

The Chamber Music Society
of Saint Cloud

presents

Ann DuHamel, *piano*
selections from Prayers for a Feverish Planet
New Music About Climate Change

Saturday, 21 January 2023 – 7:30 p.m.
Ruth Gant Recital Hall, St. Cloud State University
620 3rd Avenue South, St. Cloud

PROGRAM

Solipsismo (2019)	Erick Tapia, b. 1991
Forgive Them Not, For They Know What They Do (2020)	Karen Lemon, b. 1961
Heat Island (2017)	Frank Horvat, b. 1974
Magic Carpet Music (2002) II. Air	Laura Schwendinger, b. 1962
Trees of India (2009) II. Jacaranda	Chris Williams, b. 1956
Stop Deforestation! (2020)	Darío Duarte, b. 1986
Tarantella (2017)	Laura Collier, b. 1991

INTERMISSION

White Parasol (2008)	Ian Dicke, b. 1982
frostbYte – chalk outline (2015)	Daniel Blinkhorn, b. 1973
Interdecadal Oscillations (2020)	Kristian Twombly, b. 1974
Meditation on a Warming Planet (2020) I. Parched Earth	Clifton Callender, b. 1969
Perforation (2018)	Alex Burtzos, b. 1985
Those Who Watch (2020)	Gunter Gaupp, b. 1993
Toward Hope (2020) I. On Darkness II. On Light	Zach Gulaboff Davis, b. 1991
Landscape of Shadow and Light (2012)	David Evan Thomas, b. 1958

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The Chamber Music Society of St. Cloud would like to acknowledge that the land we gather upon today is the traditional homelands of the Dakota ancestral lands of the Anishinaabe, and to honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations.

PROGRAM NOTES

Solipsismo (2019)

Erick Tapia, b. 1991

It is a work of introspection and internal reflection, which is managing harmonic parameters and colors together with the conviction of register to create a dark environment that gradually becomes bright as a reflection of freedom.

Inscribed at the top of the score:

En la montaña vacía no se ve un hombre,
sólo se oye el eco de voces humanas.

Vuelven las sombras, entran profundo en el bosque,
otra vez brilla el Sol, sobre los líquenes verdes.

Wang Wei – El parquet de los ciervos

In the empty mountain there is not a man to be seen,
only the echo of human voices is heard.

The shadows return, they go deep into the forest,
the Sun shines again, on the green lichens.

Wang Wei – The Deer Park

Ann adds: One of the definitions that Merriam-Webster lists for “solipsism” is “extreme egocentrism.” Many small acts of solipsism have brought about the current climate crisis, so I’m including this piece as a reflection on thinking beyond the self.

Erick Tapia, born in Mexico City in 1991, began and continues his composition studies with Marco Alejandro Gil at the FaM. In 2016 he entered the Music School of UNAM, studying with teacher Leonardo Coral. At the same time, he took composition classes with Dr. Francisco Cortes Álvarez. He was a fellow by competition in the Arturo Márquez Extraordinary Chair in 2019, there he took classes with this renowned Mexican composer. His music has been performed by different soloists and ensemble musicians from Mexico, the United States, Costa Rica and Finland. In 2019 he began parallel studies in composition at the INBA Higher School of Music in the chair of the teacher Georgina Derbez and in the UNAM Music School he entered the chair of Dr. Gabriela Ortiz.

Forgive Them Not, For They Know What They Do (2020)

Karen Lemon, b. 1961

Forgive them not, for they know what they do

(A lamentation on inaction against human-induced climate change)

The motivation for this piece needs no more explanation than the title and subtitle provide. The title is a modified paraphrase of words attributed to Jesus Christ on his condemnation and crucifixion as appear in the Bible Gospel According to Luke, Chapter 23 (his words indicating a soul much more forgiving than my own). Similarly, the titles of the piece’s three sections – “... they do these things when the tree is green ...”, “... what will they do when it is dry?” and “Weep for yourselves and for your children” – are words attributed by Luke to Jesus, though here they are given a different focus.

Our climate situation is dire. We can each of us act to make a small improvement, but the necessary great improvement, and lasting change for the good, can only be achieved if we all of us act.

