



For Immediate Release  
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**ART OF ÉLAN ANNOUNCES FIRST EVER  
ENSEMBLE-IN-RESIDENCE**  
*The Formosa Quartet Featured in Upcoming Concert*

***THE SONG GOES ON: Prayers and Songs***  
***Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7 pm***  
The San Diego Museum of Art

As part of its commitment to supporting emerging artists, Art of Élan has established an Ensemble-in-Residence program, creating two-year partnerships with groups whose mission and projects align with the mission of Art of Élan. The residency includes performance opportunities, commissioning opportunities and possible recording support.

The internationally acclaimed **Formosa Quartet** is the inaugural group to partner with Art of Élan in this way. As ensemble-in-residence for 2014-2016, the Quartet will work with renowned UCSD professor of composition Lei Liang to create a new piece based on music indigenous to the aboriginal tribes of Taiwan. The culmination of the two-year project will be the premiere performance of the commission and a new disc of music inspired by Hungarian and Taiwanese folk traditions.

*“The Formosa Quartet aligns so well with our organization as they also are champions of contemporary composers and committed to music of our time,”* explained Art of Élan co-founder Kate Hatmaker.

The members of the Formosa Quartet – Jasmine Lin, Wayne Lee, Che-Yen Chen, and Ru-Pei Yeh – have established themselves as leading solo, chamber, and orchestral musicians. According to Che-Yen Chen, former principal violinist with the San Diego Symphony and founding member of Myriad Trio, “We are honored to have been selected to work with Art of Élan in this significant way.” Art of Élan fans will recall that The Formosa Quartet was featured in the final concert of last season’s REFLECTIONS series. **OTHER LOCAL CONNECTIONS?**) With degrees from the Juilliard School, Curtis Institute of Music, and New England Conservatory, they have performed in major venues throughout the United States, Asia, Europe, South America, and Australia, and have been top prizewinners in prestigious competitions. As chamber musicians, they have appeared regularly at the Marlboro, Kingston, Santa Fe, Ottawa, Ravinia festivals, as well as at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, La Jolla Summerfest, and

the Seattle Chamber Music Society. They have held positions in the San Diego Symphony, the Cincinnati Symphony, and the New York Philharmonic. In 2014, the Quartet became the faculty quartet-in-residence at the National Youth Orchestra of Canada.

<http://formosaquartet.com>

Art of Élan creative approach to programming continues with two more concerts as part of their 2014-15 series at The San Diego Museum of Art. With two sold out concerts to date, the final concert on April 28<sup>th</sup> will be performed in the much larger Copley Auditorium.

## **PRAYERS AND SONGS**

**Tuesday, March 3rd**

**7pm**

*prayers and songs: to make a fervent request or entreaty, musically*

This deeply affecting program is filled with haunting melodies and jovial folk songs from around the world and features **The Formosa Quartet**, Art of Élan's first ever "ensemble-in-residence." Selections include *Prayer of St. Gregory* by Alan Hovhaness, Benjamin Britten's *Folk Songs* for tenor and harp, and Joaquin Turina's *La oracion del torero (The Bullfighter's Prayer)*--an impressionistic ode to Spanish culture. A moving highlight will be the West Coast premiere of **Avner Dorman's** *Prayer for the Innocents*, written for double string quartet and dedicated to the memory of the children who perished in the 2004 attack on a school in Beslan, Russia.

(MY NOTES SAY SOMETHING ABOUT HAUSMAN QUARTET. CAN YOU CLARIFY?)

## **EPILOGUE**

**Tuesday, April 28th**

**7pm, Copley Auditorium**

*epilogue: the concluding section - coda*

The final concert of the season celebrates the wonderfully varied melodic and harmonic language of today's most exciting composers. The captivating mix of 21st century works features music by New York composers Missy Mazzoli (*in spite of all this*) and Judd Greenstein (*Clearing, Dawn, Dance*), both associated with Brooklyn's recording upstart **New Amsterdam Records**, known for producing genre-defying new work. Dance lovers will recall Greenstein's moving composition as part of last season's *Lifeblood Harmony* collaboration with Malashock Dance. The program also features Georgian composer Giya Kancheli (*A Little Daneliade*), English composer and jazz bassist Gavin Bryars (*Epilogue from Wonderlawn*) and the West Coast premiere of Grammy-nominated composer **Chris Brubeck's** clarinet quintet, co-commissioned by Art of Élan and the Montana Chamber Music Society.

**Tickets available at the door, in advance at the Museum, or**

online at [www.SDMart.org](http://www.SDMart.org) or [www.artofelan.org](http://www.artofelan.org)

**Tickets: \$20 Museum members, \$30 nonmembers, \$12 students. Take advantage of the discount season subscription. All four concerts for \$60! Contact the Museum at 619.232.7931 for more information.**

Questions? [info@artofelan.org](mailto:info@artofelan.org) or 619.692.2081