Harvard Group
for New Music

Ben
Roidl-Ward

8PM
October 15

John Knowles Paine Hall
Harvard University

Ben Roidl-Ward

bassoon

VICTOR ARUL

Nonmeagre 2023

DARCY COPELAND

rift-haze 2023

JONAH HAVEN

aren't wet 2019/23

HGNM AND BEN ROIDL-WARD

Improvisation - 2023

Please join us following the concert for a reception in the Taft Lounge downstairs

About the music

VICTOR ARUL

Nonmeagre 2023

This piece is an exploration of an imagined situation in which a thing is forced to continuously exert energy in a confined environment.

BIO Victor Arul is a composer from Perth, Western Australia. He holds undergraduate degrees from the Universities of Melbourne and Western Australia. Prior to his studies at Harvard, Victor has had the privilege of receiving compositional guidance from James Ledger, Olivia Davies, Elliott Gyger, Christopher Tonkin, Tim Dargaville, Miriama Young, Stuart Greenbaum, Melody Eötvös, and Iain Grandage.

DARCY COPELAND

rift-haze 2023

for bassoon and electronics

rift-haze is an experiment in breaking. multi-phonics play a prominent role in the piece, the bassoon becoming a site of multiplicities in which numerous pitches fight for space, resulting in affectations from the raucous to the delicate. this piece explores the breaking points of these multi phonics, peering into them and extracting their innards through electronic extension while Ben, the performer, meanders through the haziness of the sound world.

BIO Darcy Copeland is a composer of contemporary classical music based in Boston, MA. Working with acoustic instruments and electronics, she is motivated by primal curiosity of the physical world and what it means to be alive within it. Her work interrogates themes of vulnerability, materiality, and palpability to instigate new ways of being in the world through sound. In addition to composition, she is also a performer and scholar. Her current research within new materialism, sonic embodiment, and post-humanism has informed her recent works with a focus on ecological modalities and activism. In 2022, Darcy joined the PhD program in composition at Harvard

University, studying with Chaya Czernowin and Hans Tutschku. She holds a master of music in composition from the University of Washington in Seattle, WA and a bachelor of music in composition from Columbia College Chicago.

JONAH HAVEN

aren't wet 2019/23

for prepared bassoon

my name is gasoline. i have no thoughts.
i hold your hand, like you,
i smell bad. i buy pastries now.

call me gasser. i love mud now.
i ground your city, even you,
i taste it. i burn a million years.

BIO Jonah Haven is a composer from the US. Driven by writers of Auto-theory, he composes as a way of bearing loose witness to his life — an expression of aging. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Composition from Oberlin Conservatory under the guidance of Josh Levine and Aaron Helgeson, a Master's degree from the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz Köln with Brigitta Muntendorf, and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. at Harvard University with Chaya Czernowin and Hans Tutschku. His debut portrait CD *gasser* is out now on Wergo.

About Ben Roidl-Ward

Recently named one of 23 artists "changing the sound of classical music" by the Washington Post, Ben Roidl-Ward is the Assistant Professor of Bassoon at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He also holds positions as Principal Bassoonist of the Chicago Sinfonietta, Co-Principal Bassoonist of Sinfonia Da Camera, and Second Bassoonist of the Illinois Symphony. A committed performer of contemporary music, Ben is the Solo Bassoonist of Ensemble Dal Niente and a Contemporary Leader for the Lucerne Festival in Switzerland. He has performed with the Chicago Symphony and the New York Philharmonic, released a solo album named to Bandcamp's "Best of Contemporary Classical" list, and served as Artist-in-Residence for the Bienen Institute for New Music at Northwestern University. Ben's dedication to working with composers of his generation has led him to premiere over 125 compositions to date. He studied with David McGill (Northwestern University), Ben Kamins (Rice University), George Sakakeeny (Oberlin Conservatory), and Francine Peterson.

About HGNM

Jonah Haven
Director

Jonah Haven, Darcy Copeland, Victor Arul, Jelani Surpris, Chris Lock, Sonja Mutić, Golnaz Shariatzadeh, Kelley Sheehan
Members

Established in 1984, Harvard Group for New Music brings together the community of graduate student composers at Harvard University. The primary purpose of HGNM is to perform works by its membership, to develop musical and professional relationships beyond the group, and to provide fora for regular critical discussion with weekly presentations from current students as well as guest speakers.

hgnm.org

Acknowledgments

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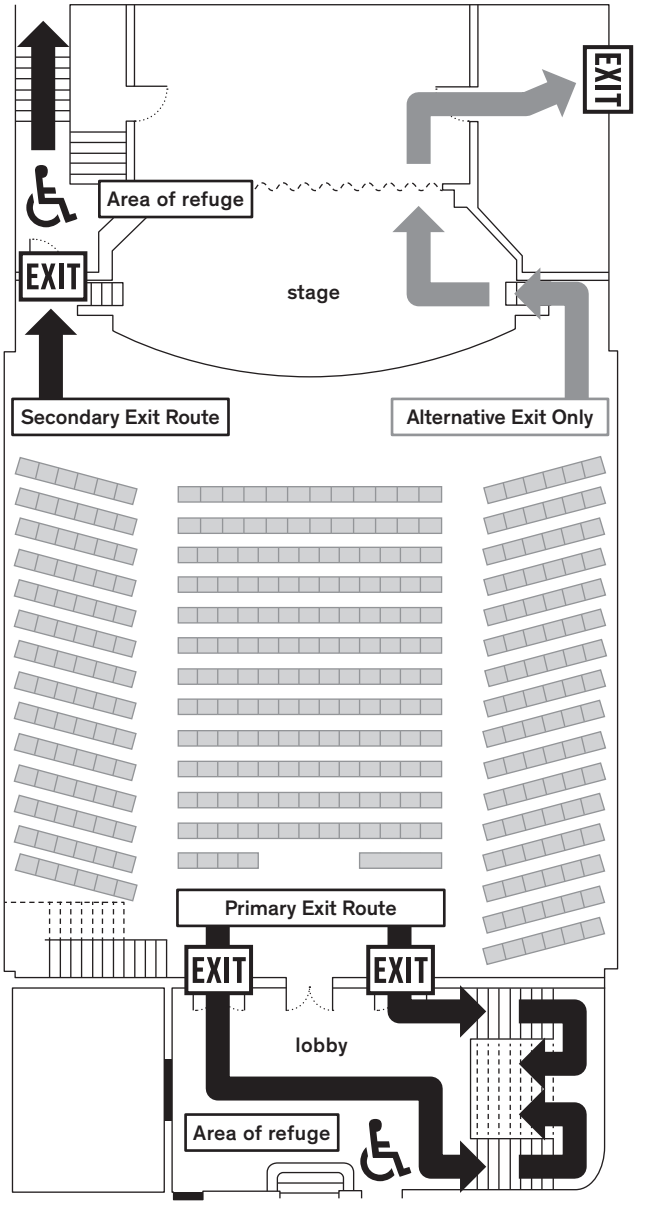
Music Department Staff

John Knowles Paine Hall

For your safety, please note the location of the nearest emergency exit:



2023–24 Concert Season

Sunday, 15 October 2023

Ben Roidl-Ward

Friday, 2 February 2024

supported by the Goldberg Foundation

Broken Frames Syndicate

Wednesday, 27 March 2024

supported by the Fromm Foundation

zone expérimentale