Brugger, *soprano* | Amanda Lynn Bottoms, *mezzo-soprano* | Nicholas Phan, *tenor* | Myra Huang, *piano*

**2020 COLLABORATIVE WORKS FESTIVAL: THE WOMEN
CONCERT III - Modern Women**

October 23, 2020

Broadcast premiere (available on-demand through October 25, 2020)

PROGRAM:

Songs by Margaret Bonds, Stacy Garrop, Florence Price, Ruth Crawford Seeger, Sarah Kirkland Snider. Midwestern premieres by Iva Bittová and Errollyn Wallen.

ARTISTS:

Amanda Lynn Bottoms, *mezzo-soprano* | Nicholas Phan, *tenor* | Chris Kenney, *baritone* | Shannon McGinnis, *piano*

LECTURE: POLISH ART SONG and LYRIC DICTION

November 7, 2020

Broadcast premiere

MASTER TEACHER:
Michael Pecak, *conductor and keyboardist*

LIEDER LOUNGE RECITAL

December 4, 2020

Broadcast premiere (available on-demand through December 6, 2020)
presented in partnership with the Arts Club of Chicago

PROGRAM:

Where Only Stars Can Hear Us
Lieder by Franz Schubert

ARTISTS:

Karim Sulayman, *tenor* | Yi-heng Yang, *fortepiano*

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Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago works to make Chicago a world home for the study and performance of art song and vocal chamber music. In pursuit of its mission, CAIC presents performance and educational events, including the annual Collaborative Works Festival, the Lieder Lounge recital series, master classes and educational workshops. Since its founding in 2010 by pianists Shannon McGinnis and Nicholas Hutchinson, and tenor Nicholas Phan, CAIC has presented many of the world's leading proponents for the art song and vocal chamber music repertoire.

"The connoisseurs' genre of art song will never lack a forum in the city's musical life as long as the Collaborative Arts Institute of Chicago is there to affirm its importance and promote its growth." – Chicago Tribune

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