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**INTERMUSIC SF ANNOUNCES**

**THE 2023 MUSICAL GRANT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS**

Date, 2023 - SAN FRANCISCO— InterMusic SF proudly announces the **25 recipients** of this year's **Musical Grant Program**. The Musical Grant Program (MGP) is a funding initiative designed to support outstanding projects of early music, chamber music, new music, jazz, and creative music in the greater San Francisco Bay Area.

The MGP awards grants through a competitive process to projects that showcase the artistry of local ensembles and enhance the careers of professional musicians. The program aims to foster excellence in the Bay Area’s diverse musical community while cultivating greater access and genuine engagement for new and existing audiences.

Every year, applications are accepted from both emerging and established organizations with budgets below $150,000, including professional small ensembles, composers with collaborating ensembles, and presenting organizations. The MGP is one of a very small number of grants available to this community, and as such plays a crucial role in maintaining cultural opportunities for the public. Now in its 15th cycle, the MGP has proven an extraordinary resource in contributing to the variety and breadth of Northern California’s musical landscape.

In June 2023, the Musical Grant Program awarded grants of up to $4,000 to 25 ensembles, composers, and presenters. The projects described below tell the story of the tremendous diversity and creativity within San Francisco Bay Area's musical community.  **We extend our deepest gratitude to the** [**Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation**](http://www.cehcf.org/), the [**William and Flora Hewlett Foundation**](https://www.hewlett.org/)**,** and **our many donors** for their generosity. Since 2008, InterMusic SF has awarded **$1,099,949 to help support 374 musical projects**.

**MGP 2023 Awardees:**

*(List of Ensembles with genre and brief project descriptions)*

**AGAVE** — *Chamber Music / Historical Performance*

[AGAVE](https://www.agavebaroque.org/) will produce and release their album, “AGAVE: In Her Hands,” featuring works by outstanding female composers across four centuries. The album will be released August 2023 through Acis Productions.

**Ars Minerva** — *Early Music / Opera*

[Ars Minerva](https://www.arsminerva.org/) will perform “Olimpia Vendicata,” an opera composed by Domenico Freschi in 1682, in October 2023 at ODC Theater. Six instrumentalists and six singers will perform in this fully-staged opera with costumes and projections, for the first time since its creation in Venice during the 17th century.

**Ben Bernstein** — *Contemporary / Opera*

Ben Bernstein will compose and produce a one-act opera entitled "Never Mind,”featuring [Shawnette Sulker](https://www.shawnettesulker.com/), coloratura soprano, two baroque instrumentalists, and digital sound artist, Gregory Lenczycki. [The Singer’s Gym](https://singersgym.org/) will premiere the work at St. Clement's Church in Oakland, March 2024, with outreach performances in Bay Area schools and community centers.

**Berkeley Chamber Performances / Allen Shearer and Claudia Stevens** — *Contemporary / Opera*

[Berkeley Chamber Performances](https://berkeleychamberperform.org/) will present the world premiere of “Einstein at Princeton,” an opera by composer [Allen Shearer](https://allenshearer.com/) and librettist Claudia Stevens on December 5, 2023 at the Berkeley City Club.

**Brass Over Bridges** — *Classical / New Music*

Brass Over Bridges will record works by women composers, [Julie Barwick](https://www.juliebarwick.com), [Reena Esmail](https://www.reenaesmail.com), and [Dale Trumbore](https://www.daletrumbore.com). The recording will be released as an EP in the fall of 2024.

**Buena Onda Tango Ensemble** — *Argentine Tango*

Buena Onda Tango Ensemble will produce a recording featuring contemporary tango pieces composed and arranged by [Sumi Lee](https://www.sumilee.com/) with a concert presenting the recorded works at the Red Poppy art house.

**David James's GPS** — *Jazz*

David James's GPS will present the premiere performance of a newly completed song cycle, by [David James](https://www.heydavidjames.com), September 22 at the Brava Theater in San Francisco.

