

NewEar

contemporary
chamber
ensemble

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newEar presents *Equilibrium* on January 23 and January 25

Kansas City, MO - newEar contemporary chamber ensemble launches into 2004 with *Equilibrium*, an evening of contemporary chamber music in a dynamic state of balance, on **Friday, January 23, 2004, at 8:00 pm** at the Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire in Lawrence, Kansas and **Sunday, January 25, 2004, at 5:00 pm** at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 13th and Holmes Streets in downtown Kansas City, Missouri. A pre-concert dialogue with composers Ingrid Stölzel and Paul Rudy will begin forty-five minutes prior to each concert.

Perhaps no other contemporary American composer has more effectively embodied the idea of "balance between contrasting elements" than Jacob Druckman. His music is characterized by an arresting dramaticism that at the same time exhibits careful structure and meticulous attention to detail. Druckman's *Counterpoise* (1996), for soprano voice and chamber ensemble was the last piece the composer would write before his death. He chose texts of opposing character from the poetry of Guillaume Apollinaire and Emily Dickinson and set them to exquisite instrumental timbres. Rebecca Sherburn is the featured vocal soloist with newEar for *Counterpoise*.

Jacob Druckman (1928-1996) devoted himself to the exploration of sound and color, both instrumental and electronic. His orchestral works included commissions from the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Baltimore Symphony and Radio France. As the New York Philharmonic's composer-in-residence (1982-85) Druckman explored the emerging New Romanticism in the programming of three controversial and influential Horizons festivals. He was a noted teacher at Juilliard, Bard College, Tanglewood and Yale University. His 1972 composition for orchestra, *Windows*, earned him the Pulitzer Prize.

Between the Lines (2003) for flute, cello and piano by Kansas City composer Ingrid Stölzel will receive its **world premiere** performance. Stölzel explores the mysterious interplay beyond the printed page where the musicians' interpretation and the listeners' reception of a contemporary work figure as an integral part of the aural experience.

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PODS (2003) by University of Missouri, Kansas City professor and composer Paul Rudy is a highly structured work scored for improvisational ensemble and computer generated sounds. *PODS* is presented in its Kansas City premiere. Rudy states that the concept for *PODS* stems from slowly unfolding sound, as if watching plants through time lapse photography, first growing, then flowering, and finally going to seed.

Completing the evening's offerings are Italian composer Stefano Gervasoni's *Rigirio* (2000) scored for the intriguing combination of baritone saxophone, percussion and piano; and an earlier work by local composer James Mobberley, *Toccatas and Interludes* (1991) for chamber ensemble.

Individual tickets for *Equilibrium* are \$15 at the door, \$12 in advance and \$8 for students with valid ID. For ticket information call the **Central Ticket Office** at **816-235-6222** or toll-free at **1-888-286-4849**. For more information on the concerts and artists visit the web at **www.newear.org** or contact Jan Faidley (913-671-7368, jfaid74702@aol.com) or Mark Lowry (816-523-1764, marktammie@aol.com).

PHOTOGRAPHS: Print-quality downloadable photographs of newEar, Ingrid Stölzel and Paul Rudy are available at www.newear.org

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