THE FORM OF SPACE

Gérard Grisey

Stèle (1995)
for two percussionists

Matthew Gold and Tiffany Tien ’20, percussion

Angélica Negrón

There Once Was (2011)
for SATB choir, accordion, and electronics

Christine Pash ’18, soprano; Amelia Dana ’18 and Louisa Nyhus ’20, alto; Chris Hough Deane ’19 and Kurt Pfommer ’18, tenor; Thomas Kirby ’20 and William Kirby ’17, bass; Stephen Ai ’18, accordion; Abigail Soloway ’18, conductor

Matthias Pintscher

Shining Forth (2008)
for trumpet in b-flat

Leonard Bopp ’19, trumpet

Michael Pisaro

Ricefall (1) (2004)
for sixteen performers

Ed Gollin, Sammi Jo Stone ’17, Gabriel Morosky ’17, Ed Lawrence, Sean Elligers, Anna DeLoi ’18, Matthew Gold, Tiffany Tien ’20, Kendall Bazinet ’18, Geoffrey Salmon ’21, Leonard Bopp ’19, Kurt Pfommer ’18, Abigail Soloway ’18, Louisa Nyhus ’20, Christine Pash ’18, Matthew Williamson ’21

Zosha Di Castri

La Forma Dello Spazio (2010)
for flute, clarinet, harp, violin, cello

Jacqueline DeVoe, flute; Paul Green, clarinet; Anna DeLoi ’18, harp; Joana Genova, violin; Nat Parke, cello; Matthew Gold, conductor
About the Program

I/O Fest presents a one-hour program of works that explore space, form, and the physical materials of sound through music for both conventional instruments and found objects. With musicians arranged around the pavilion, the audience is immersed in a living and kinetic world of sound. At the center of the program is Michael Pisaro's *Ricefall* for sixteen percussionists, which envelops the listener in a soundscape composed of falling grains of rice, and, "like a gentle shower...explores the potentials for the harmonic coloring of noise." The performers set up on a grid of sixteen squares with the audience interspersed throughout, and gently pour rice on a range of resonant materials. Surrounding the Pisaro are works that explore space and motion, positioning the listener in an ever-shifting acoustic environment. Zosha Di Castri’s *La Forma Dello Spazio* is inspired by the mobiles of Lee Bontecou and Alexander Calder, and traces sound trajectories around the room through the spatialized ensemble. Matthias Pintscher’s *Shining Forth* refers to the austere, geometrical work of Barnett Newman with its black lines on untreated canvas. Gérard Grisey’s funereal *Stèle* opens the program with a bending of time and space through the slides, scrapes, and tolling of drums placed antiphonally in the hall. Join the I/O Ensemble in a sonic exploration of the Conforti Pavilion with music that moves and envelops the audience.

Presented by the Williams College Department of Music.

About I/O Fest

I/O Fest is the Williams College Department of Music's annual immersion in the music of today. Over the course of four days and nights students, faculty, guest performers, and audiences delve deeply into new and adventurous music from around the world and down the street. Performances, talks, and workshops are held in the '62 Center for Theatre & Dance and The Clark Art Institute, with a special interest in unconventional spaces and modes of performance. Featuring renowned guest artists and performances by the I/O Ensemble, IOTA, and many others, I/O invites listeners to explore the music of now.

We would like to thank Randy Benoit and the Williams College Facilities Department, Haskin’s Construction, and Leigh-Anne Nicastro and Wild Oats Market for their generous help with materials for *Ricefall*, and Dave Deming for the bundle sticks. Special thanks to Vicki Saltzman and the staff of the Clark Art Institute.