**Earplay / Byron Au Yong** — *Contemporary*

[Earplay](https://www.earplay.org/) will commission [Byron Au Yong](https://byronauyong.com/) to create a new work for chamber ensemble to be premiered on the closing concert of Earplay’s 2024 season, and during the noon concert series at San Francisco State University.

**Ensemble for These Times / David Garner** — *Contemporary*

[Ensemble for These Times](https://e4tt.org/) will commission [David Garner](https://www.davidgarner.us/) to compose a piano trio for E4TT’s 2024 commissions concert, "Expression: Ism," including a new arrangement of “Sieben Fruehe Lieder” (Seven Early Songs) by Alban Berg, plus recent works by contemporary composers Laura Schwendinger, Anthony R. Green, and Adolphus Hailstork.

**Erika Oba Trio** — *Jazz*

[Erika Oba Trio](https://erikaoba.com) will record an album featuring Erika Oba (piano), Chris Bastian (bass),and Jeremy Steinkoler (drums) with guest musician, Anjna Swaminathan (violin/voice) with a projected CD release concerts in the East Bay and San Francisco in June 2024.

**Jazz in the Neighborhood / Michael Echaniz / The Electric Squeezebox Orchestra** — *Jazz*

[Jazz in the Neighborhood](https://jazzintheneighborhood.org/) will commission [Michael Echaniz](https://www.michaelechaniz.com/) to write a piece for [The Electric Squeezebox Orchestra](https://www.electricsqueezeboxorchestra.com/) to be presented on October 29, 2023 at the Dresher Ensemble Studio in West Oakland. This free event additionally involves three outstanding young emerging musicians and will celebrate Jazz in the Neighborhood's tenth anniversary.

**John Coltrane Church / Global Spiritual Community** — Jazz / *Spiritual*

The [St. John Coltrane Church of San Francisco](https://www.coltranechurch.org/) will present unique sonic jazz Vespers of John Coltrane’s Ascension at Grace Cathedral with the eastern spiritual music of his wife, the honorable Swami Turiyasangitananda (Alice Coltrane) featuring performances by members of the Coltrane Church who performed with Alice Coltrane.

**Jordan Glenn's BEAK** — *Creative Music / Jazz*

[Jordan Glenn’s BEAK](http://jordanglennmusic.com/) will premiere “The Party,” an evening length music and video work set to premiere at The Paul Dresher Ensemble’s West Oakland studio on February 9, 2024. The project will incorporate new instruments built by [Sudhu Tewari](http://www.sudhutewari.com/), with projections by video artists Christopher Farstad and Mitch Stahlmann.

**La Doña** — *Latinx Musics*

[La Doña](https://www.ladona415.com/) will commission arrangements and arrange for a 17 piece band of local women-of-color musicians. This will be recorded live at Different Fur Records and captured on video for release on Youtube and all public platforms.

**Lieder Alive!** — *Classical*

[LIEDER ALIVE!](https://liederalive.org/) will present a world premiere song cycle composed by [Quinn Mason](https://www.masonianmusic.com/) with mezzo-soprano [Kindra Scharich](https://www.kindrascharich.com), and pianist [Jeffrey LaDeur](https://www.jeffreyladeur.com/), based on poetry by conductor/poet [Kalina Bovell](https://www.kalenabovell.com/).

**Mariah Parker** — Jazz

[Mariah Parker](https://mariahparkermusic.com/) will record and premiere a new album of original compositions, 'Windows Through Time,' that explores the intersection between contemporary jazz and the musical cultures of Brazil, Cuba, India and Spain.

**Matt Renzi Quartet** — *Jazz*

[Matt Renzi](https://www.mattrenzi.com/) will record and produce an album of original compositions with the Matt Renzi Quartet featuring elements of Jazz, Chamber Music, and free improvisation.

**Melody of China / Phil Young** — *Chinese Traditional Music*

[Melody of China](https://melodyofchina.org/) will perform a newly commissioned work featuring traditional Chinese instruments by [Phil Young](https://philyoungmusic.com/) (Chinese name, Yang Zhi-Hua) in a concert on Sunday, June 23, 2024 at the BRAVA Cabaret in San Francisco along with selections from the traditional Chinese repertoire, and modern interpretations of popular Chinese melodies.

