

# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 27, 2018

## The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia announces the appointment of Philadelphia Composer Andrea Clearfield as their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Steven R. Gerber Composer in Residence.

Residency to include world premiere of new work for Astral Artist Guitarist, Jordan Dodson.

Clearfield to work with four community venues to lead workshops for young musicians.

The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia (COP) and Music Director Dirk Brossé announce the appointment of Philadelphia Composer Andrea Clearfield as their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Steven R. Gerber Composer in Residence. Funded in part by the Steven R. Gerber Trust and the American Composers Forum - Philadelphia Chapter, Clearfield will assume the role for our 2018-2019 *Migrations* Season.

"On top of her fabulous compositions, Andrea's experience in eclectic styles, interest in world music, and open mindedness made her music stand out as a strong contender." said Maestro Brossé. "Her background, aesthetic interests, and approach to composing matched perfectly with the Chamber Orchestra's *Migrations* Season!" continued Brossé. "Our goal is to host a residency that goes well beyond the conventional premiere and post-concert talk, one integral to our core programming and outreach initiatives. We couldn't be more thrilled to work with Andrea on this innovative and many-faceted residency which will offer intimate and transformative musical experiences to a wide spectrum of audiences, young musicians, and community residents," said Mitchell Krieger, Interim Executive Director. Clearfield's year-long residency, beginning in July, will feature several projects throughout the Chamber Orchestra's *Migrations* Season, including a new arrangement of Saint-Saëns' "Bacchanale" from *Samson and Delilah*, a featured composition at COP's Annenberg Center LIVE chamber music series, guest appearance at COP's *intersect* series in collaboration with Host/Producer Andrew Lipke, and the world premiere of a new composition for Chamber Orchestra and electric guitar featuring Astral Artist Jordan Dodson as soloist during COP's Kimmel Center series. Reflecting COP's expanded commitment to community and education, Clearfield will present workshops as part of four One Day Intensives & Community Concerts in neighborhoods whose residents have immigrated from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and the Americas.

"What a joy to receive this honor! I am so grateful to have been given the opportunity to create new pieces for The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, working alongside Maestro Dirk Brossé and all of the musicians and staff, as well as helping reach out to the communities of my hometown." Clearfield said. "I have long been a fan of the orchestra, for years attending their wonderful concerts including several premieres of my music with Mendelssohn Club. The season's theme of *Migrations* has a deep personal resonance for me, as I've long been interested in the music of world cultures, and for the last decade involved in Tibetan music documentation in the Himalayas. I am greatly looking forward to the exciting 2018-2019 Season!"

Clearfield, no stranger to the new music scene in Philadelphia, is celebrating 31 years of her local Salon series, a musical outlet and incubator for the next generation of musicians and composers.

"ACF Philadelphia is very pleased to continue our collaboration with the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia with the Steven Gerber Composer Residency Program," said Gene Coleman. Coleman continued, "We greatly appreciate the importance of the *Migrations* theme and know that composer Andrea Clearfield will do great work with this theme, both in terms of her commissioned piece for COP and in the outreach work she will do as part of the residency. We look forward to the 2018-2019 season and congratulate Andrea Clearfield as the 2nd Steven Gerber Composer-in-Residence."

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#### Andrea Clearfield, COP/ACF Steven R. Gerber Composer in Residence

Andrea Clearfield is an award-winning composer who has written more than 150 works for orchestra, chorus, chamber ensemble, dance, and multimedia collaborations, exploring themes ranging from freedom and oppression, to ancient cultures, mythology, ecology, healing and technology. Clearfield creates deep, emotive musical languages that build cultural and artistic bridges. She has been praised by the New York Times for her "graceful tracery and lively, rhythmically vital writing," the Philadelphia Inquirer for her "compositional wizardry" and "mastery with large choral and instrumental forces," the L.A. Times for her "fluid and glistening orchestration" and by Opera News for her "vivid and galvanizing" music of "timeless beauty." Her music is performed widely in the U.S. and abroad.

Among her works are eleven large-scale cantatas including one commissioned and premiered by The Philadelphia Orchestra, *Kabo Omowale* (Welcome Home Child), in collaboration with librettist/story-teller Charlotte Blake Alston. Her cantata, *Tse Go La* (At the threshold of this life) for double chorus, digital audio and chamber orchestra, *Rabsong Shar* (The Eastern Room of the Palace) for soprano and chamber orchestra and *Lung-ta* (The Windhorse) for large chamber ensemble are inspired by Tibetan music fieldwork that she conducted in the remote Himalayan region of Lo Monthang, Nepal. She is currently completing her first opera *Mila, Great Sorcerer*, based on the life of the venerated 11<sup>th</sup> century Tibetan yogi Milarepa, to libretto by Jean-Claude van Itallie and Lois Walden, commissioned by Gene Kaufman and Terry Eder, with Kevin Newbury, director.

