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Press Room



Images of Claire Chase are available for download from the Cal Performances [press room](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS
FLUTIST AND MACARTHUR FELLOW
CLAIRE CHASE
PERFORMING MARATHON RETROSPECTIVE OF MUSIC FROM *DENSITY 2036*
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 AT BAMPFA**

**INCLUDING
10 WEST COAST PREMIERES
FIVE BAY AREA PREMIERES**

**COMPOSERS TYSHAWN SOREY AND PAUCHI SASAKI
JOIN CHASE FOR PERFORMANCES OF THEIR WORKS**

Berkeley, November 15, 2017 — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley presents award-winning flutist Claire Chase in marathon performances of works from her multi-year *Density 2036* project, on Saturday, December 2 in the Crane Forum at the UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA). With *Density 2036*, Chase is commissioning a new body of work for flute each year for 23 years, until 2036, the 100th anniversary of Edgard Varèse's groundbreaking flute solo, *Density 21.5*. These concerts mark the first major marathon retrospective performances for the project, which was launched in 2014, and feature nearly all of the music included thus far, including

works by Steve Reich, Philip Glass, Pauline Oliveros, Vijay Iyer, Tyshawn Sorey, and recent Pulitzer Prize winner Du Yun. The entire performance will be livestreamed on Cal Performances' website, Facebook and You Tube pages.

Ten works will receive their West Coast premieres and five their Bay Area premieres over the course of two concerts beginning at 4:30pm and 7:30pm. Percussionist Tyshawn Sorey and violinist and vocalist Pauchi Sasaki will join Chase for performances of the compositions they penned for the project. Called a “staggering virtuoso” by the *Los Angeles Times*, Chase is founder of the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), a recipient of the MacArthur “Genius” Grant and Avery Fisher Prize, and was recently appointed to the faculty at Harvard University.

“Claire Chase is a model musical citizen—not only is she an extraordinary artist, but she is also a musical visionary, thinker, teacher, and philosopher,” said Cal Performances executive and artistic director Matías Tarnopolsky. “Her *Density 2036* project brings these ideals together in a monumental way.”

Chase performs the program in two (separately ticketed) sections: music from Parts I and II at 4:30pm, and music from Parts III, IV, and V at 7:30pm. Performances are often augmented by pre-recorded and interactive electronic elements that conjure invisible collaborators performing on drum set, flute, voice, synthesized sounds, and manipulated acoustic sounds. Levy Lorenzo is the sound designer and also participates by controlling and manipulating the live electronics.

The 4:30pm performance (Parts I and II) features music commissioned by Chase as well as seminal works in the contemporary flute literature and includes the West Coast premieres of **Marcos Balter's** *Pessoa* (2013), **Felipe Lara's** *Meditation and Calligraphy* and *Parábolas na Caverna* (2013-14), **George Lewis' Emergent** (2014), and **Matthias Pintscher's Beyond (A System of Passing)** (2013–14). Additional works include **Varèse's** classic *Density 21.5* (1936), **Du Yun's** *An Empty Garlic* (2014), and music by **Steve Reich, Philip Glass, Alvin Lucier, and Mario Diaz de León**. *Density 2036: Part I* (Prelude) is dedicated to Fred Anderson. *Density 2036: Part II* (2014) is dedicated to Elise Mann.

The 7:30pm performance (Parts III, IV, and V) includes West Coast premieres of **Dai Fujikura's** *Lila* (2015), **Francesca Verunelli's** *The Famous Box Trick* (2015), **Nathan Davis' Linn** (2015), **Jason**

Eckardt's *The Silenced* (2015), and **Pauline Oliveros's** *Intensity 20.15* (2015): *Grace Chase*. **Varèse's** *Density 21.5* (1936) will be performed with the Bay Area premiere of a movement score (2016) by Julie Beauvais. Additional Bay Area premieres are **Suzanne Farrin's** *The Stimulus of Loss* (2016), **Tyshawn Sorey's** *Bertha's Lair* (2016), **Vijay Iyer's** *Five Empty Chambers* (2016), and **Pauchi Sasaki's** *Gama XV: Piece for Two Speaker Dresses* (2016). The evening will conclude with a concert preview of Part V (2017): **Marcos Balter's** *Pan. Density 2036: Part III* (2015) is dedicated to Steven Schick and Part IV (2016) is dedicated to the memory of Pauline Oliveros (1932–2016.)

Chase says, “Even though it’s dubbed a solo project, this nascent body of repertory is anything but a solo endeavor; it is in fact deeply collaborative, and I see this marathon as a celebration of all the joint labors of the composers, artists, and audiences that have been on this journey with me for the past five years. I’m excited to share it in my home state of California, and to invite new audiences along for the ride we’ll all be on together for the next twenty!” A recording of parts II-IV will be released in 2018.