Australian composer **Karen Lemon** counts amongst her qualifications a PhD in Musicology from the University of Sydney (on Schoenberg’s post-tonal music c.1910) and a License in Dalcroze Eurhythmics from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA. However, her career as a composer is in its early stages: despite minor studies in composition in her undergraduate days (with Anne Boyd and Gillian Whitehead, amongst others), it has only been in recent years that Karen has returned to it. She has been privileged to have had her music performed in locations as far afield as Sydney, Los Angeles, New York and Cambridge, and by such distinguished performers as Thomas Hutchinson, Artur Cimirro and Gwion Thomas. Karen has composed music by commission or on request

for CAMS, Hourglass Ensemble and the University of Bristol Schola Cantorum, and several of her works have been prizewinners in composition competitions, including Gesualdo Six, the Renée B. Fisher Award and Opus Dissonus.

As a performer, though Karen is a pianist by training (having studied at the NSW State Conservatorium of Music with Albert Landa and Adene McInnes), she was most active as a chorister and vocalist, notably as a foundation and lifetime member of the Sydney-based new music choir The Contemporary Singers and as founder and director of and arranger for the pop-jazz a cappella ensemble The Five Skins. Karen has worked as a lecturer in Musicology at the University of Sydney and the University of Tasmania, and enjoys Associate Artist representation with the Australian Music Centre. She currently divides her time between Australia and France. Website: <https://karenlemon.com>

Heat Island (2017)

Frank Horvat, b. 1974

Heat Island - When you read the words “Heat Island”, one might imagine “fun-in-the-sun” touristy images or the title of some chintzy Reality TV show. The true reality though is that the Heat Island Effect is a serious part of man-made climate change. On any hot summer day within an urban area, everything is even more hot than it should be simply because of the sun’s reflection off an infinite amount of concrete and building surfaces.

The Heat Island Effect isn’t just some visual effect where you see waves emanating from concrete...it can be quite deadly. Thankfully some cities are already taking steps to curb the effect, like making it mandatory for new building construction to have green roofs and more green space being incorporated into urban planning. But more must be done and quickly if the world has an opportunity to curb the disastrous effects of climate change.

The rumbly and murky start of this composition attempts to emulate the world oozing heat from pavement. As the piece progresses, it gradually works its way up to the higher registers with a more calm tone. This symbolizes the hope that I have that we do have the ability to transform the earth back to a more natural state so it won’t emit so much heat. At the beginning, the piano is dark and foreboding. By the end, it’s calm and soothing – Earth is breathing once again.

Frank Horvat is one of the most inventive songwriters to come out of the contemporary scene in Canada (WholeNote Magazine). This award-winning composer’s music is emotional and intense. As a pianist and multi-genre composer, Frank Horvat has made the tricky musical leap that allows him to pursue a niche of his own (Edmonton Journal). Frank gives his audiences time and space to reflect in this fast-paced world. His instrumental compositions tell deeply personal stories while permitting audiences to ponder their own. He has been featured on over a dozen albums on labels including ATMA Classique, Really Records, and Centrediscs. With composition premieres on five continents, his works have been showcased internationally in theatre, feature films, and radio/TV networks including the CBC, CBS, HBO, Vice & Bravo. He ignores boundaries and isn’t afraid to mix politics with art (Ludwig van Toronto) as many of his composition projects revolve around social issues. He has been a panelist at the ClassicalNEXT conference speaking on the topic of ‘Artivism’ and featured in UK’s Classical Music Magazine podcast by Chris Gunness.

His environmental projects include the social media campaign #music4HRDs and album, For Those Who Died Trying (“the resulting [musical] tributes are poignant” – BBC Music Magazine), that look at the stories of murdered environmental activists. Almost 50 string quartets participated in this awareness campaign including: Juilliard, Merel, Mivos, Utrecht, and Zemlinsky Quartets as well as members from orchestras including the London Symphony. His activist projects include the Green Keys Tour, Piano Therapy Concerts and Music for Self-Isolation. Discover Frank’s latest projects at www.frankhorvat.com.

Magic Carpet Music (2002)

Laura Schwendinger, b. 1962

II. Air

The Suite was adapted for pianist Jenny Lin from the composer's original work for flute, clarinet, violin and cello; *Magic Carpet Music* for Piano was premiered at Galapagos Art Space, NYC.

Ann adds: Schwendinger's work utilizes time, register, and long lines of counterpoint to evoke the idea of air. It's quite abstract in its spaciousness, yet conjures an almost magical and ethereal quality.