**Mike Marshall & Caterina Lichtenberg** — *Contemporary*

[Mike Marshall](https://mikemarshall.net/) and [Caterina Lichtenberg](https://caterinalichtenberg.com/) will create a new work featuring mandolins and mandocello, bringing together a wide range of mandolin styles including German classical mandolin with traditional American bluegrass, jazz and world musics traditions. The new work will debut at the Freight and Salvage in Berkeley in 2024 and will be recorded for their next CD Project.

**Monica Scott / sfSound** — *New Music*

Cellist and composer [Monica Scott](https://monicascott.net/) will compose “Migrations,” to be performed by [sfSoundGroup](http://sfsound.org/) on March 23, 2024 at [LIGHTFAST](https://lightfast.us/) 2024, an installation/exhibition at the [di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art](https://www.dirosaart.org/).

**Nomad Session / Sahba Aminikia** — *Contemporary*

[Nomad Session](https://www.nomadsession.org/) will commission [Sahba Aminikia](https://www.sahbakia.com/) to compose “Raghsan” - a collection of Iranian dance music written for wind octet and solo clarinet featuring soloist, Jeff Anderle. The work will be premiered March 2024 at the Del Valle Fine Arts in Livermore, May 2024 at Noe Music in San Francisco, and recorded at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music to be included on Nomad Session and Jeff Anderle’s 2nd collaborative album scheduled for released in November 2024.

**Outsound Presents / Ornettology** — *Jazz*

[Outsound Presents](https://outsound.org/) will host Ornettology, an all-star Bay Area ensemble led by [Myles Boisen](https://mylesboisen.com/), on the final night of the 20th Outsound New Music Summit on July 31, 2023. This energetic creative septet pays homage to Ornette Coleman’s compositions through varied sonic textures and surprising re-interpretations, group improvisation, and free jazz exploration.

**Richard Aldag / Jennifer Kloetzel & Allegra Chapman** — *Contemporary*

[Jennifer Kloetzel](https://jkcello.com/) and [Allegra Chapman](https://www.allegrachapman.com/) will present the world premiere of [Richard Aldag](https://www.richardaldag.com/)'s Sonata for cello & piano at Old First Concerts on Friday, June 9, 2023 and record the work for an album of Aldag's works.

**The Bow and the Brush / Trio Solano / Cindy Cox** — *New Music*

[The Bow and the Brush](https://thebowandthebrush.com/) will commission [Cindy Cox](https://cacox.com/) to compose a new work for [Trio Solano](https://triosolano.com/), inspired by a painting of the composer’s choice.The new work will be recorded at Hertz Hall, Berkeley, and included on the album, The Bow and the Brush Volume 2, to be released by MSR Classics in October 2024.

**Trinity Alps Chamber Music Festival / Sam Reider** — *Classical*

[Trinity Alps Chamber Music Festival](https://www.trinityalpscmf.org/) will host [Sam Reider](http://www.samreidermusic.com/) as composer-in-residence for the 2023-2024 season. Reider will compose and perform a newly commissioned work with TACMF musicians during a weekend of 3 concerts in Bay Area venues, in a program that will also feature a setting Aaron Copland’s “Appalachian Spring” for 13 instruments.

**About InterMusic SF**

InterMusic SF is a San Francisco Bay Area non-profit organization that advocates for those who create, share, and love the art of small ensemble music. InterMusic SF acts as a catalyst to help local artists thrive via career development and creative collaboration.

**Calendar Editors Please Note:**

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**Information:** For more information visit [https://www.intermusicsf.org/mgp/](https://www.intermusicsf.org/musical-grant-program/)

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Link to Press Photos: <https://www.intermusicsf.org/press-page/>

Link to Website: [https://www.intermusicsf.org/mgp/](https://www.intermusicsf.org/musical-grant-program/)

For more information on the Musical Grant Program please contact marcus@intermusicsf.org