

Philadelphia Music Project
2004 Grant Recipients

Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, \$23,150 to commission and present the world premiere performance of a work by Guggenheim Fellow Michael Hersch. The composition will be performed in the Perelman Theater of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts with Music Director Designate, Ignat Solzhenitsyn, conducting.

Choral Arts Society, \$30,000 to support *Stained Glass – an exploration of Spirit*. This project will examine the ethnocentric and cultural boundaries of vocal practice in the Santeria, Christian, Muslim, and Jewish religions by juxtaposing Javanese, Brazilian, Batá, contemporary American music, and a newly commissioned work by Benjamin Broening in a collage-format concert, to be conducted by Music Director David Tang. Guest artists will include the Congregation Rodeph Shalom Choir with mezzo-soprano Jody Kidwell, early music vocal ensemble In Clara Voce, Batá drumming ensemble Iré, Gamelan Son of Lion, and the Keystone State Boychoir.

Curtis Institute of Music, \$15,000 for *80th Anniversary Celebration: Curtis on the Square*. To celebrate its 80th birthday, the Curtis Institute of Music will present a concert in Rittenhouse Square Park featuring music by Curtis-trained composers and performed by student brass, percussion, and string ensembles. The concert will serve as an “open door invitation” to the Philadelphia community, to be followed by 100 free concerts presented yearlong in Curtis’ Field Concert Hall.

Mendelssohn Club, \$30,000 to present Richard Einhorn’s cantata, *Voices of Light*, written and performed as live accompaniment to Carl Dreyer’s 1928 silent film, *The Passion of Joan of Arc*. The program, offered in collaboration with the Philadelphia Film Festival at the Zellerbach Theater of the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, will be conducted by Mendelssohn Club Music Director Alan Harler with the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia. Guest artists will include sopranos Laura Heimes and Sharie Alise Wilson, mezzo-soprano Lorie Gratis, tenor Matthew Loyal Smith, and bass-baritone Richard Zuch.

Montgomery County Community College, \$25,000 in support of *All Hues...All Blues: The Voices of American Music*. Montgomery County Community College will present a new concert series designed to explore three distinct styles of the blues aesthetic in American music, including the Memphis and Kansas City sounds. The series will feature James “Blood” Ulmer, Kendrick Oliver and New Life Jazz Orchestra featuring Kevin Mahogany, and Mose Allison. The project will also involve ethnomusicologist Dr. Gloria Goode and the duo Cephus and Wiggins in residency and outreach programs.

Network for New Music, \$60,000 over two years to commission and premiere twelve works. Compositions by Ingrid Arauco, James Primosch, Jan Krzywicki, Phillip Maneval, Chen Yi, Robert Maggio, Bernard Rands, and Lee Hyla will be presented as part of *Doubletake*, programs performed by the NNM ensemble first alone and then with choreography by Philadelphia's Phrenic New Ballet. The project will also include major chamber works by Steven Mackey, Shulamit Ran, Jay Reise, and a new multimedia production entitled *Nightmaze* by Sebastian Currier in collaboration with video projection artist Sage Carter and author Thomas Bolt.

Opera North, \$25,000 to present a fully staged production of Leslie Burrs' opera *Vanqui* at the Prince Music Theater, featuring sopranos Carmen Balthrop and Lisa Edwards-Spurrs, and baritone Brian Johnson. *Vanqui*, with a libretto by John A. Williams, narrates the struggle of a murdered slave couple who seek one another beyond death. The project will also involve lyric coloratura soprano Iris Fairfax and baritone Cailin Manson in educational and community outreach activities.

Orchestra 2001, \$30,000 to commission and premiere four works as part of its *Insights* series. The compositions will include *The River of Life*, the third volume of Pulitzer prize-winner George Crumb's *American Song Cycle*, based on hymns and revival tunes and featuring Crumb's daughter, soprano Ann Crumb; *Piano Concerto* by local composer/pianist Charles Abramovic; Mozart's opera *Zaide*, to be completed with an overture by Peter Schikele and featuring soprano Maureen O'Flynn; and a new chamber orchestra work by Adam Wernick. Programs will be offered in both Philadelphia and Swarthmore with Artistic Director James Freeman conducting.