Laura Schwendinger, first Berlin Prize composer, Professor of Composition UW-Madison. Performances and recordings by Dawn Upshaw, Arditti & JACK Quartets, Jenny Koh, Janine Jansen, Matt Haimovitz, ICE, Eighth Blackbird, New Juilliard, ACO, Liszt Chamber Orchestra, American League of Orchestras at: Kennedy & Lincoln Centers, Berlin Philharmonic, Wigmore Hall, Théâtre Châtelet, Carnegie Hall, Miller Theater, Tanglewood, Aspen, & Ojai Music Festivals. Fellowships from the Guggenheim, Fromm (2), Koussevitzky (2) Foundations; Radcliffe Institute, Harvard Musical Assoc, Copland House, & MacDowell, Yaddo, Bellagio, & Bogliasco Residencies, First Prize ALEA III, Awards from American Academy Arts & Letters (2). Her music has been called "captivating," "darkly attractive, artful...moving", "serene mystery...infinite beauty" in NYT, "sure command of craft", "shrewd composing...genuine article...onto 'season's best list' in Boston Globe. SFCV review of her opera, "Artemisia is sumptuous on every level..." Of her Albany CD (with the JACK Quart), Colin Clarke wrote "sheer intensity of the music is spellbinding, as if the passion of composer for subject shines through like a light."

Trees of India (2009)

Chris Williams, b. 1956

II. **Jacaranda**

These three pieces were inspired by the wonderful trees that grow around the city of Bangalore in India where I lived for several years. The country inspired a variety of compositions, ranging from the music theatre pieces "Kim" (based on the book by Rudyard Kipling, "The Coolie's Tale" (about the building of the Kalka-Simla Railway at the beginning of the 20th century) to smaller scale works like these three pieces for piano, "Trees of India."

I composed these in response to a request to perform something of my own at one of many recitals I gave all around the country. Having never written specifically for myself, I wanted to create something that challenged me technically whilst reflecting on a subject with an Indian theme. Once known as "The Garden City," Bangalore used to be renowned for its trees, particularly the spectacular Gulmohar with its canopy of brilliant red flowers and feathery vibrant green leaves that bloom just before the monsoon, the Jacaranda with its delicate but luminescent purple flowers, and the enormous Rain Tree, providing swathes of shade and home to an abundance of wildlife. The name of this tree in Tamil translates as "tree with a sleeping face" on account of the leaves closing up as the sky darkens before rain or at sunset.

During my time there, I witnessed the rapid expansion of the city and the destruction of many trees to make way for new transport and buildings, and the resulting rise in pollution, traffic and temperature; it was very much climate change at first hand. Particularly, it was watching the slaughter of a row of rain trees on the Old Madras Road to make way for the metro that moved me most...

Chris Williams began his musical career at the age of eight as a chorister at St. Paul's Cathedral, London. Having won a scholarship to study Music at New College, Oxford, he went on to study postgraduate composition and piano at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where he won several prestigious prizes, including the Royal Philharmonic Prize for composition. His work ranges from large-scale music theatre pieces to simple choral works, accompanied and a cappella, as well as instrumental and orchestral pieces. He lived in India for 16 years, where, for two years, he was Composer-in-Residence at the Lawrence School, Sanawar, in the Himalayan foothills, and from 2004, he lived in Bangalore as a composer, pianist and teacher. Before India, Chris lived in Devon, U.K.

In 1985, he was appointed as Musician-in-Residence at the Beaford Centre and thereafter worked freelance as a composer, teacher and musical director for choirs and music theatre, especially with The Young Company and the People's Company at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth. Major productions of "Korczak" (about an orphanage in the Warsaw Ghetto) have been produced by YMT UK (2011), Wroclaw (2016), and Opera I Filharmonia Podlaska in Poland (under the auspices of UNESCO), which was voted the most important historical event in Poland in 2012. His latest commission is for 1,000 voices in Plymouth and the Band of the Royal Marines to commemorate the 400th centenary of the sailing of the Mayflower from Plymouth UK to America.

