

NEW WORKS ENSEMBLE:

2024 Workshop Intensive

New Works began as an ensemble for advanced high school and college musicians, with a focus on jazz and contemporary music, and an emphasis on improvisation. Created and directed by composer Wayne Horvitz, it was originally part of Seattle JazzEd. It is now an independent endeavor. This year will be an intensive, 5 hours per day for 5 days followed by an evening concert on the 5th day.

The ensemble will explore music of a variety of composers from the 20th and 21st century including (a) more obscure jazz composers like Sonny Clark and Herbie Nichols, (b) iconic jazz composers who are underrepresented in High School and College jazz bands like Thelonious Monk and Hank Mobley, (c) composers of a more modern bent including my own compositions, Bill Frisell, Ornette Coleman and John Zorn, and contemporary composers that might include Anna Weber, Matt Mitchell, Ambrose Akinmusire, Ingrid Laubrock, Tomeka Reid, Joshua Redman and others.

In addition “conduction”, a method originally created by Lawrence “Butch” Morris, will be a significant element in the repertoire. This technique allows the director to re-arrange and manipulate the ensemble in real time, creating another potential approach to structure in improvisation.

The workshop will be from 10-12.30 and from 1.30-4 Monday thru Friday July 8th – 12th with a concert on the evening of the 12th. The workshop will be located at the Royal Room in Seattle, a venue with full backline, a Steinway B piano, a generous stage, and plenty of options for lunch, coffee, plus an excellent food co-op, all within easy walking distance.

Tuition is \$800. Reduced tuition is absolutely available if needed. Please contact me directly about enrollment, and any issues concerning tuition. Students are responsible for their own food, plus transportation/lodging if coming from out of town.

A simple video audition is required. Students are expected to read music at an advanced/intermediate level and know common music fundamentals used in improvisation including scales, chord types, and arpeggios. Please provide 2-3 minutes of video of a solo transcription, and another 2-3 minutes of video of an improvisation with accompaniment, or an original composition. The accompaniment can be live or pre-recorded. This ensemble is for students who typically would be in their advanced high school or college ensembles.

Classical players who want to explore improvisation are also very welcome to apply. Please contact me directly to discuss audition requirements. The ensemble is not limited to instruments typically associated with jazz. String players, double reeds, flute, French horn etc. are all encouraged to participate.

For additional information please contact me at:

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