

# Art of Elan 2023/2024 Season Updates

## Season 17: TRUE NORTH

*A year-long musical journey of renewal*



*Art of Elan's 17th Season aims to inspire with a year-long musical journey that is both grounding and uplifting. Featuring beloved masterpieces alongside newly commissioned works, this special season is marked by a renewed commitment to authentic collaborations and meaningful, relevant programming for the San Diego community and online listeners everywhere.*

(SAN DIEGO, CA – August 31, 2023) – The 2023/2024 Art of Elan season, titled "True North," arrives after several years of exploring and challenging assumptions about what classical music can be in the 21st century. While collaboration has always been at the core of the organization's programming, partnerships take on new meaning for this 17th season in an effort to enhance the powerful work of our region's arts and culture organizations. Key collaborators include the [San Diego Symphony](#), Art Power, Vanguard Culture, La Jolla Music Society, A Reason To Survive (ARTS), [Mingei International Museum](#), Institute for Contemporary Art (ICA), The Preuss School, and longtime partner The San Diego Museum of Art.

This November, participation in the [CA Festival](#) (organized by the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the San Diego Symphony and the San Francisco Symphony) allows Art of Elan the opportunity to showcase the breadth of talent and innovation found in southern California, while activating a wide variety of spaces and neighborhoods throughout the region.

The season includes three world premieres of Art of Elan-commissioned works highlighting multimedia artist [Mason Bynes](#), LA Phil bassist and composer [Jory Herman](#), and composer/violinist [Michi Wiancko](#), as well as numerous West Coast and San Diego premieres. Featured artists include the [JACK Quartet](#), famed shakuhachi player [Kojiro Umezaki](#), experimental trumpeter/composer [Stephanie Richards](#), and San Diego's renowned [Hausmann Quartet](#).

## Full concert listing for the 2022/2023 Season "True North"

### "ENVZN Festival, presented by Vanguard Culture"

September 2, 2023 - 9:00 & 9:30 pm

LoHi Courtyard at The Soap Factory

2995 Commercial Street

San Diego, CA 92113

This September, Art of Elan joins more than 40 other visionary artists and arts organizations from both sides of the U.S./Mexico border for ENVZN23 Urban Art Takeover, a one-of-a-kind visual & performing arts festival, spearheaded by the innovative arts nonprofit [Vanguard Culture](#). This groundbreaking event will transform numerous warehouses, industrial spaces, and other urban areas of the Commercial Street corridor in Logan Heights with multi-sensory art interventions by creatives from both sides of the border.

Join Art of Elan in the LoHi Courtyard of the Soap Factory for two performances of Elliot Cole's [Flowerpot Music No.1](#), an open-length musical work which will be led by Art of Elan musicians and performed by the entire audience on sustainably-sourced flower pots. The piece consists of a duet played on flower pots with the musicians also leading audience members on their own flower pots to create an immersive and communal experience suitable for all ages. Over a fifteen-minute period, audience members are led through simple musical games with instructions given bilingually in English and Spanish.

ENVZN Festival - <https://vanguardculture.com/flowerpot-music/>

Ticket information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/envzn-urban-art-takeover-tickets-590733930087>

### "Maps & Memories"

October 19, 2023 - 7:00pm

Complimentary pre-concert champagne toast at 6:00pm

Mingei International Museum

Balboa Park, Plaza de Panama

1439 El Prado

San Diego, CA 92101

Tied to the WASHI TRANSFORMED exhibit that runs from October 14-January 7, this special program acts as a musical map to various places and points in time in history. Featuring the San Diego Children's Chorus in works by Ilse Weber, as well as "Six Japanese Gardens" for solo percussion by Kaija Saariaho, the evening ends with the Hausmann Quartet performing Kojiro Umezaki's "(Cycles) What Falls Must Rise" for shakuhachi, string quartet and electronics.