Stop Deforestation! (2020)

Darío Duarte, b. 1986

One of the main causes of climate change is the deforestation of forests. Their resources are running out, leaving a devastated landscape. Many areas have lost their profuse vegetation and the desertification of these soils is progressively advancing. In the piece the metaphor is of a dialectic between humanity that makes indiscriminate and violent use of the forests, depleting their resources. The piece progresses from a greater amount of figuration to a lesser one, as occurs with the jungle that is progressively losing its extension on our planet. The work is a call to reflection on this complex problem.

Dario Duarte is a Latin American composer whose main premise is composition related to the description of landscapes. He is committed to climate change and has composed several works that focus on nature and the ecological awareness of its preservation. He has won an award in 2019 for his opera SOMA, where he reflects on the human condition in times of dehumanization.

Tarantella (2017)

Laura Collier, b. 1991

Tarantella is a quick and agitated piece which reflects the ever-rising temperatures of the planet. In contrast to the complacency and denial that climate change is often met with, *Tarantella's* growing anxiety and restlessness serve as a warning of the inferno we are creating.

In 2015 **Laura Collier** graduated with a master's degree in music composition from George Mason University where she studied under Mark Camphouse and Jesse Guessford. Recent accolades include winning the NED Ensemble Call for Scores for Voice and Piano, being selected as a finalist in the Sorodha 7th International Composition Competition, and receiving an honorable mention in the 2019 Arcady Emerging Composer Competition. Her music was featured in the 2020 "Music by Women Festival" in Columbus, Mississippi.

White Parasol (2008)

Ian Dicke, b. 1982

White Parasol was written in reaction to a 2008 BBC news article about the major loss of shelf-ice in Canada's High Arctic:

"Loss of ice in the Arctic, and in particular the extensive sea-ice, has global implications. The 'white parasol' at the top of the planet reflects energy from the Sun straight back out into space, helping to cool the Earth. Further loss of Arctic ice will see radiation absorbed by darker seawater and snow-free land, potentially warming the Earth's climate at an even faster rate than current observational data indicates."

Ian Dicke is a composer inspired by social-political culture and interactive technology. Praised for his "refreshingly well-structured" (Feast of Music) and "uncommonly memorable" (Sequenza 21) catalogue of works, Dicke currently serves as an Associate Professor of Composition at the University of California, Riverside. His music has been commissioned and performed by ensembles and soloists around the world, including the New World Symphony, Alarm Will Sound, the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, Paul Drescher Ensemble, pianist Vicky Chow, The MATA Festival, ISCM World New Music Days, and the Atlantic Coast Center Band Director's Association. He has received grants, awards, and recognition from the Fulbright Program, Barlow Endowment, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, New Music USA, New York Youth Symphony, ASCAP, and BMI, among others.

In addition to his creative activities as a composer, Dicke is also the founder and curator of the Outpost Concert Series, which connects Riverside's musical culture with groundbreaking artists across the national contemporary music landscape. For more information on works in progress, upcoming performances, commissioning, and score purchases, please visit www.iandicke.com.

frostbYte – chalk outline (2015)

Daniel Blinkhorn, b. 1973

A work for piano, Arctic video footage, Arctic and electroacoustic sounds
Commissioned by Zubin Kanga

Work synopsis:

chalk outline is electroACOUSTIC and videophonic in nature, using the Svalbard coastline (and the idea of an outline in a more generalised sense) as a metaphorical reference to the (antiquated) forensic technique of drawing a chalk outline around the deceased. The piece is an example of how I often integrate the differing disciplines of sound and image to create a sense of advocacy about the importance of places and spaces mediated via technology, sonification and visualisation.

Central to the piece are location- based field recordings I made whilst on expedition throughout the Arctic region of Spitsbergen | Svalbard.

Positioned at 81° north, 10° East, the archipelago of Spitsbergen | Svalbard is a truly remarkable part of the world that continues to inspire awe and fascination, and is often at the heart of our collective consciousness for its ecological and climatic sensitivity.

The region is renowned for its visual and cinematic beauty; however, it should be no surprise to find that sound plays an integral and vital role in the uniqueness of the region. From the smallest sounds of popping and hissing as snow and ice melt, to the raucous thundering of glacial ice calving, sound is bonded to each and every ecosystem in the archipelago.

Daniel Blinkhorn is a composer, digital media artist and field recordist currently residing in Sydney, Australia. Although often working in the electroacoustic and videophonic domains, his output includes chamber, symphonic and wind orchestra works, sound installations, music for film, dance, radiophonic composition and various hybrid/ inter-media environments.

