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[Press Room](#)



Images of Max Richter and ACME are available for download from the Cal Performances [press room](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS  
COMPOSER AND PIANIST MAX RICHTER  
WITH THE AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY  
MUSIC ENSEMBLE (ACME)  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

**Berkeley, August 29, 2018** — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley launches its 2018–19 New Music programming with electro-acoustic composer and pianist **Max Richter**, performing with the **American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME)**, on Friday, October 5 at 8pm in Zellerbach Hall. Richter’s work is a ubiquitous presence in dance, film, and television, and he is praised for moody, slowly evolving scores that blend acoustic instruments with electronic soundscapes. Joined by members of the acclaimed contemporary music ensemble ACME, Richter performs selections from *The Blue Notebooks*, composed during the run-up to the 2003 invasion of Iraq, and from *Infra* (2010), inspired by T.S. Eliot’s *The Waste Land*. Now considered a cult classic, *The Blue Notebooks* has

just been reissued by Deutsche Grammophon in a special 15th Anniversary edition, complete with remixes, new arrangements, and previously unreleased material.

This special Berkeley performance is one of only 10 dates planned for Richter's 2018 North American Tour.

Inspired equally by Bach, punk rock, and ambient electronica, Richter's sonic world blends his formal classical training at the Royal Academy of Music and as a pupil of Luciano Berio with modern technology and aesthetics. Richter's *Infra* is scored for piano, electronics, and string quartet. The concert version is an expansion of a 25-minute piece Richter originally wrote for a ballet collaboration with choreographer Wayne McGregor and visual artist Julian Opie that was inspired by T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*. *The Blue Notebooks* was composed during the run-up to the invasion of Iraq in 2003, and Richter has described the work as "a protest album about Iraq, a meditation on violence" and "the utter futility of so much armed conflict." The score features a narrator in addition to the instrumental ensemble, and was first released in February 2004, just a week after mass protests against the Iraq war. To commemorate its 15th anniversary, the recording was recently reissued along with a complementary short film, [\*On the Nature of Daylight\*](#), produced by and starring actor Elizabeth Moss.

The American Contemporary Music Ensemble, led by artistic director Clarice Jensen, is a new-music ensemble dedicated to the work of 20th and 21st century composers. The group has a flexible instrumentation, and has collaborated with a range of artists, including Meredith Monk, Ingram Marshall, Jim Jarmusch, Blonde Redhead, Grizzly Bear, Matmos, Roomful of Teeth, and Theo Bleckmann. It has recorded for the Deutsche Grammophon, New World, Butterscotch, and New Amsterdam record labels. For this performance, the ensemble comprises Clarice Jensen, cello; Yuki Numata Resnick, violin; Laura Lutzke, violin; Caleb Burhans, viola; and Paul Wiancko, cello.

### **Ticket Information**

Tickets for *Max Richter with the American Contemporary Music Ensemble* on Friday, October 5 at 8pm in Zellerbach Hall range from \$42–58 (prices subject to change). Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at

(510) 642-9988, at [calperformances.org](http://calperformances.org), and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to [calperformances.org/discounts](http://calperformances.org/discounts).

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:  
CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Friday, October 5, 8pm**

**Zellerbach Hall**  
Bancroft Way at Dana Street  
UC Berkeley campus

*New Music*

**Max Richter with the American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME)**  
performing *Infra* and music from *The Blue Notebooks*

**Program:** Electro-acoustic composer-pianist Max Richter, whose work is a ubiquitous presence in dance, film, and television, appears with the American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME), an ensemble of “contemporary music dynamos” (NPR). Richter and ACME perform selections from Richter’s work *Infra*, inspired by T.S. Eliot’s *The Waste Land*; and from his anti-war opus, *The Blue Notebooks*.

**Tickets:** \$42-58 (prices subject to change)

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