Ticket information:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/maps-and-memories-tickets-686255989137?aff=oddtcreator>

## **“California Festival Events”**

*As part of the inaugural California Festival - a collaboration between the San Diego Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and San Francisco Symphony, Art of Elan will present four unique programs that enliven neighborhoods from National City to Encinitas, CA.*

### **“In the Here & Now”**

November 5, 2023 - 4:30pm

The Rady Shell and Jacobs Park

Featuring a wide variety of composers whose new works collectively shape the soundtrack of our lives. From the spellbinding sounds of Juhi Bansal to the whirling folk melodies of Erberk Eryilmaz, this colorful program reminds us of our diversity, our shared humanity, and our ability to celebrate both.

Program includes:

- Select movements from "Parlour Games" by Michael Oesterle (written in 2022)
- "Trail of Stars" by Juhi Bansal for solo harp (written in 2020)
- "Cities of Air" for flute and string quartet by Paul Wiancko (written in 2021)
- "Red Nines" for solo piano by Anna Clyne (written in 2022)
- "Between Worlds" for solo violin by Carlos Simon (written in 2019)
- "Raki Havasi" for wind quintet and percussion by Erberk Eryilmaz (written in 2019)

*Ticket information:* [https://sandiegosymphony.formstack.com/forms/community\\_day\\_rady\\_shell\\_nov5](https://sandiegosymphony.formstack.com/forms/community_day_rady_shell_nov5)

### **“Downtown Sounds”**

*As part of the inaugural California Festival - a collaboration between the San Diego Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and San Francisco Symphony.*

November 15, 2023 - 7:00pm

Luce Loft

1037 J St

San Diego, CA 92101

Art of Elan's popular downtown series returns with an evening of thought-provoking new music that features the world premiere of works by Jory Herman and Mason Bynes along with new music by trumpeter/composer Steph Richards, drummer Andrew Munsey and others.

*Ticket information:*

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/downtown-sounds-tickets-690215522207?aff=oddtcreator>

## **“Young Artists in Harmony Showcase Concert”**

November 18, 2023 - 11am

A Reason To Survive (ARTS)  
200 E 12th St  
National City, CA 91950

Art of Elan musicians premiere Young Artists in Harmony (YAH) student works in this **free** community concert that additionally offers a complimentary reception and a chance to meet the composers and musicians who bring these new works to life.

About YAH:

Now in its 10th Season, Art of Elan offers each spring and fall its acclaimed “Young Artists in Harmony” (YAH) program in partnership with the nationally recognized [A Reason To Survive \(ARTS\)](#), a Creative Youth Development organization that believes in the power of the arts and creativity to literally transform lives. YAH consists of weekly Saturday workshops where high school and community college students have the opportunity to explore musical composition with professional musicians, to create and be part of a professionally recorded public performance, to meet and collaborate with other like-minded music students, and to build a musical composition portfolio. Participants in YAH receive weekly mentoring and coaching from professional Art of Elan musicians who workshop and provide feedback on student works. This unique program culminates each semester with a collaborative concert that showcases original compositions the students create over the 6-10 week period, performed by Art of Elan musicians. Each concert is professionally recorded and is available for free streaming and download on [Instant Encore](#).

*Ticket information:*

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/young-artists-in-harmony-fall-showcase-concert-tickets-707876115517?aff=oddtcreator>

## **“Creating Sound” with Artist Danielle Dean**

November 18, 2023 - 4pm

ICA San Diego / North  
1550 S El Camino Real  
Encinitas, CA 92024

See a new musical work come to life during this open workshop of an Art of Elan-commissioned film score written by composer Mason Bynes in 2023 in collaboration with interdisciplinary artist Danielle Dean, whose work draws from her multinational and multiracial heritage to explore colonization, consumption and our shared humanity.

*Ticket information:*

<https://icasandiego.ticketing.veevartapp.com/tickets/view/list/c-you-saturday-november-2023>

## **"Death and the Maiden"**

January 16, 2024 - 7:00pm

The JAI at The Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center  
7600 Fay Ave  
La Jolla, CA 92037

Featuring the epic *Death and the Maiden* string quartet by Franz Schubert (written in March 1824), this powerful program intentionally sets the 200 year-old work in an intimate, contemporary cabaret space where listeners are asked to bring fresh ears to the experience. A complimentary pre-concert talk in the courtyard attempts to further demystify this poignant work.