Daniel's works are widely performed, exhibited and presented internationally, and his compositions have received numerous international and national composition citations. He is a 2011 Churchill Fellow (Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, Australia), has worked in a wide variety of creative, academic, research and performative contexts, and is a lecturer in the Composition and Music Technology faculty at the Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney. Daniel is also a represented composer at the Australian Music Centre, and the representative member/ councilor for composition at Music Australia (2012 – 2020).

Daniel has undertaken numerous composition residencies, and self-directed recording intensives internationally (La Muse En Circuit, Paris, ZKM| Center for Art and Media, Institute for Music and Acoustics, Germany, CMMAS – Centro Mexicano para la Música y las Artes Sonoras, Mexico, Centre de Arts, Montreal, Visby international Centre for Composers, Sweden and Islao de Arts, Madagascar) and is an ardent location and environmental sound recordist, where he has embarked upon a growing number of expeditions throughout the high Arctic/ North Pole region of Svalbard, Africa, Amazon, West Indies, Northern Europe, Middle East, Alaska, Mexico, Cuba, Madagascar and Australia.

Whilst entirely self-taught in electroacoustic music and biomimetics, he has formally studied composition, creative and digital media arts at a number of Australian universities including, the School of Art and Design (formally 'COFA') – UNSW and the University of Wollongong, Faculty of Creative Arts where his doctoral degree was recommended for special commendation. Other degrees include a BMus (hons), MMus, and a MA(r).

Interdecadal Oscillations (2020)

Kristian Twombly, b. 1974

Interdecadal Oscillations was written in response to a call for works on the subject of climate change from Ann DuHamel. Directly inspired by Robert Rauschenberg's "Erased de Kooning," the composer took a precomposed work for solo piano and filtered it through a scientific article on the subject of short (15-35 years) or longer (over 50 years) variations in surface temperature. What remains is fragmented and pointillistic, which mirrors the devastation that is left behind from such swings in temperature – for example, coral reefs that have nearly disappeared in parts of the Great Barrier Reef.

Ann adds: I asked Kristian if he could expand a bit more on his notes – mostly, I was curious about the use of “Interdecadal Oscillations” (which I’d never heard of before).

His response: “The previously composed piece was by Brahms (Op. 116, No 4).

And “interdecadal oscillations” comes from the article that I used as the “filter” for erasing the notes in the original Brahms. Basically, it refers to cycles that are longer than one decade, or between decades. I loved the phrase – it evokes sonic thoughts and refers to the aspect of climate change that I was hoping to get at.

... This process was something pretty new for me – I only employed it once before, on a solo flute piece I wrote a while back. It’s directly inspired by Robert Rauschenberg’s “Erased de Kooning”, where he bought a pencil drawing by de Kooning and then meticulously erased it and displayed the paper. It was of course impossible to fully erase the original, so some faint aspects of it remained. That very much makes me think of climate change effects like dying coral reefs.”

Kristian Twombly is Professor of Music at St Cloud State University, where he has served as Chair of the Music Department and as Faculty Fellow for Our Husky Compact. He is also President of the Board of Directors of the St Cloud Chamber Music Society and the Minnesota College and University Council for Music.

As a member of the experimental performance collectives The Bay Players, No Steve, When Morty Met John, and Interplait, Twombly explores non-traditional musical performances. His works and performances explore atypical spaces and formats, from tearing paper to wearing a bear mask.

Twombly earned degrees in Music Composition from the University of Maryland, where he studied with Tom DeLio. He currently resides in St Cloud, Minnesota, with an aquarium with an escalating snail population.

Meditation on a Warming Planet (2020)

Clifton Callender, b. 1969

I. Parched Earth

"The way out of climate change is inside each of us." — Thích Nhất Hạnh

From a human perspective, the warming of the planet is very gradual, yet relentless, a steady progression (accumulation) toward a more chaotic and less hospitable world.

