

TALEA ENSEMBLE



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PHOTOS | REPERTOIRE | REVIEWS | HISTORY

ABOUT TALEA ENSEMBLE

Heralded as “a crucial part of the New York cultural ecosphere” by the New York Times, the Talea Ensemble is comprised of nineteen of New York City’s finest classically-trained musicians.



Recipients of the 2014 Chamber Music America/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming, Talea has brought to life more than 30 commissions of major new works. Talea was founded in 2008, by composer Anthony Cheung and percussionist and Executive Director Alex Lipowski.

Partnering with institutions like the Austrian Cultural Forum or the French American Cultural Exchange, Talea has introduced NYC audiences to major works of the 21st century, with US premieres of works like Hans Abrahamsen’s *Schnee*, Pierre Boulez’s *Dérive II*, or Fausto Romitelli’s *An Index of Metals*.



Praised for their “verve and immaculate virtuosity” by the Washington Post, Talea is sought after both in the U.S. and Europe for its range, precision, risk-taking, and superior performance quality. Recent festival engagements include performances at Lincoln Center Festival, Internationales Musikinstitut Darmstadt, the Fromm Concerts at Harvard University, Warsaw Autumn Festival, Wien Modern, Royaumont Abbae, Vancouver New Music, and many more.



The ensemble has also partnered with institutions from across disciplines, such as the Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, the City of Ideas Festival in Mexico, or the Storm King Art Center. Talea’s recordings have been distributed worldwide on the Kairos, Wergo, Gravina Musica, Tzadik, Innova, and New World Records labels, and been broadcast on ORF (Austria), HRF (Germany), and WQXR’s Q2.



Talea assumes an ongoing role in supporting a new generation of composers, and has undertaken residencies in music departments at Columbia, Harvard, Stanford, Cornell, New York University, and many others.

MUSICIANS

Tara Helen O'Connor, Flutes
 Barry Crawford, Flutes
 Rane Moore, Clarinets
 Marianne Gythfeldt, Clarinets
 James Austin Smith, Oboe
 Adrian Morejon, Bassoon
 Karen Kim, Violin
 Hannah Levinson, Viola
 Chris Gross, Cello
 Greg Chudzik, Double Bass
 Jeff Missal, Trumpet
 David Byrd-Marrow, Horn
 Steven Beck, Piano
 Anthony Cheung, Piano
 Stephen Gosling, Piano
 Matthew Gold, Percussion
 Alex Lipowski, Percussion
 David Adamcyk, Technical Director
 James Baker, Principal Conductor

**LEADERSHIP STAFF**

Alex Lipowski
 Executive Director

Zach Sheets
 Managing Director

Victoria Cheah
 Production Manager

GOVERNING BOARD

Katharina Pistor, President
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 Werner Nikowitz
 Norman Ryan
 Jeremy Shatan
 Thomas Stelzer
 Steven Takasugi

WRITTEN FOR TALEA

Bringing new works to life is at the core of Talea's mission, and—thanks to support from many leading institutions in our field—we're proud to have partnered with many of today's most innovative and successful composers to champion their visionary new works.

COMPOSER:

Julian Anderson Koussevitzky Foundation
 Mark Applebaum New Music USA
 Georges Aperghis Siemens Musikstiftung
 Oscar Bettison Chamber Music America
 Pierluigi Billone Siemens Musikstiftung
 Anthony Cheung Koussevitzky Foundation
 Eric Chasalow Barlow Endowment
 Ann Cleare MATA Festival
 Mario Diaz De Leon Roulette Intermedium
 James Dillon Fromm Foundation
 Jason Eckardt Harry & Alice Eiler Foundation
 Brian Ferneyhough Library of Congress
 Ashley Fure Harry & Alice Eiler Foundation
 Georg Friedrich Haas Fromm Foundation
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 Alexander Lunsqui Fromm Foundation
 Steven Kazuo Takasugi Siemens Musikstiftung & Bludenz
 Christopher Trapani American Composers Forum
 Hans Thomalla Fromm Foundation
 Jen Wang Staubach Honoraria at IMD
 John Zorn Chamber Music America

FUNDED THANKS TO:

PRESS REVIEWS

The New York Times

...a vital part of the New York contemporary-classical scene...

...a crucial part of the New York cultural ecosystem...

A flexible group that champions toothy modern works and plays them with a compelling lucidity..

...meticulously prepared and compellingly rendered... teeming energy and precise control.

...the Talea Ensemble gave a fierce performance of Fausto Romitelli's Professor Bad Trip, a phantasmagorical sprawl of oozing timbres and howling psychedelic guitar.

...a clever program from a clever ensemble...



THE NEW YORKER

The invaluable Talea Ensemble inaugurates the music series at the Flea Theatre's new location with two intriguing programs...



The Talea Ensemble makes modernist music not just accessible but positively engaging through its combination of commanding virtuosity and infectious commitment.

This crack group has immeasurably enriched New York's new-music scene in recent seasons, not least because the commitment with which they embrace even the most forbidding scores makes everything they do communicative.



...the audience seemed to relish the genre, cheering enthusiastically for every work.

I CARE IF YOU LISTEN
Magazine

Talea Ensemble is known for tackling difficult, technique-driven music with aplomb and charisma. This program of ornate, complex works was carefully tended to, beautifully and respectfully presented, and well-led by conductor James Baker. With their ten year anniversary coming up during the 2018-2019 season, Talea certainly has much to celebrate.