*Ticket information available soon.*

## **"Songs of Hope"**

April 25, 2024 - 7:00pm

Mingei International Museum  
Balboa Park, Plaza de Panama  
1439 El Prado  
San Diego, CA 92101

Tied to a cross-border exhibit (LA FRONTERA) that showcases handmade jewelry from artists on both sides of the U.S. / Mexico border, this program amplifies a variety of voices, featuring the world premiere of an Art of Elan commissioned work by composer Michi Wiancko for solo harp, in addition to works by Sarah Kirkland Snider and others.

*Ticket information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/songs-of-hope-tickets-707881942947?aff=oddtcreator>*

## **"Art of Elan and Art Power present the JACK Quartet"**

May 6, 2024 - 8:00pm

The Loft  
UCSD campus  
Lyman Lane  
La Jolla, CA 92093

Art of Elan and Art Power's first-ever collaboration brings the renowned JACK Quartet to San Diego for an evening of music titled "Modern Medieval," where connections of musicality and thought between European composers of the past and the voices of American music today are explored in this one-hour program that includes music by Caroline Shaw as well as John Zorn.

*Ticket information available soon.*

## **“Young Artists in Harmony Showcase Concert”**

May 2024 - date/time still TBD

A Reason To Survive (ARTS)  
200 E 12th St  
National City, CA 91950

Art of Elan musicians premiere Young Artists in Harmony (YAH) student works in this **free** community concert that additionally offers a complimentary reception and a chance to meet the composers and musicians who bring these new works to life.

*Ticket information: Free with RSVP, reservation information available soon.*

### **More about Art of Elan’s 17<sup>th</sup> Season**

*“This season is all about authentic partnerships and our continued desire to collaborate with today’s most forward-looking artists and composers, lifting up the arts world as we seek to uplift our community. We’re particularly thrilled to be partnering with the San Diego Symphony to amplify the music of our time as part of the California Festival, and to be bringing the JACK Quartet to San Diego this spring as a special co-presentation with Art Power. We are also grateful to The San Diego Museum of Art, Mingei International Museum and the Institute for Contemporary Art San Diego for their ongoing partnership and collaborative spirit. Their commitment to exploring the intersection of art and music is remarkable and has inspired so much of our programming over the years.”*

*–Executive and Artistic Director Kate Hatmaker*

In an effort to deepen its impact in the community, Art of Elan’s Young Artists in Harmony (YAH) program at A Reason To Survive (ARTS) and The Preuss School is also expanding. The season features apprenticeship and professional mentorship opportunities for program alumni, helping to create career pathways for those who wish to pursue a professional career in music composition. Since its inception in 2014, Art of Elan’s YAH program participants have created over 90 new compositions, showcased on 17 different performances which have been professionally recorded and have served over 3,000 online listeners. YAH alumni have recently had the opportunity to join the Art of Elan team as teaching artists and apprentices, working closely with professional composers to build strong portfolios for futures in college and other degree programs.

#### ***Of further note:***

***Art of Elan and The San Diego Museum of Art will be announcing this season’s collaborative concerts at a later date, including new community engagement initiatives planned for May 2024.***

## **Art of Elan**

Known for its collaborative spirit, Art of Elan has been pioneering unique events and bringing exciting classical music to diverse audiences for over 16 years through innovative partnerships and bi-national initiatives that have cultivated curious audiences on both sides of the border. Its consistent track record of sold-out performances stems from its commitment to commissioning new work, collaborating with world class artists and composers, programming engaging and thought-provoking concerts, and expanding its impact in the region through thoughtful community engagement programs. By drawing inspiration from the word *élan*, which represents momentum, style, and spirit, Art of Elan continues to engage and energize audiences in new ways.

The mission of Art of Elan is to build community through music and enrich the cultural life of San Diego by presenting exciting and exceptional chamber music concerts, simultaneously educating and exposing diverse audiences to classical music through innovative programming, the commissioning of new works, unique performance venues and personal connections with concertgoers.