



October 26, 2008 1:00 PM

In Jan Hus Sanctuary
351 E. 74th
NYC, NY 10021

Brought to you by

Vox Novus - Remarkable Theater Brigade - Jan Hus Church

Program

Sottovoce

Luca Vanneschi

Duo for Violin and Cello

Jeff Harrington

Living Room Music

John Cage

Slipping Image

Sean Varah

Goodnight Nobody

Jay C. Batzner

Points and Lines

Dominic Donato

The Cadillac Moon Ensemble is dedicated to the exploration of new sonorous and evocative aural possibilities, commissioning new works from and developing integral relationships with emerging and established composers, and challenging ourselves, our composers, and our audiences alike, all while having a bit of fun. Their commitment to these objectives and our unique instrumentation of flute, violin, cello, and percussion yields a stimulating and untapped reservoir from which new musical voices will be discovered and nurtured. Cadillac Moon Ensemble consists of Roberta Michel-flutes, Jeffrey Phillips-violin/viola, Evelyn Farny-cello, and Danielle Weinberg-percussion.

Presented in collaboration by
Vox Novus Remarkable Theater Brigade Jan Hus Church

Luca Vanneschi was born in 1962, in Montepulciano, Italy. He studied composition under Detlav Glanert, Carlo Alberto Neri, David Graham, and Dinu Ghezzo. His pieces are performed and broadcast worldwide, and he has received a shower of awards. Since 2002, he has been a fellow in the North American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Jeffrey Harrington was born in 1955 in Forest, Mississippi. His mother and father were amateur musicians who played the popular music of the 40's and 50's for fun. In high school he taught himself blues and boogie-woogie piano and built a synthesizer from parts. He began composing when he was 17 and won a composition contest for a serial composition using an isorhythm derived from a Billy Cobham song bass line. Harrington continued his composition studies at LSU and at the Juilliard School where he studied in the Master's program with Elliott Carter and Roger Sessions. He has also studied with Morton Subotnick, Jacob Druckman (master class), Joan LaBarbara, James Drew, Barbara Jazwinski and Deborah Drattell. "Harrington is the most intriguing new figure I've discovered on the Web..." Kyle Gann, Village Voice, July 7, 1999

John Cage (1912 –1992) was an American composer. A pioneer of chance music, electronic music and non-standard use of musical instruments, Cage was one of the leading figures of the post-war avant-garde and, in the opinion of many, the most influential American composer of the 20th century. *Living Room Music* is a musical composition by John Cage, composed in 1940. It is a quartet for unspecified instruments, all of which may be found in a living room of a typical house, hence the title (Pritchett, 1993, 20). *Living Room Music* is dedicated to Cage's then-wife Xenia. The work consists of four movements: "To Begin", "Story", "Melody", and "End". Cage instructs the performers to use any household objects or architectural elements as instruments, and gives examples: magazines, cardboard, "largish books", floor, wooden frame of window, etc. The first and the last movements are percussion music for said instruments. In the second movement the performers transform into a speech quartet: the music consists entirely of pieces of Gertrude Stein's short poem "The World Is Round" (Pritchett, 1998) spoken or sung, accompanied at times with vocal percussion akin to beatboxing. The third movement is optional. It includes a melody played by one of the performers on "any suitable instrument."

A composer and cellist, **Sean Varah** was raised in Vancouver, Canada, and studied composition at Stanford and Columbia Universities. In his graduate studies, he worked with Mario Davidovsky, adapting traditional electronic tape studio techniques to digital technology. He co-founded the Harvard Computer Music Center in 1994, and taught there for three years before moving to San Francisco, where he works in the technology industry. His works have been performed in Carnegie Hall, the National Arts Center in Ottawa, Canada, and broadcast on NPR and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Jay C. Batzner is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Central Florida where he teaches theory, composition, and technology courses as well as coordinates the composition program. He holds degrees in composition and/or theory from the University of Missouri – Kansas City, the University of Louisville, and the University of Kansas. Jay's music is primarily focused around instrumental chamber works as well as electroacoustic composition. *Goodnight, Nobody* is a quiet and contemplative. The title comes from the most unusual line in the children's book Goodnight Moon.

Dr. Dominic Donato is active as a percussion soloist, chamber musician, and teacher. He is a member of the Talujon Percussion Quartet and Newband and performs regularly with many New York new music groups and orchestras, including Ensemble 21, the ST-X Ensemble, Washington Square Chamber Music Society, League of Composers/ISCM, American Composers Orchestra, Brooklyn Philharmonic, Eos Orchestra, and Riverside Symphony. As a soloist, Dominic has performed in New York City (Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Symphony Space, The Kitchen, Experimental Intermedia Foundation, the Bang on a Can Festival, Washington Square Church), Rome, Amsterdam, and Paris, where he gave the French premiere of Iannis Xenakis' "Percussion Concerto, Omega." In October 1999, he was invited to the Donaueschingen Music Festival, where he premiered James Tenney's "Song 'n' Dance for Harry Partch" with the SWR Symphony Orchestra. His solo performances include "Ais for Amplified Baritone, Percussion Soloist, and Large Orchestra" by Iannis Xenakis at the May 2000 Gulbenkian Festival in Lisbon, Portugal.