Often working at the intersection of music and mathematics, **Clifton Callender**’s compositions have been recognized and performed by the Pacifica Quartet, “Tang Quartet, Spark Festival, SEAMUS, International Festival of Electroacoustic Music “Primavera en La Habana,” NACUSA Young Composers Competition, and the American Composers Orchestra Whitaker New Music Reading Sessions, among others, and is recorded on the Capstone, New Ariel, and Navona labels. Recent commissions include Canon of Offerings, for the Bridges Conference on the Arts and Mathematics, gegenschein, for Piotr Szewczyk’s Violin Futura project, and Reasons to Learn to Sing, for the 50th Anniversary of the College Music Society. He is currently working on Criticalities, commissioned for the 75th commemoration of Chicago Pile-1 (the first controlled, self-sustaining nuclear reaction), and a setting of Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner’s poem for the 2014 United Nations Climate Summit, Dear Matafele Peinam.

Also active in music theory, Callender has published in Science, Perspectives of New Music, Journal of Music Theory, Music Theory Online, and Intégral and serves on the editorial board of Perspectives of New Music and as Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Mathematics and Music. He holds degrees from the University of Chicago, Peabody Conservatory, and Tulane University and is Professor of Composition at Florida State University.

Holding your mother's hand
while she is dying is like trying to love
the very thing that will kill you.
- Cristin O'Keefe Aptowicz, from "Rabbit Hole" (2018)

Alex Burtzos is an American composer and conductor based in New York City and Orlando, FL. His music has been performed across four continents. Alex has collaborated with some of the world's foremost contemporary musicians and ensembles, including JACK Quartet, Yarn/Wire, Contemporaneous, ETHEL, loadbang, Jenny Lin, RighteousGIRLS, and many others. He is the founder and artistic director of ICEBERG New Music, a New York-based composers' collective, and the conductor of the hip hop/classical chamber orchestra ShoutHouse.

As a composer, Alex is committed to pursuing artistic expression unconstrained by boundaries of school or style. His work often incorporates elements of the 20th Century avant-garde, jazz, rock, metal, and hip-hop alongside or against classical/preclassical structures and sounds, justifying these juxtapositions with a great depth of musical ideas and extra-musical knowledge. Alex's music takes as its basis and provides commentary on a diverse array of subject matter, from early colonial history to recent events, from Shakespeare's tragedies to naughty text messages. His unique approach has earned him accolades and awards from organizations around the world.

Alex holds a DMA from Manhattan School of Music, where his primary teachers were Reiko Fueting and Mark Stambaugh. He is the Endowed Chair of Composition Studies at the University of Central Florida.

In the last few years, my experience of the world has been colored by a dull but constant sense of climate change anxiety. That sense of dread is dramatically worsened whenever I encounter clips of news pundits actively spreading misinformation and openly mocking the efforts of environmentalists. Accordingly, *Those Who Watch* attempts to present four distinct perspectives in the spread of climate change denial through the lens of my own anxiety while also trying to critically examine my engagement with misinformation as a distraction from forward progress.

In the piece's electronic accompaniment, voices of news anchors and billionaires who profit from fossil fuel consumption swirl in a cacophonous cloud of mischaracterizations and misquoted statistics. Meanwhile, the voices of scientists and activists like Wallace Broecker form the bedrock of the piece's sonic landscape, distorted beyond understanding and only truly audible in moments of quiet sincerity. The soloist, then, serves as a mouthpiece for my anxiety as the piano stews in its own angst, screams into the void, and ignores a path to meaningful change.

Gunter Gaupp is a composer and teacher based in Memphis, TN, whose work combines interests in noise composition and genre music. Born in Louisiana, Gunter's recent work maintains a connection to jazz and folk traditions in his approach to melody and harmony, while exploring new possibilities through extended technique and graphic notation. His music has premiered recently in Chicago, Memphis, and Green Bay, as well as internationally in Vienna and Paris.

Gunter completed his MM in 2019 at the University of Memphis, where he studied composition under Kamran Ince and John Baur. More recently, Gunter has begun teaching music to middle and high school students at Memphis Rise Academy.

- I. On Darkness
- II. On Light

"Towards Hope: Two Reflections on the Climate Crisis" occupies a space between programmatic and absolute musical dialogue. Charting a narrative from dark-to-light, the contrasting movements invite the listener to contemplate the dire crisis ravaging our planet. The first movement, On Darkness, evokes the somber urgency of

immediate action. A ray of hope ushers in the second movement, *On Light*, hinting that through darkness and perseverance, light can emerge. It is my wish that these interludes serve as a vessel for meaningful reflection, frosting a renewed sense of hope, purpose, and action.

