



ART OF ÉLAN PRESENTS  
**CROSSING THE DIVIDE**  
2015-2016 Concert Series

**SAN DIEGO** - September 1, 2015- As Art of Élan's Season 9 at The San Diego Museum of Art approaches, its commitment to pioneering unique chamber music events and bringing the excitement of classical music to diverse audiences is expanding. For this season, they are literally "***Crossing the Divide***" by announcing a partnership with New York- based **New Amsterdam Records/New Amsterdam Presents**.

"We are excited about engaging in this bi-coastal conversation with our friends at New Amsterdam Records and New Amsterdam Presents, who share our artistic vision of supporting new music by highly skilled composers and performers who do not adhere to traditional genre boundaries. They, like us, value artistic quality and emotional directness over adherence to current stylistic trends," said Kate Hatmaker, Artistic Director and co-founder of Art of Élan. The label has been called "the focal point of the post-classical scene" by *Time Out New York* and "emblematic of an emerging generation" by the *New York Times*.

The partnership speaks to Art of Élan's commitment to supporting emerging artists and composers like **Judd Greenstein, Caroline Shaw, Nico Muhly** and **Anna Clyne** and will help foster expanded commissioning projects, create greater exposure for Art of Élan's recently established "Ensemble-in-Residence" program and provide increased performance opportunities for NewAm artists.

In programming the 2015-2016 "Crossing the Divide" season, Hatmaker looked to unite our increasingly segregated beliefs, actions and influences through an exploration of our shared humanity and the discovery of a common language for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. "While our nation can feel increasingly polarized in this 21<sup>st</sup> Century, I believe common ground still exists and music is a powerful way to be reminded of that" she added.

The exciting season includes a return of SACRA/PROFANA and the world premiere of Lei Liang's string quartet for Art of Élan's "ensemble in residence," the Formosa Quartet, for which funding was provided by the Library of Congress' Koussevitzky Foundation and Chamber Music America.

In addition to the four concert series at the San Diego Museum of Art, "Crossing the Divide" has been expanded to include two additional special events that shine a spotlight on New Amsterdam composers and ensembles. A return of **CROSSFIRE@The Glashaus** and a first-ever collaboration with the **San Diego Symphony** round out a season that truly crosses divides to embrace new music, new venues and new partners.

## 2015-2016 SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART CONCERT SERIES

### OUTLIERS

Tuesday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>, Hibben Gallery, 7pm

Art of Élan's 9th season begins with a provocative program of works by female composers, including dramatic and colorful compositions by Israeli composer Shulamit Ran, whose "East Wind" for solo flute references both the tragic and epic nature of human experience, as well as Anna Clyne and Sarah Kirkland Snider (both affiliated with **New Amsterdam Records**), and the rarely performed Second String Quartet by Russian composer Sofia Gubaidulina, which promises to take audiences on a kaleidoscopic journey through uncharted territory.

### CONCENTRIC CIRCLES

Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, Hibben Gallery, 7pm

The idea of concentric circles serves as a reminder that there is always common ground to be found, even among the most disparate elements. This program features San Diego's inventive choral ensemble **SACRA/PROFANA** with "Effortlessly Love Flows" (from Aaron Jay Kernis' "Ecstatic Meditations"), as well as "Honest Music" by Nico Muhly (**New Amsterdam Records**), a haunting contemplation on the world's "makeshift nature...the sad beauty of things coming together and things falling apart." The concert ends with Arvo Pärt's "Tabula Rasa," a minimalist exploration of man's inherent need for peace and introspection.

### SONG RECOLLECTIONS

Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, Hibben Gallery, 7pm

This deeply affecting program is inspired by various memories and folk songs, featuring Art of Élan's "ensemble-in-residence" **The Formosa Quartet** in the world premiere of Lei Liang's "Song Recollections" string quartet, commissioned by Art of Élan with funding from both the Koussevitzky Foundation and Chamber Music America.

### BY & BY

Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, Hibben Gallery, 7pm

The final concert of the season contemplates the possibility of a common language for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, uniting works by today's most exciting composers with more established repertoire, including the San Diego premiere of Pulitzer Prize-winning composer **Caroline Shaw's** "By & By" for voice and string quartet.

*Tickets for the San Diego Museum of Arts series available at the door, in advance at the Museum, or online at [www.artofelan.org](http://www.artofelan.org). To purchase by phone, call the Museum box office at 619.232.7931. Ask for the subscription discount! Download our FREE app to get the latest concert info, buy tickets online, listen to past shows, and learn what the hype is all about.*

## "CROSSING THE DIVIDE" SPECIAL EVENTS

### CROSSFIRE @ The Glashaus

**October 13, 2015**

1815 Main Street (north of Cesar Chavez in Barrio Logan)  
San Diego, CA 92113

Art of Élan's popular downtown series returns, with a special show that features the New York-based **NOW Ensemble**, a dynamic group of genre-defying musicians dedicated to making new chamber music for the 21st century and affiliated with New Amsterdam Records. Come experience a "crossfire" of musical ideas in the urban ambiance of The Glashaus, an artist collective studio and gallery housing works by painters, photographers, sculptors, engineers, ceramic artists, mixed media artists and more. Glashaus is located in Barrio Logan, San Diego's emerging urban art neighborhood.

6pm: Gallery and bar open

7pm: NOW Ensemble performance

8:30pm: After-party

Tickets and info at [www.artofelan.org](http://www.artofelan.org)

### **San Diego Symphony Chamber Music Series**

November 3, Copley Symphony Hall, 7:30

This will Art of Élan's first concert collaboration with the San Diego Symphony Orchestra and will focus on NYC composers Judd Greenstein, Anna Clyne and Missy Mazzoli, all affiliated with the Brooklyn upstart New Amsterdam Records and known for producing genre-defying new work. Greenstein's "Change" will be performed in its original chamber version on this program before the orchestration (an SDSO Co-Commission) is performed later in that week's Jacobs Masterworks concert.

### ***About Art of Elan***

*Created by violinist Kate Hatmaker and flutist Demarre McGill, Art of Élan is continually expanding the scope of classical music in San Diego through innovative, one-hour programming in unique performance venues. For the past 8 years Art of Élan has been pioneering unique chamber music events and bringing the excitement of classical music to diverse audiences. Its partnerships with The San Diego Museum of Art in Balboa Park, Lux Art Institute in Encinitas, The Glashaus in Barrio Logan, the Malcolm X Library and A Reason to Survive (ARTS) in National City have led to multiple commissions, world premieres, exciting cross-disciplinary productions and enthusiastic, sold-out audiences.*

*By drawing inspiration from the word élan, which represents momentum, vigor and spirit, Art of Élan continues to engage and energize audiences in new ways. [www.artofelan.org](http://www.artofelan.org)*

### ***About New Amsterdam Records***

*New Amsterdam Records is the for-profit record label subsidiary of **New Amsterdam Presents**, a presenting and artists' service organization that supports the public's engagement with new music by highly skilled composers and performers whose work does not adhere to traditional genre boundaries. New Amsterdam Records helps to spread the awareness of this music through the release and promotion of premiere commercial recordings of new compositions, written and performed by highly trained musicians with diverse musical backgrounds. Through these releases, New Amsterdam acts as a conduit between musicians and the public, promoting a wider awareness of these artists' sophisticated, adventurous new music with an open embrace of the latest technological and cultural trends. [www.NewAmRecords.com](http://www.NewAmRecords.com)*

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