Painted Bride Art Center, \$120,000 over two years in support of *JazzJaunts*, a project in which seven jazz artists will compose and premiere compositions that incorporate musical traditions from their cultural roots, spanning South Africa, Cuba, Brazil, South India, Iraq, Japan, and the Jewish Diaspora. Alto saxophonist Rudresh Mahanthappa, drummer Dafnis Prieto, percussionist Guilherme Franco, pianists Abdullah Ibrahim and Shoko Nagai, and trumpeters Steven Bernstein and Amir ElSaffar will each be presented with expanded ensembles in two public concerts and a workshop.

Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, \$50,000 to present *Modern Masters*, a new two-year series consisting of nine concerts of both contemporary classical music and modern jazz, as well as the commissioning and premiere of a work by Philadelphia composer Richard Brodhead. The project will feature touring artists Regina Carter, the McCoy Tyner Trio, the Imani Winds with pianist Gilbert Kalish, the Mannes Trio, the Arditti String Quartet, and the Colorado Quartet as well as Philadelphia artists including the Odean Pope Quartet, pianist Charles Abramovic, Network for New Music with soprano Lucy Shelton, pianist Marcantonio Barone, and violinist Scott St. John. Several performing artists will

also conduct master classes at collaborating educational institutes, including the Curtis Institute of Music, Temple University, and the High School for Creative and Performing Arts.

Philadelphia Singers, \$20,000 to support *Psalm Settings*, a program featuring the world premiere of Thomas Whitman's *Babylon*, a lament for chorus and orchestra with text from a poem by Nathalie Anderson based on Psalm 137. The program will also include Handel's rarely performed *Dixit Dominus*, with text taken from Psalm 110, and Schubert's setting of Psalm 23. The program will be conducted by Philadelphia Singers Music Director David Hayes with the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia. In addition, the Singers will present a series of educational and community outreach activities, including multidisciplinary school workshops, panel discussions, and a pre-concert conversation.

Piffaro, The Renaissance Band, \$30,000 in support of *20th Anniversary Season – Winds, Strings and Voices*. Piffaro will present three programs that will integrate bowed and plucked strings and voices with its wind instruments to portray distinct periods of early music. The series will feature music of Flemish composers from the first half of the 15th century, music for the Christmas season from early 17th century Portugal, and repertoire from northern Italy and France from the mid 16th century. Guest artists include vielle artist Shira Kammen and the Medieval vocal/harp/lute trio Trefoil, the chamber choir Fuma Sacra, and the violin band The King's Noyse with soprano Ellen Hargis.

Prince Music Theater, \$80,000 to produce *CrossCurrents at the Prince*, a new contemporary musical theater festival featuring the work of composers Fred Ho and Paul Dresher. The Prince will commission and present the world premiere performances of Fred Ho and Quincey Troupe's new opera, *Mr. Mystery: The Return of Sun Ra to Planet Earth*, and Paul Dresher's *A King Listens – Diaries of a Mad King*, featuring tenor John Duykers. The project will also include theatrical productions of Ho's *Voice of the Dragon, Part 2* and a new version of Dresher's *Slow Fire* with vocals by Rinde Eckert. Master classes, panel discussions, and films will be presented to complement festival programs.

Relâche, \$30,000 to commission and premiere eight works on its three-concert *Future Sounds* series at the Prince Music Theater. Diane Monroe and Arthur Jarvinen will compose scores for animated films by Max Fleisher in a program co-produced with Film at the Prince. Gavin Bryars and Toby Twining will compose new secular oratorios, illuminating connections between the tragic story of the Titanic and Philadelphia. Dennis DeSantis, Roshanne Etezady, Adam B. Silverman, and Ken Ueno of the Minimum Security Composers Collective will be commissioned to create a full length radio show based on the life and work of Maurice Sendak, presented in cooperation with the Rosenbach Museum and Library and broadcast on WHYY.