She is a recipient of many awards including a 2016 Pew Fellowship and 2017 Independence Fellowship in the Arts, and has held fellowships at the American Academy in Rome as a William Penn Affiliated Fellow, the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center, The MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, Civitella Ranieri, Ucross, Montalvo, Blue Mountain Center, Djerassi, the Wurlitzer Foundation of New Mexico, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Ragdale and the Copland House among others. She was awarded a 2018 Fellowship from the Women's International Study Center in Santa Fe to continue work on the preservation of Tibetan folk music from Upper Mustang, Nepal and a 2019 Fellowship at the Visby International Centre for Composers in Sweden.

She has been invited as visiting composer to numerous colleges and universities, most recently at Yale-National University of Singapore, Curtis Institute of Music, Emory University, The University of Texas at Austin, Michigan State University, University of Arkansas, The College of New Jersey, Penn State University and St. Petersburg Conservatory in Russia. She will be the Composer in Residence at the *Music from Angelfire* festival in northern New Mexico this summer.

Dr. Clearfield holds a DMA in music composition from Temple University, where she was the first composer to be awarded the university-wide Presidential Fellowship, and was honored as a Distinguished Alumna. She received an MM in piano performance from the Philadelphia College of the Performing Arts (now University of the Arts), and a BA in Music from Muhlenberg College, where she was awarded first prize in performance and musicianship, and received the Alumni Achievement in the Arts Award in 2012. She served on the Composition Faculty at The University of the Arts from 1986-2011. Active as a pianist, she has performed with many ensembles including the Court of the Dalai Lama, and has played with the contemporary music group *Relâche* for over two decades. Passionate about building community around the arts, she is founder and host of the Salon, a renowned performance series featuring contemporary, classical, jazz, electronic, dance, multimedia and world music since 1986. Her music is published by Boosey & Hawkes, Hal Leonard, G. Schirmer, Seeadot and International Opus.

More at [andreaclearfield.com](http://andreaclearfield.com)

## 2018-2019 Season

### Kimmel Center Series

AFRICA: Schubert, Arriaga, and Jegede

Sunday, October 7, 2018 | 2:30 PM

Monday, October 8, 2018 | 7:30 PM

Dirk Brossé, Conductor

Tunde Jegede, Kora

Schubert - Overture in the Italian Style, D. 590

Arriaga - Symphony in D

Fela Sowande - African Suite for String Orchestra  
Tunde Jegede - Interlude: Solo Kora  
Jegede - *Cycle of Reckoning* for Kora and Chamber Orchestra\*  
\*U.S. Premiere

ASIA: Mozart, Dvořák, and Harrison  
Sunday, December 9, 2018 | 2:30 PM  
Monday, December 10, 2018 | 7:30 PM

Dirk Brossé, Conductor  
Wu Man, Pipa

Mozart - Divertimento, K. 138  
Dvořák - Serenade for Strings  
Dirk Brossé/Traditional - *Mu yang Gu-niang*  
Wu Man - Interlude: Solo Pipa  
Lou Harrison - Concerto for Pipa and String Orchestra

EUROPE: Bach, Vivaldi, and Corelli  
Sunday, February 24, 2019 | 2:30 PM  
Monday, February 25, 2019 | 7:30 PM

Caterina Lichtenberg, Mandolin  
Steven Tavani, Leader

Broschi - Overture La Merope  
J.S. Bach - Air on a G string, BWV 1068  
Caterina Lichtenberg - Interlude: solo mandolin  
Gaudioso - Concerto di Mandolino a solo con Violini e Basso  
Caldara - Sinfonie a Quattro #1, 8, 9, and 10  
Vivaldi - Concerto for Mandolin  
Corelli - Suite for String Orchestra

*Program to be performed without intermission*

THE AMERICAS: de Falla, Villa-Lobos, and Clearfield  
Sunday, March 31, 2019 | 2:30 PM  
Monday, April 1, 2019 | 7:30 PM

Dirk Brossé, Conductor  
Jordan Dodson, Guitar *Astral Spotlight Artist*

Manuel DeFalla - *El Amor Brujo* Suite

Villa-Lobos - Concerto for Guitar

Chabrier - *Habañera*

Steven Gerber - *Homage to Dvořák*, from *Spirituals* for String Orchestra

Jordan Dodson - Interlude, Solo Guitar

Andrea Clearfield Steven R. Gerber Composer in Residence - New Work for Electric Guitar and Chamber Orchestra\*

