

loadbang

New York City-based new music chamber group loadbang is building a new kind of music for mixed ensemble of trumpet, trombone, bass clarinet, and baritone voice. Since their founding in 2008, they have been praised as 'cultivated' by The New Yorker, 'an extra-cool new music group' and 'exhilarating' by the Baltimore Sun, 'inventive' by the New York Times and called a 'formidable new-music force' by Creating 'a sonic world unlike any other' (The Boston Musical Intelligencer), their unique lung-powered instrumentation has provoked diverse responses from composers, resulting in a repertoire comprising an inclusive picture of composition today. In New York City, they have been recently presented by and performed at Miller Theater, Symphony Space, MATA, and by the Look and Listen Festival; on American tours at Da Camera of Houston, Rothko Chapel, and the Festival of New American Music at Sacramento State University; and internationally at Ostrava Days (Czech Republic), China-ASEAN Music Week (China), the Xinghai Conservatory of Music (China), Shanghai Symphony Hall (China), Visiones Sonoras Festival (Morelia, Mexico), and the Musikverein (Vienna, Austria).



loadbang has premiered more than 500 works, written by members of the ensemble, emerging artists, and today's leading composers. Their repertoire includes works by Pulitzer Prize winners Raven Chacon, David Lang, and Charles Wuorinen; Rome Prize winners Andy Akiho and Paula Matthusen; and Guggenheim Fellows Chaya Czernowin, George Lewis, and Alex Mincek. loadbang can be heard on numerous commercial recordings and on record labels including Bridge Records, New Focus Recordings, NEOS, Another Timbre, and ANALOG Arts. Their most recent releases include Old Fires Catch Old Buildings, Quiver, and Plays Well With Others, an album of music for loadbang and string orchestra.

loadbang is dedicated to education and cultivation of an enthusiasm for new music. They have worked with students ranging from elementary schoolers in the New York Philharmonic's Very Young Composers program and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's OrchKids Program to college aged student composers at institutions including Columbia University, Cornell University, Manhattan School of Music, New York University, Peabody Conservatory, Princeton University, University of Buffalo, the University of California in San Diego, and Yale University. They are the ensemble-in-residence at Cornell University through the Steven Stucky Memorial Residency for New Music, and through a partnership with the Longy School of Music of Bard College in Boston, they are the ensemble-in-residence at Divergent Studio, a contemporary music festival for young performers and composers held each summer.

Next Performance:

Thursday June 6, 2024 at 5 PM



*"Learning to move,
learning to play,
learning to animate"*

by Sophia Sun
with Mingyong Cheng

All performances are free
and open to the public.

IDEAS

About IDEAS:

The Initiative for Digital Exploration of Arts and Sciences aims to encourage interdisciplinary performing, visual, and literary-artists, as well as engineers and scientists, to take advantage of the Qualcomm Institute's advanced audio-visual facilities, services and personnel in staging performances and presentations of new and experimental works and research. **To learn more visit ideas.ucsd.edu.**

May 24, 2024 5-7PM

IDEAS

Initiative for Digital Exploration of Arts and Sciences

HEARING EXTREMES

The Qualcomm Institute's IDEAS series presents "Hearing Extremes" with renowned composer and UC San Diego Professor of Music Lei Liang, and New York City-based new music chamber group loadbang.

"Hearing Extremes" introduces original compositions by UC San Diego graduate students in collaboration with researchers from the university's Scripps Institution of Oceanography and Jacobs School of Engineering. Through the "Hearing Extremes" seminar, composers and artists work closely with geologist Emily Chin and oceanographer Joshua Jones, to develop interdisciplinary projects outside the walls of their respective departments, to think of the entire campus as a place for "great learning," to reconsider what each participant's role might be in regard to the collaboration, and to create works that would not be possible without a fully integrated approach that reflects the knowledge, technology and global issues of our time.

*Motion
Mammalian Dialogue
sun moon | ocean earth
Shadow III
Home Range
Reading Mantle Petrology*

Mitchell Carlstrom
WANG Delong
Gabriel Soberón Nelson
Haihui Zhang
Moe Penders Ramos
Stephen de Filippo

loadbang will perform the students' pieces for a live audience.

- 5 p.m. Calit2 Theatre - Performance
- 6 p.m. Reception



UC San Diego



UC San Diego
JACOBS SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
&
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Motion is a mixed media work for video, semi-fixed recording, and live musicians, that attempts to capture, and emulate, the relatively imperceptible movement of rocks and minerals on a granular, microscopic level. In this piece each mineral is represented by a combination of sonic tones determined by transposing scans used to reveal a mineral's atomic structure into our hearing range. Utilizing a simple concept and structure to gradually "zoom in" on a specific mineral, Motion is a short journey into something that appears static and stationary but is never actually at rest.

Mammalian Dialogue: In October 2015, in northern Alaska, a group of Bowhead Whales and Bearded Seals needed to swim to a habitable environment before the sea ice froze. As they embarked on this life-saving migration, they called out to each other and together faced the extreme cold. That is the story told by this musical piece.

sun moon | ocean earth is an exploration of the Ocean, Earth, Sun and Moon in their varying influences on our human development and nurturing us, in this life and in the evolution of our species and collective being.

