

Sound Arts Initiatives Presents

MYSTERY OF CLOCK

What if our lives were nothing more than a network of invisible clocks, synchronized by the echoes of emotions, memories, and human connections?

Every human being carries within them an internal clock, a mysterious mechanism that not only measures the passage of time but also reveals the very essence of their life. This clock doesn't merely count seconds; it beats to the rhythm of our interactions, our choices, and the mysteries that define us. It reflects the fragility of existence and the depth of human connections.

Our lives are shaped by interactions, by moments when our clocks resonate with those of others. But what happens when these rhythms fall out of sync? Can we truly understand or be understood if our clocks beat at different cadences? This search for meaning takes on a new dimension here: can we master time, or are we merely its spectators?

The couple becomes a precious laboratory for exploring these questions.

A couple is not merely a union; it is a continuous dialogue between two temporalities. At times, their clocks beat in harmony, creating an almost celestial unity. At other times, they clash, their tensions exposing the paradoxes of love and the challenges of emotional coexistence. Thus, time is not just what passes; it is what connects us to others. Human clocks no longer measure time—they measure relationships.

The performance *Mystery of Clock* seeks to bring these ideas to life.

Conceived for two exceptional musicians—**Aiyun Huang**, percussionist, and **Mark Fewer**, violinist—the project examines how our clocks respond to one another, to the passage of time, to stress, and to emotions. The two instruments embody distinct yet complementary temporalities, symbolizing the diversity of human experiences.

Each scene is an exploration of a key theme: memory, stress, love, the irreversibility of time... The violin and percussion become mirrors of the human soul: fragile, complex, deeply connected. Through their musical dialogue, they offer an artistic meditation on temporality, love, and what makes us beings in a perpetual quest for synchronization with the world.

Creative Team

Roland Auzet, artistic director (France)
Mark Fewer, violinist (Canada)
Aiyun Huang, percussionist (Canada/Taiwan)
Denis Martin, technical director (Canada)
Cedric Delorme-Bouchard, lighting design (Quebec)
Tiffanie Boffa, lighting design (France/Quebec)
Lee Hwa Hong, composition (France/Korea)
Alexandre Singier, composition (France)
Julia Cauley, composition (France)
Josh Weinfeld, video art and documentation (USA)
Fish Yu, video art and sound documentation (Hong Kong)
Ankit Mastakar, documentation (India)
Hoi Tong Keung, project manager (Hong Kong)

Technical Crew

Emmy Barriere
Laura Dominguez
Amiel Ang
Jade Hails
Pouria Zarei
Hannah Mazodier
Paul Fontimpe

Music By

Javier Alvarez
J. S. Bach
Julia Cauley
I-lly Cheng
Erik Griswold
Ehwa Hong
Menelaos Peistikos
Alexandre Singier

Mystery of Clock is funded by the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music's France-Canada Cultural Exchange grant.

For more information about Mystery of Clock, visit www.aiyunhuang.com

Sound Arts Initiatives, Inc. presents the Sound Symposium, Night Music, the Harbour Symphony, and other events like Mystery of Clock throughout the year. Sound Arts programming is generously funded by the Canada Council for the Arts, the Government of Canada, ArtsNL, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the City of St. John's.

For more information about Sound Arts activities, visit www.soundsymposium.com

Aiyun Huang enjoys a musical life as soloist, chamber musician, researcher, teacher and producer. Globally recognized since winning the 2002 First Prize and Audience Prize of the Geneva International Music Competition. She is a champion of the existing repertoire and a prominent voice in the collaborative creation of new works. Huang has commissioned and premiered over two hundred works in her three decades as a soloist, chamber musician, and producer. The Globe and Mail critic Robert Everett-Green describes Huang's playing as "engrossing to hear and to watch" and her choice of repertoire as capable of "renovating our habits of listening."



Born in Taiwan, Aiyun holds a DMA degree from the University of California San Diego. She currently holds the position of Professor of Music at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto where she heads the percussion area and directs the University of Toronto Percussion Ensemble. She is the director of TaPIR Lab at the University of Toronto and soundSCAPE Festival at the Hindemith Music Centre in Blonay, Switzerland. Aiyun was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2024.



In a career that now spans over three decades, violinist **Mark Fewer** has been an interpreter of music past and present in virtually every genre and setting you will find a violin in. From appearances at famed concert halls such as Carnegie, Wigmore and Salle Pleyel, to venues such as Bartok House (Budapest), the Forum (Taipei) and Le Poisson Rouge (NYC), Fewer has appeared as featured guest soloist with ensembles ranging from the Zapp Quartet of Amsterdam, the Fodens-Richardson Brass Band (UK), the Chieftains, Stevie Wonder and his band, and the major symphonies of Toronto, San Francisco, Melbourne and more.

He has held the positions of Concertmaster of the Vancouver Symphony, Artist-in-Residence at Stanford University, William Dawson Scholar at McGill University, and Artist-in-Residence at the Glamorgan Festival of Music in Cardiff, Wales. As a chamber musician he was a founding member of the Duke Piano Trio, violinist with the SuperNova and St. Lawrence String Quartets, and was an original member of the ARC Ensemble. He is currently first violinist of the Axelrod String Quartet at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC, where the group performs and records exclusively on Stradivari and Amati instruments from the museum's famed collection.

After 16 years as the founding artistic director of the SweetWater Music Festival, he is now in his seventh season at the helm of Stratford Summer Music. He is an Associate Professor of Violin at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto.

French composer, percussionist, and theater director **Roland Auzet** defines himself as a stage writer. An artist and performer with many interests and talents, Auzet received the Chevalier des Arts et Lettres from the French Ministry in 2007 for his remarkable body of work in contemporary music, circus, dance, opera, and theater. Auzet has collaborated with leading composers (Iannis Xenakis, Pierre Boulez, Luc Ferrari, and Heiner Goebbels), circus artists (Jérôme Thomas and Mathurin Bolze), visual artists (Giuseppe Penone), choreographers (Angelin Preljocaj, François Raffinot, and Merce Cunningham), and playwrights (Rainald Goetz, Eduardo Arroyo, Fabrice Melquiot, and Laurent Gaudé).



Auzet studied music at the Conservatoire National de Marseilles, Rueil Malmaison and Paris, and was invited by the Institut de Recherche et Coordination Acoustique/Musique (IRCAM) to participate in the program Composition and Musical Computing in 1997. He was awarded first prize at the international music competition in Darmstadt and by the Marcel Bleustein Blanchet Foundation. Auzet has composed and produced twenty operas, plays, and musical works that have been premiered in national theaters and opera houses in France and abroad.