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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 19, 2021 <u>Cal Performances at Home online press kit</u> For a complete list of all Cal Performances at Home performances currently available visit <u>calperformances.org/buy</u>

# CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS NEW-MUSIC ENSEMBLE YMUSIC IN AN INNOVATIVE VIDEO PROGRAM FEATURING FIVE WORLD PREMIERES AS PART OF THE CAL PERFORMANCES AT HOME PERFORMING ARTS STREAMING SERIES THURSDAY, MAY 20 AT 7PM (PDT)

Event features video collages that interweave creative visuals with performance footage

Music program will be punctuated by conversations between yMusic members and composers Andrew Norman and Gabriella Smith

This performance will be viewable on demand for three months, through August 18, 2021

# Spring 2021 streaming series features a digital watch party on select Thursday evenings through June 10, 2021

**Berkeley, April 19, 2021** — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley presents new-music ensemble **yMusic** in a virtual performance featuring five world premieres, debuting with an interactive digital watch party on Thursday, May 20 at 7pm (PDT). Cal Performances worked closely with yMusic's performer-composers, guest composers Andrew Norman and Gabriella Smith, and filmmaker Jeremy Robins to create arresting music video collages that interweave interpretive visuals with performance footage. The program features the world premieres of five new works, all composed by yMusic: *Baragon, Turkey Transfer, Zebras, Cloud*, and *Three Elephants*, as well as works by Norman and Smith and one additional work by yMusic. The program will also feature members of the ensemble in conversation with guest composers Norman and Smith, as they discuss composing during a global pandemic and the process of bringing their works to life in an innovative video format. Following its debut, yMusic's performance will be available for viewing on demand through August 18, 2021. The performance is one of 12 newly produced, full-length performances in the Spring 2021 *Cal Performances at Home* performing arts streaming series, a continuation of the ambitious series launched in fall 2020. Filmed on stages all over the world—in renowned venues and recording studios in the locations where the artists are sheltering in place—all artists currently planned for the spring series were originally booked to perform in person at UC Berkeley as part of Cal Performances' 2020–21 live season, which was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. The debut of each performance, on select Thursday evenings through June 10, 2021, will be celebrated with a digital watch party accompanied by participatory live chat. Every performance (except where noted) will be viewable on demand for three months following its debut. A complete list of all *Cal Performances at Home* performances currently available can be found at <u>calperformances.org/buy</u>. The performances will be supplemented with free artist talks, interviews, lectures, and panel discussions shared on the **Beyond the Stage** web page at <u>calperformances.org/learn/beyond-the-stage</u>.

WHO New-music ensemble yMusic boasts an impressive list of collaborators and admirers from across the musical spectrum—artists ranging from Paul Simon and Bill T. Jones to Regina Spektor and Ben Folds. With the instrumentation of string trio, flute, clarinet, and trumpet/horn, the flexible sextet—comprised entirely by members of Generation Y—bridges contemporary concert music with pop and indie rock sensibilities.

Cal Performances worked closely with yMusic's performer-composers, along with guest composers Andrew Norman and Gabriella Smith, and filmmaker Jeremy Robins to create arresting music video collages that interweave interpretive visuals with performance footage, produced exclusively for *Cal Performances at Home*. The program features the world premieres of five new works, plus members of the ensemble in conversation with guest composers Norman and Smith.

**WHAT** Newly produced, full-length, streaming program.

### Program:

yMusic/Baragon (World Premiere) yMusic/Peter Inn yMusic/Turkey Transfer (World Premiere) yMusic/Zebras (World Premiere) yMusic/Cloud (World Premiere) yMusic/Three Elephants (World Premiere) Gabriella Smith/Maré Andrew Norman/Caught

# Featuring:

C.J. Camerieri, *trumpet* Alex Sopp, *flute* Hideaki Aomori, *clarinet* Rob Moose, *violin* Nadia Sirota, *viola* Gabriel Cabezas, *cello* 

- WHEN Streaming debut Thursday, May 20 at 7pm (PDT). Following the debut, this performance will be available to view on demand for three months until August 18, 2021.
- **WHERE** Viewable online, streamed to any device with an internet connection. Access to the event will be provided upon registration. For more information on how to view *Cal Performances at Home*, please visit <u>calperformances.org/at-home/frequently-asked-questions</u>.
- **TICKETS** \$15 for a single viewer, \$30 for two viewers, and \$60 per household viewing. \$5 tickets are available for UC Berkeley students.

Tickets are available at <u>calperformances.org/buy</u> or by phone at (510) 642-9988.

#### MORE

**CONTENT:** Video of a conversation between yMusic and Cal Performances executive and artistic director Jeremy Geffen will be available to stream for free beginning at 12pm (PDT) on Monday, May 17 at <u>calperformances.org/beyond-the-stage</u>.

By the time yMusic's performance debuts on May 20, the *Cal Performances at Home* library of offerings will feature Spring 2021 performances streamable on demand by the **Takács Quartet**; harpsichordist **Mahan Esfahani**; pianist **Mitsuko Uchida**;soprano **Christine Goerke** and pianist **Craig Terry**; pianist **Jeremy Denk**; vocalist **Jazzmeia Horn**; soprano **Renée Fleming**; **Bang on a Can**; and pianist **Beatrice Rana**. For a complete list of all *Cal Performances at Home* performances currently available visit <u>calperformances.org/buy</u>. All performances are available for three months following their debut date, except where indicated.

Nearly 60 *Now, More Than Ever* YouTube playlists of the performing arts, curated by Jeremy Geffen since the beginning of the pandemic, can be found at <u>calperformances.org/nmte.</u>

**PRESS** Complimentary press passes are available for reviewing journalists. To request a press pass for this performance, please email <u>publicrelations@calperformances.org</u>.

Photos of yMusic are available to download from the online press kit.

# CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE: CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

## DEBUT WATCH PARTY Thursday, May 20, 7pm (PDT)

Following the debut, this performance will be available to view on demand for three months, from May 21 through August 18, 2021.

## yMusic

**Program:** New-music ensemble yMusic boasts an impressive list of collaborators and admirers from across the musical spectrum—artists ranging from Paul Simon and Bill T. Jones to Regina Spektor and Ben Folds. With the instrumentation of string trio, flute, clarinet, and trumpet/horn, the flexible sextet—comprised entirely by members of Generation Y—bridges contemporary concert music with pop and indie rock sensibilities. For their *Cal Performances at Home* program, the musicians/composers of yMusic worked closely with Cal Performances and filmmaker Jeremy Robins to create arresting music video collages that interweave interpretive visuals with live performance footage. The program features the world premieres of five new works, plus members of the ensemble in conversation with guest composers Norman and Smith.

**Tickets:** \$15 for a single viewer, \$30 for two viewers, and \$60 per household viewing. \$5 tickets are available for UC Berkeley students.

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