The Washington Post

Stephen Brookes: "Talea Ensemble at Library of Congress brings a paradise to the ears"

*The Library of Congress is famous for showcasing the **world's best chamber music groups** — its concert series at the Coolidge Auditorium is one of the District's must-hear events. But the Library is also a quiet champion of new music from living composers, and on Friday night, those roles came together in a **performance by the New York-based Talea Ensemble...** (Brian Ferneyhough's *Contraccopli*), heard here in its **world premiere, is a masterpiece.** Kudos to both the library and the Talea Ensemble, which played the work (and everything else on the program) with **verve and immaculate virtuosity.***



Los Angeles Times

The big piece of the evening was (George Aperghis') "Happy End," dazzlingly performed by the Talea Ensemble from New York.

Mark Swed: Monday Evening Concerts is back with a bang, whimper, whistle, click and clang in 'Sideshow'
*The New York-based Talea Ensemble **delivered fabulously well** on the **virtuosity and entertainment spectacle.***

Chicago Tribune

Alan Artner: "Talea Ensemble opens Contempo series with rare, exceptional program"

*Friday night's exceptional concert at the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts brought the New York-based **Talea Ensemble to do what it does best,** expose an audience to European music that is rarely surveyed on the American scene... performance [was] **head-spinningly virtuosic.***



...one of the most important new-music groups to emerge in the past decade...

Chicago CLASSICAL REVIEW

Lawrence A. Johnson: "Contempo takes a walk on the wild side with 20th-century theatrical works"

*...with the versatile New York-based Talea musicians **delivering full-blooded, unapologetic advocacy** for all four works, it proved an undeniably entertaining musical tour indeed."*



SELECTED PROJECTS

Talea's continued dedication to presenting new, visionary musical works has helped solidify its domestic success as well as its prominent international recognition. We are proud to act as champions for American composers—both at home and on the world stage—as well as to introduce yet-unknown European works to American audiences. Some of Talea's most prominent projects and successful performances are listed here.

12.06.2010

Portrait: Pierre Boulez

Miller Theatre, Columbia University
New York, NY

12 Notations (1945)

Improvisation I sur Mallarmé (1957)

Improvisation II "Une dentelle s'abolit" (1957)

Dérive 1 (1984)

Dérive 2 (1988/2006) *US Premiere

In-concert discussion with Pierre Boulez and Ara Guzelimian

01.21.2011

US Premiere: Schnee

Scandinavia House
New York, NY

Bent Sorensen: *Funeral Procession* (1989)

Bent Sorensen: *the Deserted Churchyards* (1990)

Hans Abrahamsen: *Schnee* (2006) *US Premiere

*In-concert discussion with Hans Abrahamsen and Bill Baker
Presented by the Consulate General of Denmark in New York*

02.16.2011

Portrait: Unsuk Chin

Bohemian National Hall | Korean Cultural Service

Parametastring (1996)

Fantaisie Mecanique (1997) *NY Premiere

Etudes for Piano (2003)

Allegro ma non troppo (1998) *NY Premiere

In concert-discussion with Unsuk Chin presented by Korean Cultural Service NYC and Bohemian National Hall.

06.19.2011

US Premiere: An Index of Metals

Bang on a Can Marathon | River to River Festival
New York, NY

Fausto Romitelli: *An Index of Metals* (2003) *US Premiere

07.16.2012

Internationales Musikinstitut Darmstadt

Darmstadt, Germany

Pierluigi Billone: *Δίκη Wall* (2012) *World Premiere

Jen Wang: *Valence* (2012) *World Premiere

James Dillon: *New York Triptych* (2012) *World Premiere

05.16.2013

US Premiere: FAMA

Austrian Cultural Forum | Bohemian National Hall
New York, NY

Beat Furrer: *FAMA* (2005) *US Premiere

SELECTED PROJECTS**07.19.2013****Lincoln Center Festival**

Gerald Lynch Theater
New York, NY

Toshio Hosokawa: *Matsukaze* (2011)

03.07.2014**Carnegie Hall presents | Vienna: City of Dreams Festival**

Bohemian National Hall
New York, NY

Olga Neuwirth: *un posto nell'acqua* (2009) *US Premiere
Bernhard Gander: *Take Nine for Twelve* (2011) *US Premiere
Pierluigi Billone: *Mani.Long* (2001) *US Premiere

04.23.2014**US Premiere: Georges Aperghis**

Roulette
Brooklyn, NY

Georges Aperghis: *Happy End* (2014) *US Premiere

03.13.2015**US Premiere: Enno Poppe**

Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center
Troy, NY

Enno Poppe: *Speicher* (2013) *US Premiere

02.26.2016**Portrait: Georg Friedrich Haas**

Austrian Cultural Forum | Bohemian National Hall
New York, NY

La profondeur (2009)
I can't breathe (2015) *US Premiere
tria ex uno (2001)
...wie stille brannte das Licht (2009)

03.04.2017**Fromm Festival | Harvard University**

Paine Hall
Cambridge, MA

Brian Ferneyhough: *Incipits* (1996)
Rand Steiger: *A Menacing Plume* (2011)
Liza Lim: *Songs Found in Dream* (2005)
Hans Tutschku: *codification-memory* (2017) *World Premiere

08.05.2017**TIME:SPANS Festival**

DiMenna Center for Classical Music
New York, NY

Georg Friedrich Haas: *Hyena* (2016) *US Premiere

Mollena Lee Williams-Haas, storyteller

MEDIA



05.16.2013

Beat Furrer: FAMA (2005)
US Premiere
New York, NY

[LINK](#)

05.21.2011

Olga Neuwirth: Torsion (2001)
New York, NY

[LINK](#)

Steven Takasugi: Sideshow (2015)
Trailer for Blu-Ray recording

[LINK](#)

09.26.2014

Chris Trapani: Waterlines (2012)
US Premiere
New York, NY

[LINK](#)

09.21.2012

James Dillon: NY Triptych (2012)
US Premiere
New York, NY

[LINK](#)

For complete media samples, please visit:

taleaensemble.org/media | youtube.com/taleaensemble



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