Sruti, The India Music and Dance Society, \$25,000 to present *Tradition and Innovation in Indian Classical Music*, a series of three concerts blending traditional and contemporary forms of both vocal and instrumental Indian classical music. The project will feature performances by the duo of vocalist Shankar and 10-string stereophonic double violinist Gingga, mridangam artist Padmashi Umayalapuram Sivaraman, and vocalist Sanjay Subrahmanyam, and will present six percussionists in a lecture/demonstration on rhythmic aspects of Indian classical music.

Panelist Biographies

Samuel C. Dixon (panel chair)

Classical music management consultant; former senior management positions in artistic and festival management with the Minnesota Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Australia Network/Australian Broadcasting Corporation; Vice President for Artistic Operations, Music Academy of the West; clients include Chicago's Music of the Baroque Orchestra & Chorus, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Boston Philharmonic, the American Symphony Orchestra League.

Louise Basbas

Executive Director, Music Before 1800; Director of Music/Organist, Corpus Christi Church (New York); performances at Lincoln Center with Sir Roger Norrington at the Mostly Mozart Festival; premiere of Arvo Pärt's Passio for the Great Performers at Lincoln Center series.

Harolyn Blackwell

Soprano; performances with Lyric Opera of Chicago, Mostly Mozart Festival, Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Netherlands Opera, Seattle Opera, Opéra de Nice, Minnesota Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Munich Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic; recordings for EMI, RCA-Victor, Telarc.

Robert E. Brown

Ethnomusicologist; President, Center for World Music; Director, Payangan Festival of Traditional Music, Dance, and Theater; recipient of Fulbright and Ford Foundation grants; producer, Nonesuch Explorer Series and Voyager Golden Record with Carl Sagan; current and former faculty posts at Wesleyan University, California Institute of the Arts, San Diego State University, UCLA, University of Pittsburgh.

Greg Osby

Saxophonist, composer; performances/recordings with Herbie Hancock, Dizzy Gillespie, Jack DeJohnette, Andrew Hill, Muhal Richard Abrams, Jim Hall, Jaki Byard, Dr. Billy Taylor; winner of Jazz Journalists Award and commissioning grants from Chamber Music America and the Doris Duke Foundation; Blue Note records recording artist since 1989; founder/director of Greg Osby Four and Symbols of Light; current and former faculty posts at New School University, Peabody Conservatory, University of the Arts.

Robert Page

Director of Special Projects and Choral Activities, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra; Music Director, Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh; Director, Robert Page Festival Singers; former Assistant Conductor and Director of Choruses, Cleveland Orchestra; recipient of the Grand Prix du Disc, the Prix Mondial de Montreux, and two Grammy awards; Paul Mellon Distinguished Professor of Music, Carnegie Mellon University.

Bright Sheng

Composer; recipient, MacArthur Foundation Fellowship and prizes from the National Endowment for the Arts, American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, Guggenheim, Rockefeller, Naumberg, Jerome, Koussevitzky and Copland foundations, the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, the Kennedy Center and Tanglewood Music Center; commissions from Los Angeles Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Houston Symphony, Seattle Symphony, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Carnegie Hall, Kong Philharmonic, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Aspen Music Festival; Artistic Advisor, Silk Road Project; recorded on Sony Classical, BIS, Delos, Koch International, New World and Naxos labels; Leonard Bernstein Distinguished Professor, University of Michigan.

Hanako Yamaguchi

Director of Music Programming, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. Oversees planning and production of approximately 120 musical events per year as part of the Great Performers series and the Mostly Mozart Festival; curates special repertoire-focused festivals and thematic projects; organizes annual film series focusing on archival footage of music performances; manages educational activities. Prior managerial positions with BMG records and Stagebill magazine.