



contemporary chamber ensemble

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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newEar to Begin Season With a Bang

newEar contemporary chamber music ensemble presents **Roots**, an evening of eclectic new music on **Friday, September 15, 2006 at 8:00 PM** at Unity Temple on the Plaza, in Kansas City, MO. A pre-concert talk with composers Paul Elwood, Craig Comstock, Mara Gibson and newEar pianist/composer Robert Pherigo will begin at 7:15 p.m.

Two special guest artists, Paul Elwood and Craig Comstock, will join forces with newEar performers in an evening of unexpected sounds. Paul Elwood, a professor of music theory and composition at Brevard College, North Carolina, will join newEar performers in the performance of his *Stanley Kubrick's Mountain Home* (2001). Elwood combines chamber and bluegrass music and takes inspiration from the films of Stanley Kubrick, particularly *2001: a Space Odyssey*. The composition is scored for soprano, flute, clarinet, piano, violin, cello, and bluegrass band, featuring the composer on the five-string banjo.

Craig Comstock's one-man band, *This Is My Condition*, will join forces with newEar in his new work *Survival* (2005). Comstock plays guitar, drums and sings all at the same time. *Survival* is a structured improvisation for any number of musicians. The performers improvise based on a set of basic rules involving an ascending major scale, a simple rhythm and a few timbral specifications. The piece is about summoning the inner strength it takes to survive dire circumstances. It is offered as a psalm of hope and a prayer of determination to those whose situations are orders of magnitude worse than our own.

Twenty-five (one) (2006) is the first section of a projected twenty-five section work for flute and piano written by newEar pianist Robert Pherigo. It is a gift to his wife, Lyra, given in celebration of their 25th Wedding Anniversary and in appreciation for 25 plus years of wonderful music making together. Tonight's concert will feature the composer and his wife Lyra Pherigo on flute in the **world premiere performance**.

Also on the program Michael Lowenstern's *Spasm* (1993) for bass clarinet and tape, Evan Chambers' *Longing for Peace in the Garden of Lost Children* (2005), scored for flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano, percussion and live electronics, and *Vocalis e* (2006) by Mara Gibson.

Tickets for newEar's **Roots** are \$20 and \$8 for students with 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 <http://www.newear.org> or contact Ingrid Stölzel (816-756-0570, istolzel@crn.org).

PHOTOGRAPHS: Print-quality downloadable photographs of newEar are available at <http://www.newear.org/>

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- *Always release date info and contact info at top of release.*
- *First paragraph always contains the salient info – (what/when/where/time)..*
- *Last part of the release should contain ticket information/website info/financial sponsorship (if any).*
- *If the press release is more than 1p in length put the wording “MORE” centered at the bottom of the first page. Then place “#####” centered at the bottom of the last page. Best to keep releases to one page if possible.*

Joanne