Described as “beautiful, lyrical” and brimming with “unexpected harmonic shifts” (International Trumpet Guild), the music of Macedonian-American composer **Zach Gulaboff Davis** centers on the core elements of musical narrative: emotion, drama, and expression. The winner of the 2019 American Prize in Composition (Vocal Chamber Music division), Zach maintains an active schedule as a composer and collaborator across the globe. His works have been performed at venues including Carnegie Hall, Columbia University, University of Pennsylvania, Bulgaria’s National Palace of Culture, Norway’s Arctic Cathedral, Hamburg’s Zinnschmelze Cultural Center, NYU Steinhardt and Shanghai, the DiMenna Center, International Trumpet Guild and National Saxophone Alliance conferences, and at schools and conservatories throughout the country.

Since beginning compositional studies in 2013, Zach’s works have garnered over 20 national and international awards. With degrees in composition from Mannes College of Music and the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, Zach is also active as a pianist and conductor, having appeared as concerto soloist, chamber musician, solo recitalist, and champion of young composers’ works on the podium. In his spare time, Zach is active in American Kennel Club events, traveling the country as a licensed Dog Agility judge. Don’t ask him about the (countless) similarities between composing and designing Agility courses unless you have hours to spare! Born in Los Angeles and raised in Oregon, Zach currently resides in Jersey City, NJ.

Landscape of Shadow and Light (2012)

David Evan Thomas, b. 1958

Viewed from the side in an abstract way, the piano keyboard is a little black-cliffed Dover coast. Or is it a delta, fed by thirty-odd rivers? It is certainly a landscape, the apparent contours of which change with the season and time of day. *Landscape of Shadow and Light* traces a Chopin-esque path from F minor to A-flat major, but it moves through many other keys on its way, touching each of the 88 keys and even implying some that aren’t there. And is that a Hardanger fiddle tune that pops up en route? It’s a tribute to the dedicatee, Thelma Hunter (1925–2015), who was proud to be “100% Norwegian.” Thelma’s contributions to musical life in the Twin Cities (Minneapolis-St Paul, Minnesota) were many and legendary, from teaching at the University of Minnesota to appearing as soloist with the Minnesota Orchestra. *Landscape* was commissioned for her 88th birthday; she requested that it include every key of the modern piano.

The music of **David Evan Thomas** has been praised for its eloquence, power and craft. A recipient of two McKnight Foundation Artist Fellowships, an Award in Music from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the Möller-A.G.O. Award in Choral Composition, Thomas has received commissions from the Minnesota Orchestra, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the American Composers Forum and the American Guild of Organists. His music is published by ECS, MorningStar, Augsburg Fortress, Jeanné, Fatrock Ink and Classical Vocal Reprints, Tritone-Tenuto and VocalEssence Press.

David Evan Thomas was the first composer-in-residence for the Schubert Club, which awarded him the An die Musik Award for outstanding service in 2016, and he served Westminster Presbyterian Church (Minneapolis) and the Cathedral of Saint Paul through a FaithPartners residency. Other residencies have taken him to Wyoming—the Ucross and Brush Creek Arts Foundations—and to California’s Villa Montalvo. Recent honors include the VocalEssence Welcome Christmas Carol Contest and the Renée B. Fisher Composer Awards. In 2018, Thomas was initiated into Sigma Alpha Iota Fraternity as a National Arts Associate.

Born in Rochester, New York in 1958, David Evan Thomas received degrees from Northwestern University, Eastman School and the University of Minnesota. His teachers included Dominick Argento, Samuel Adler and Alan Stout, with further study at the Aspen Festival and with David Diamond at the Atlantic Center for the Arts. Thomas lives in Minneapolis, where he is also active as a program annotator for the Schubert Club. More: www.davidevanthomas.com.

Ann DuHamel

Pianist Ann DuHamel's performances have been praised as poetic and "... a delight for the ears and the soul" (Encuentro Universitario Internacional de Saxofón, Mexico City). She has performed in 18 countries, including concerts at Sala Verdi in Milan, Italy; the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland; Carnegie Weill Recital Hall in New York; and Trinity College in Oxford, England.