*World Premiere*

MIDDLE EAST: Mozart, Saint-Saëns, and Shaheen

Sunday, May 19, 2019 | 2:30 PM

Monday, May 20, 2019 | 7:30 PM

Dirk Brossé, Conductor

Simon Shaheen, Oud

François-Adrien Boieldieu - Overture to *Le Calife de Bagdad*

Mozart - Symphony No. 36 "Linz"

Saint-Saëns - "Bacchanale" from *Samson and Delilah*

Simon Shaheen - Interlude: Solo Oud

Shaheen - Fantasie for Strings and Oud\*

*\*Philadelphia Premiere*

## Annenberg Live Chamber Music Series

Origins and Diaspora

Annenberg Center LIVE

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

West African Musical Traditions and influences in Classical Music.

*intersect11: The African Influence*

Annenberg Center LIVE

Wednesday, February 20, 2019

Africa's defining influence on American Music, led by guitarist/composer Andrew Lipke.

Call & Response

Annenberg Center LIVE

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

African American composers from Burleigh to Braxton.

*\*Artists, Dates, and Programs subject to change*

### intersect series 2018-2019

*intersect10: The Asian Influence*

World Café Live

December 5, 2018

A polystylistic exploration of the influence of Asian musical traditions on rock, pop, jazz, and classical music led by Andrew Lipke.

*intersect11: The African Influence*

Annenberg Center LIVE

February 20, 2019

Africa's defining influence on American Music, led by guitarist/composer Andrew Lipke

### The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia

A founding resident company of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia is a 33-member professional ensemble led by Music Director Dirk Brossé. The Chamber Orchestra, founded in 1964 by Marc Mostovoy, has a well-established reputation for distinguished performances of repertoire from the Baroque period through the twenty-first century.

The Chamber Orchestra's development was motivated, in part, by the desire to provide performance opportunities to young professional musicians emerging from leading conservatories and other regional training programs, but also by a desire to make a substantial contribution to the city and the region's cultural life. In addition to presenting its own productions, the Chamber Orchestra started to develop an entrepreneurial business model by seeking other performance opportunities among the region's presenter/producer community, thereby providing supplementary employment for its members. The ensemble also championed new music, with a focus on local composers. In total, the organization has commissioned and premiered over seventy new works.

In 1994, Ignat Solzhenitsyn, a concert pianist and conducting graduate from the Curtis Institute of Music, joined the Chamber Orchestra as Assistant Conductor. In 1998, he was named Principal Conductor and, ultimately, Music Director in 2004. A conductor and composer of international acclaim, Maestro Dirk Brossé now enters his ninth season as Music Director of The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia. In the 2018-2019 season, the Orchestra will perform five programs from October through May in the Kimmel Center's intimate, 600-seat Perelman Theater.

Over the course of the ensemble's rich and diverse history, COP has performed with such internationally acclaimed guest artists as Plácido Domingo, Luciano Pavarotti, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Mstislav Rostropovich, Isaac Stern, Rudolph Serkin, The Eroica Trio, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Romero Guitar Quartet,

Julie Andrews, Bernadette Peters, Ben Folds, Branford Marsalis, Elvis Costello, Sylvia McNair, Steven Isserlis, Joseph Silverstein, Ransom Wilson, Gerard Schwarz, Jahja Ling, and Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, among others. The ensemble travels regularly, having toured the United States, Europe, and Israel.

### Dirk Brossé, Music Director

Sir Dirk Brossé, born in Ghent, Belgium in 1960, is a multi-faceted composer and an internationally acclaimed conductor. He is currently Music Director of The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, Music Director of the Film Festival Ghent and Music Director and Principal Conductor of the *Star Wars In Concert* World Tour.

Brossé began his music studies at the Music Conservatories of Ghent. He subsequently specialized in conducting, which he studied in Maastricht, Vienna and Cologne. He is currently Professor of Composition and Conducting at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Ghent. Dirk Brossé has conducted every leading Belgian orchestra, among them, the Brussels Philharmonic, the Royal Flemish Philharmonic, Orchestra of the Flemish Opera and the National Orchestra of Belgium. Outside his native Belgium, he has conducted the London Symphony Orchestra, the London Philharmonic Orchestra, The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra London, l'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Philharmonic Orchestra of Shanghai, the Vancouver Opera, the KBS Symphony Orchestra of South Korea, l' Orchestre de l'Opéra de Lyon, the World Symphony Orchestra (Japan), the Ulster Symphony Orchestra of Northern Ireland, the Liverpool Philharmonic, the RTE Orchestra Dublin, the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonieorchester Basel, Porto Philharmonic, the Queensland Philharmonic, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Camerata St. Petersburg, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the Noord Nederlands Orkest, the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and the National Orchestras of Venezuela and Ecuador.

