Paul Frucht

"composer with a career to follow" – Hearst Media

About Paul

Hailed as a "composer with a career to follow" by Hearst Media, Paul Frucht is an American composer whose music has been acclaimed for its "sense of lyricism, driving pulse, and great urgency" (WQXR), "jagged beauty" (Buffalo News) and "excellent orchestration" (Ridgefield Press). His music has been commissioned and performed by the Minnesota Orchestra, American Composers Orchestra, Atlantic Music Festival Orchestra, Chelsea Symphony, Juilliard Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra, San Diego Symphony, Weill-Cornell Music and Medicine Orchestra, Western Connecticut Youth Orchestra, American Modern Ensemble, Asian American New Music Institute, Euclid Quartet, Gamper Festival of Contemporary Music, LONGLEASH Trio, New York City Ballet Choreographic Institute, Utah Arts Festival, Buffalo Chamber Music Society, Midsummer's Music, and the Eastern Music Festival among numerous other performing ensembles and organizations.

Reviews

WQXR
"sense of lyricism, driving pulse, and great urgency"

BUFFALO NEWS
"a quartet piece where Ravel's vision morphed into an energetic mutant, but one with a certain jagged beauty that paid honor to the inspiration"

NEW YORK CLASSICAL REVIEW
"A soulful interior argument and lament, Reckoning was romantic and expressionistic, written with knowledge of the instruments, and the intense performance carried substantial and satisfying emotional power."

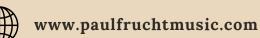paulfruchtmusic@gmail.com

www.paulfruchtmusic.com

Credits

His work *Forever is Composed of Nows* was recently commissioned and premiered by the Grammy-Award winning trio Time For Three in Ketchum, ID at the Argyros Performing Arts Center with subsequent performances at the Geneva Music Festival and Princeton Music Festival among other venues as the group tours with it this year. The 22-23 season also featured the world premiere of *There Are Stars*, a new work for flute and string quartet commissioned by the Sonora Collective which Paul adapted as a flute concerto with string orchestra premiered by Katie Althen and the Charles Ives Music Festival Chamber Orchestra led by Eric Mahl. Additionally, *Finding Religion*, a new work commissioned for violinist Jeffrey Multer, cellist Julian Schwarz, and the Eastern Music Festival Orchestral lead by Gerard Schwarz. The 23-24 season will feature the world premiere of *Rhapsody II*, a new string quartet commissioned by the Carpe Diem String Quartet, performances of Paul's violin and piano work *What a Time*, performed by William Shaub, the concertmaster of the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, a new piano *Inextinguishable* to be premiered by violinist Giora Schmidt, cellist Julian Schwarz, and pianist Marika Bournaki at Holocaust remembrance event with author Martin Goldsmith, and the release of the Ulysses Quartet's new album "Romani Folklore" which features Paul's *Rhapsody*.

Paul has long prioritized cultural engagement through his work as a composer and artistic leader. In 2013, he wrote Dawn, in memory of Sandy Hook Elementary School Principal, Dawn Hochsprung, who was his middle school principal when he was a student at Rogers Park Middle School in Danbury, CT, which neighbors Newtown, CT. The work honors her legacy of courage and dedication to education and has been performed around the United States by the American Composers Orchestra, Atlantic Music Festival Orchestra, Bowling Green State University Orchestra, Chelsea Symphony, Eastern Music Festival Orchestra, and Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra. The wind band version was recently premiered by the UMKC Conservatory Wind Symphony led by Steven Davis, who will lead a subsequent performance at Interlochen Center for the Arts with the World Youth Wind Symphony in August 2023. Additionally, in 2021, the Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra led by Yuga Cohler gave the world premiere of A More Perfect Union, an orchestral song cycle for baritone and orchestral based on the speeches of Pres. Obama, commissioned for baritone Jorell Williams and the Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra. Paul and Yuga collaborated on the work with Cody Keenan, Pres. Obama's chief speechwriter and the work was featured in a NowThis feature.

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Credits

Recently, Paul was named the winner of the 2023 Lake George Music Festival Composition Competition. Additionally, he has been the recipient of a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Brian H. Israel Prize from the Society of New Music, an ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composers Award, Juilliard's Palmer Dixon, Arthur Friedman, and Gena Raps Prizes, the American Composers Orchestra's 2016 Audience Choice Award and has been recognized for his work by the Copland House, American Modern Ensemble, the Nashville Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Red Note New Music Festival, Chelsea Symphony, Periapsis Music and Dance, the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra, and the Spectrum Chamber Music Society.

In 2015, Paul founded the Charles Ives Music Festival (CIMF), of which he currently serves as the artistic director. Based in Ridgefield, CT, CIMF explores the rich history of Ives and his legacy, American music, through dynamic artist concerts and interactive educational events, with a particular focus on presenting the works of living American composers. The festival presents ten concerts and events per year, primarily concentrated during the first two weeks of August when the festival holds its educational programming, which brings talented artist-faculty from leading U.S. orchestras and chamber groups to CT to perform side-by-side with 55 youth musicians. Leading American musicians and composers including composer Kevin Puts, double bassist Ranaan Meyer, cellist Julian Schwarz, harpist Emily Levin, and composer Justin Dello Joio have been featured artists.

A passionate educator of all ages, he has been a faculty member at New York University's Steinhardt School since 2015. Paul received his doctoral of musical arts and master of music degrees at the Juilliard School and a B.M. from New York University, where he studied with Justin Dello Joio.

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