Hailed as a "forward thinking classical pianist" (*Midwest Record*) for her debut album *Rückblick: New Piano Music Inspired by Brahms* (Furious Artisans, 2020), Ann actively champions contemporary composers, recently commissioning works by Flannery Cunningham, Jocelyn Hagen, and Edie Hill, among others. *Piano Magazine* applauded "the depth of programming and playing" in *Rückblick*, admiring Ann's "range of sound and full melodic tone," as well as her "clear voicing and vibrant sense of color." *Dr. Brahms's Book of Rags*, which appears on the album, was a finalist in The American Prize in Piano Performance, 2021, and received a Special Judges' Citation: "Championing the Music of Marc Chan."

Ann can also be heard on the 2022 release *Tyler Kline: Orchard* (Neuma Records, 2022), performing six works of Kline, five of which she commissioned. *Fanfare Magazine* praised her performance as "alive ... [played with] aching expression." Tracks from *Rückblick* and *Orchard* have been featured on WFMT (Chicago), WRUW (Cleveland), WSMR (Tampa), WMBR (Cambridge, MA), WYSO (Ohio), XRAY-FM (Portland, Oregon), and Minnesota Public Radio.

In demand as a collaborative pianist, Ann has performed chamber music with members of both the Grammy-Award winning Minnesota Orchestra and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, as well as with Martha Councell-Vargas, flute; Preston Duncan, saxophone; Maria Jette, soprano; and Clara Osowski, mezzo-soprano. Her performance at Carnegie Weill Recital Hall with *ensemble: Périphérie* was hailed by the New York Concert Review as "outstanding," praising the group of "superb musicians [who] played with power and assurance."

Ann's latest project, "Prayers for a Feverish Planet," responds to the climate crisis with 60+ new works, from composers across the globe, for piano and piano/electronics. During the Fall of 2022, she was awarded artist residencies at Toft Lake Center (MN) and Everwood Farmstead Foundation (WI) for this project, which has also received extensive support from the University of Minnesota (Institute for Advanced Study Residential Fellow, Fall 2021; Imagine Fund Special Events Grant; and Grant-In-Aid of Research, Artistry, and Scholarship). She has been interviewed about the project on *Modern Notebook Radio* (WSMR) and Minnesota Public Radio's *All Things Considered* with Tom Crann. By the end of her current sabbatical she'll have performed portions of the project more than 50 times, including for the Chamber Music Society of St Cloud (MN), Nakamichi Concert Series (Easton, MA), Outpost Concert Series (Riverside, CA), Old First Concert Series (San Francisco, CA), the Pipini Performing Arts Series (Youngstown, OH), and Wayward Music Series (Seattle, WA).

Prior to earning a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance and pedagogy at the University of Iowa under the tutelage of Ksenia Nosikova, Ann was Assistant Artistic Director at the Wirth Center (then Central Minnesota Music School) in St Cloud, MN, for 8 years. She also has degrees from the College of St Benedict and the University of Notre Dame. Ann's had the great fortune to play in masterclasses and lessons for many pianists, including Vladimir Feltsman, Alexander Korsantia, Fernando Lares, Susan Starr, Nelita True, and more, in addition to collaborative piano coaching with Martin Katz, Arlene Shrut, and John Wustman.

An active member of the Minnesota Music Teachers Association for almost 25 years, Ann is Immediate Past President of the organization. Some of her most important contributions on the MMTA Board of Directors include initiating a Diversity-Equity-Inclusion committee, as well as ushering forth a Land Acknowledgement to honor the Indigenous people and cultures from Minnesota. She's performed and presented at conferences for Music Teachers National Association, the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers, the European Piano Teachers Association, the College Music Society, the International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts, and Music, Sound, and Climate Justice Conversations 2022, with upcoming presentations and performances at the Society for American Music and the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy. Ann is currently Associate Professor of Music at the University of Minnesota Morris, where she devotes herself to the mission of sharing high quality traditional and contemporary classical music with students and the greater community.

While in St. Cloud, Ann performed at SCSU Music Department convocation, gave a masterclass for piano students, and presented a Family Concert at the St. Cloud Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. We are deeply grateful to her generosity in sharing her talents with many people in our community.

The **Chamber Music Society of St. Cloud** is a non-profit organization supported in large part by membership contributions. We are grateful to the following individuals, businesses, and grantors who make these programs possible. This list includes contributions received through January 10; donations are always welcome and needed!

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Chamber Music Society of St. Cloud

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