

David Feurzeig, composer and pianist, was twice a featured guest at the International Composer's Festival in Bangkok, and his *Songs of Love and Protest* were premiered in the fabled Semper Opera House of Dresden for the city's 800th jubilee in 2006. Since moving to Vermont, he has composed commissions for the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, the Burlington Chamber Orchestra, and other area groups. A new CD of his string music will be released by American Modern Recordings this spring. He teaches composition and theory at the University of Vermont.

Akito van Troyer is a Ph.D. candidate and a research assistant in Prof. Tod Machover's Opera of the Future group at the MIT Media Lab. Akito focuses on developing new interfaces for musical expression and human interaction with sound. His research lies in using computational acoustic design, sonic interaction design, and music signal processing to transform everyday environments into playful media to facilitate and permeate creative thinking in those environments.

Ben Bloomberg is a 3rd-year Ph.D. student at the MIT Media Lab. He has helped design and mix productions for Prof. Machover since starting at MIT in 2007, including *Death and the Powers*, all five City Symphonies to date, and *Fensadense* for Hyper-ensemble. Outside the Media Lab, he has worked with artists such as Quincy Jones, Bjork and Jacob Collier on customized instruments and performance technology. His goal is to create technology which brings the performers closer to the audience instead of diminishing them in the presence of large screens, speakers, and sets.



UVM Burack Distinguished Lecture Series

Friday, October 14, 2016 at 7:30 PM

Music Building Recital Hall

Music of Tod Machover

Mary Bonhag, *soprano*

Evan Premo, *double bass*

Tod Machover, *cello*

David Feurzeig, *piano*

Ben Bloomberg, Akito van Troyer, and Tod Machover,
electronics

This concert is made possible by the generous support of the Burack President's Distinguished Lecturer Series, the UVM Humanities Center, and the Department of Music and Dance. Thanks also to D. Thomas Toner, Kelly Dutra, Andrea Aquino, Natalie Neuert and the Lane Series, John Forbes, Robert Snapp, Alison Pechenick, Bert Crosby, Jacob September, Jennifer Karson, Susan Davidson, Gary Derr, and Sizi Chen.

PROGRAM

Open Up the House (2014) for soprano and piano

HyperEtudes (2004) for piano

Glade

Winding Line

Punchy

Miranda's Aria from *Death and the Powers (2010)*

for soprano, piano and electronics

Vocal Vibrations (2014)

for soprano and multichannel electronics

VinylCello (2007; revised 2016) for HyperCello and electronics

INTERMISSION

Soft Morning, City! (1980)

for soprano, double bass and electronics

Physical (2016) for cello, electronics and “interactive physicality”,
with “MM-RT” by Akito van Troyer

In awarding him the Kurzweil Prize for Technology in Music, inventor, entrepreneur and Google VP Raymond Kurzweil wrote: “Tod Machover is the only person I am aware of who contributes on a world-class level to both the technology of music creation and to music itself. Even within these two distinct areas, Tod’s contributions are remarkably diverse, and of exquisite quality.”

Performer Biographies

Praised for her “pure and pliable” singing (*Times-Argus VT*), **Mary Bonhag** is a bold young soprano dedicated to the communicative potentials of music. She made her Carnegie Hall solo debut in 2009 singing scenes from David T. Little’s new chamber opera *Dog Days* and in 2007, she created the role of “Eve” for the Pine Mountain Music Festival premiere of *The Diaries of Adam and Eve*, a chamber opera by Evan Premo. Mary has performed as part of the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, Fontana Chamber Arts Festival, the Maui Classical Music Festival, Strings in the Mountains, Cactus Pear Music Festival, the Lancaster Music Festival, SongFest, Yellow Barn, and has soloed with the American Symphony Orchestra in NYC. She has been featured on the NPR shows *Performance Today* and *From the Top*. After studying at the University of Michigan, she earned her M.A. at Dawn Upshaw’s graduate vocal program at Bard College, winning concerto competitions at both institutions. She lives in Vermont where she runs *Scrag Mountain Music*, an innovative concert series with her husband, double bassist and composer Evan Premo.

As a member of Decoda, bassist **Evan Premo** has designed and led four residencies in Abu Dhabi, UAE and performed at the Barbican’s *Sound Unbound Festival* in London. As a member of Ensemble ACJW Evan has performed many concerts at Carnegie Hall and participated in residencies in Spain and Germany. Evan lives in Marshfield, Vermont with his wife, soprano Mary Bonhag. Together they are the founders and artistic directors of Scrag Mountain Music, dedicated to presenting innovative, interactive, and affordable performances of chamber music.