Ticket Information

General Admission tickets for *Claire Chase: Density 2036* on Saturday, December 2 at 4:30pm and 7:30pm in the Crane Forum at the BAMPFA are \$12 each, or \$20 for both performances (prices subject to change). Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available in advance through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, calperformances.org, and at the door at BAMPFA (pending availability). Admission to the museum is included with all performance tickets. For more information about discounts, visit calperformances.org/discounts.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, December 2, 4:30pm & 7:30pm

Special Event

Claire Chase, flutes

Music from *Density 2036*

Tyshawn Sorey, percussion (in *Bertha's Lair*)

Pauchi Sasaki, violin and voice (in *Gama XV: Piece for Two Speaker Dresses*)

Levy Lorenzo, sound design and live electronics

BAMPFA

2155 Center Street, Berkeley

4:30pm concert:

Density 2036: Part I (Prelude)

Steve Reich	<i>Vermont Counterpoint</i> for flute and pre-recorded flutes (1982)
Marcos Balter	<i>Pessoa</i> for six bass flutes (2013, West Coast Premiere)
Alvin Lucier	<i>Almost New York</i> for five flutes and oscillators (2002)
Philip Glass	<i>Piece in the Shape of a Square</i> for two flutes (1967)
Mario Diaz de León	<i>Luciform</i> for flute and electronics (2013)
Edgard Varèse	<i>Density 21.5</i> for flute alone (1936)

Density 2036: Part I (Prelude) is dedicated to Fred Anderson.

Density 2036: Part II (2014)

Felipe Lara	<i>Meditation and Calligraphy</i> for bass flute (West Coast Premiere)
Felipe Lara	<i>Parábolas na Caverna</i> for amplified flute (2013–14, West Coast Premiere)
George Lewis	<i>Emergent</i> for flute and electronics (West Coast Premiere)
Matthias Pintscher	<i>Beyond (A System of Passing)</i> (2013–14, West Coast Premiere)
Du Yun	<i>An Empty Garlic</i> for bass flute and electronics

Density 2036: Part II (2014) is dedicated to Elise Mann.

7:30pm concert:

Density 2036: Part III (2015)

Dai Fujikura	<i>Lila</i> for flute, bass flute, and contrabass flute (West Coast Premiere)
Francesca Verunelli	<i>The Famous Box Trick</i> for bass flute and electronics (West Coast Premiere)
Nathan Davis	<i>Limn</i> for bass flute, contrabass flute, and electronics (West Coast Premiere)
Jason Eckardt	<i>The Silenced</i> a monodrama for solo flute (West Coast Premiere)
Pauline Oliveros	<i>Intensity 20.15: Grace Chase</i> for Claire and the Expanded Instrument System (EIS) (West Coast Premiere)

Density 2036: Part III (2015) is dedicated to Steven Schick.

Density 2036: Part IV (2016)

Edgard Varèse	<i>Density 21.5</i> (1936), with a movement score (2016) by Julie Beauvais (version one), (Bay Area Premiere)
Suzanne Farrin	<i>The Stimulus of Loss</i> for glissando headjoint and ondes Martenot (Bay Area Premiere)
Tyshawn Sorey	<i>Bertha's Lair</i> for contrabass flute and drums (Bay Area Premiere)
Vijay Iyer	<i>Five Empty Chambers</i> for tape (Bay Area Premiere)
Pauchi Sasaki	<i>Gama XV: Piece for Two Speaker Dresses</i> for flute, violin, electronic live processing, two vocals, and two speaker dresses (Bay Area Premiere)

Density 2036: Part IV (2016) is dedicated to the loving memory of Pauline Oliveros (1932–2016).

***Density 2036: Part V* (2017)**

Marcos Balter

Pan for flute, electronics, and an ensemble of community members
(concert preview)

Program: For her *Density 2036* project, flutist Claire Chase is commissioning a new body of work for flute each year for 23 years, until the 100th anniversary of Edgard Varèse's groundbreaking flute solo, *Density 21.5*. The ambitious multi-year project from the MacArthur Fellow and founder of the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) includes music from Steve Reich, Philip Glass, Pauline Oliveros, Vijay Iyer, Tyshawn Sorey, and recent Pulitzer Prize winner Du Yun, among others. Ten works will receive their West Coast premieres and five their Bay Area premieres. Chase performs the evening of music in two sections; Parts I and II at 4:30pm, and Parts III, IV, and V at 7:30pm.

Tickets: General admission tickets are \$12 each for the 4:30pm and 7:30pm performances, or \$20 for both performances (prices subject to change). Admission to the museum is included with all performance tickets. Tickets are available in advance through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, calperformances.org, and at the door at BAMPFA (pending availability).