Shadow III: The story of time. Past, present and future. Overlap.

Mitchell Carlstrom is a percussionist dedicated to creating thought-provoking experiences. Through interpretation of compositions, he strives to challenge the meaning of sound in space, creating unique soundscapes for audiences to enjoy. Carlstrom's performance experience ranges from solo repertoire to large ensembles, with his best musicianship found working in chamber groups creating intimate music with friends. As a member of red fish blue fish, a founding member of the MinusOne Percussion Quartet, and a former member of Left Edge Percussion, he has toured throughout the United States and Mexico. Currently Mitchell is a DMA student at UCSD studying under Steven Schick.

WANG Delong, a composer passionate about finding new ways to create music in the 21st century and connecting empathetically with audiences, has had his works performed in over 30 cities worldwide. He has received commissions from the Five Partners Foundation, Sichuan Symphony Orchestra, Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Central Conservatory's Traditional Orchestra. To recognize his achievements in the arts, Wang won the 2022 National Outstanding Student Abroad Scholarship. Beyond concert music, he has extensive experience in film scoring, including serving as the music director and composer for the feature film "Manifesto" in 2023, produced by the Shanghai Film Group. Films scored by him have won awards at the Tokyo International Film Festival and the Sundance Film Festival. He holds degrees from the New England Conservatory and Juilliard and is pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of California, San Diego, under Dr. Lei Liang.

Gabriel Soberón Nelson is a composer and performing artist who is currently engaging in concert music, theater and film arts, jazz and some physical movement. He studies at UC San Diego with emphases on Composition, Jazz Piano and Playwriting. He considers artistic expression as part of a social superstructure and is interested in promoting social and economic justice through his work therein and in the community at large.

Haihui Zhang is currently a PhD student in UC San Diego. Both as a composer and a pianist, Haihui Zhang has received a lot of prizes and scholarships. In 2019, she was commissioned by Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra. In 2020, "The Hourglass" she composed won the 3rd prize of the 1st Hangzhou Contemporary Music Festival "Art Creation Awards" International Orchestral Composition Competition and was premiered during the Hangzhou Contemporary Music Festival; In the same year, her orchestra work "A Journey to the West" was premiered during the 28th "Autumn in Chengdu" International Music Season. Her works were performed in China, United States and Europe.

Home Range:

Blue Whale / Pacific
Fin Whale / Mediterranean - Atlantic
Humpback / Atlantic
Right Whale / North Atlantic - Gulf

These scores are an abstraction of the mapped migration of four different types of whales during the span of one year. They also are created or paired with areas where large human migration corridors exist. These maps/scores consider the different needs of migration amongst species. The scores trace a real place of constant movement, but they are intended to be translated into sound rather than help us find the actual location, or distance.

Reading Mantle Petrology is based on photomicrographic images of mantle stones captured by Emily J. Chin, Associate Professor in Geosciences at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. These microscopic photographs reveal the intricate details and textures of thin rock sections from the Earth's mantle, presented as a scrolling score with traditional musical notation overlaid on Chin's images to create a continuously moving visual landscape across the screen. Loadbang interprets these images, reading the petrology and transforming it into sound, and is accompanied by percussionists Mitchell Carlstrom and Stephen de Filippo, who use piezo contact microphones to amplify the grinding and scraping sounds of stones. In this way, both the visual and physical properties of the stone are sonically reimaged, blurring the lines between the microscopic and the musical.



Prof. Emily Chin
Geologist,
Scripps Institution
of Oceanography



Dr. Joshua Jones
Oceanographer,
Scripps Institution
of Oceanography



Charles Deluga
Software developer,
Lei Lab



Prof. Lei Liang
Composer,
UC San Diego Music
Department, Lei Lab,
QI Composer-in-
Residence

Moe Penders is a Salvadoran artist, whose practice is mainly framed in traditional photography. They moved to Houston in 2009 to attend the University of Houston where they received their BFA in Photography and Digital Media and are currently completing their MFA at UC San Diego. Moe's work explores the social construction of home, intersectionality of identity and gender expression. Recently Moe has been developing maps which explore translation within cuirnes (queerness) and migration, these maps also serve as graphic scores to be interpreted and presented by musicians.

Stephen de Filippo is a composer and performer from Wardandi country in the southwest corner of Australia, currently a PhD candidate in music composition at UC San Diego. His music blends score-based concert works with electro-acoustic elements, featuring intricate notation, contemporary techniques, and dense soundscapes crafted from field recordings and live electronics.

Last year, Stephen was a visiting research fellow at Harvard University's Department of Music and Harvard's Institute of Australian Studies, where he researched how a cultural cringe—a colonial inferiority complex—underpins much of Australia's nationalistic music culture, focusing on the music of Peter Sculthorpe.

In 2024, he will be collaborating with artists including flautist Julianna Eidle (US), violinist Sarah Saviet (GER), Loadbang (US), Ensemble Apparät (GER), Low Frequency Trio (MEX), and a new collaborative performance project with friend, composer, and pianist Anthony R. Green.

Special thanks to Cristina Della Coletta, Dean of the School of Arts & Humanities, and Shahrokh Yadegari, Director of IDEAS, for your continued support.