Dirk Brossé is a versatile and prolific composer. He has written over 400 works, including concerti, oratorios, lieder, chamber music and symphonic works that have been performed all over the world and have been recorded in more than 40 countries. Among his most performed works are *La Soledad de América Latina*, written in collaboration with the Nobel Prize winner Gabriel Garcia Marquez; *Artesia*, a universal symphony for orchestra and ethnic instruments, the ethno-classical symphony *The Birth of Music*; the oratorio *Juanelo*; the lieder cycles *Landuyt Cycle* and *La vida es un Sueño*, the *War Concerto* for clarinet and orchestra; and the violin concertos *Black, White & Between*, *Sophia* and *Echoes of Silent Voices*.

He has also composed extensively for cinema, television and stage. Brossé's film soundtracks include *Boerenpsalm*, *Daens* (Academy Award Nominee, 1993), *Koko Flanel*, *Back to Utopia*, *Licht*, Stijn Coninx's *de Kavijaks*, Marian Handwerker's *Marie*, Martin Koolhoven's *Knetter*, Roland Joffé's *The Lovers*, Jaques Feyder's 1925 silent film *Visages d'Enfants*, and *Knielen op een bed violen* (Golden Calf Nominee, 2016). His score for the BBC/HBO series *Parade's End* starring Benedict Cumberbatch was nominated for an Emmy Award. He wrote the scores for the musicals *Sacco & Vanzetti*, *Ben X*, *The Prince of Africa*, *Tintin – The Temple of the Sun* (based on Hergé's world-famous cartoon character Tintin), *Rembrandt the Musical*, *14-18 the musical*, *Pauline & Paulette* and *Musical Daens* – each time in close collaboration with stage director Frank Van Laecke.

In 2007, Dirk Brossé made his debut in the Royal Albert Hall, conducting the London Symphony Orchestra in *A Night of Music from the Movies*, featuring the music of Patrick Doyle, with guest appearances by renowned actors Emma Thompson, Sir Derek Jacobi, and Kenneth Branagh.

In 2010, at the request of the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, he wrote *The Hallow-e'en Dances*. This Halloween-inspired work was especially written for traditional Chinese instruments. He recently composed

*Haiku Cycle 1*, for Jessye Norman and based on Haiku by Herman Van Rompuy, former President of the European Union.

In 2016, he made his debut at Carnegie Hall in New York, conducting his violin concerto *Black, White & In Between* with the Chamber Orchestra of New York.

Dirk Brossé has made more than 80 CD recordings and has conducted in numerous world-famous concert halls, such as the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, the Royal Festival Hall, the Barbican Centre, the Royal Albert Hall in London, Opera La Monnaie in Brussels, the Victoria Hall in Geneva, the Seoul Arts Center, the Tokyo Forum, and the Concert Hall Shanghai. He has collaborated with world-class artists such as José Van Dam, Philip Webb, Barbara Hendricks, Claron McFadden, Julia Migenes, Derek Lee Ragin, Sabine Meyer, Julian Lloyd Webber, Daniel Barenboim, and Salvatore Accardo. On a broader musical platform, he has performed with John Williams, Toots Thielemans, Hans Zimmer, Elmer Bernstein, Emma Thompson, Kenneth Branagh, Randy Crawford, Lisa Gerrard, Mel Brooks, Maurane, Sinead O' Connor, Viktor Lazlo, Maurice Jarre, and Youssou N'Dour.

Dirk Brossé has been awarded the title *Cultural Ambassador of Flanders*, the Flemish Parliament's *Gold Medal for Merit*, the *Achille Van Acker Prize*, the *Joseph Plateau Honorary Award*, and the *Global Thinkers Forum Award for Excellence in Cultural Creativity*. In 2010, Dirk Brossé was made an honorary citizen of Destelbergen. In 2013, he was elevated to Belgium's hereditary nobility, with the personal title of Sir. In late 2010, EMI Classics released the 6 CD Box-Set *Dirk Brossé, A Portrait in Music*. The documentary *Brossé, a destiny in Music* by Jacques Servaes received international acclaim. Since 2016, Dirk Brossé is a member of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts. [dirkbrosse.be](http://dirkbrosse.be)

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

### *Brunch with Brossé*

Comcast Circle at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Dirk Brossé, Music Director of The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia

Discover how Music Director Brossé brings music from the page to the stage in a roundtable discussion. Examine the musical selections featured in upcoming programs with the Maestro before Sunday performances in a conversation over brunch.

This intimate endeavor takes place in the Comcast Circle at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts prior to select Sunday performances conducted by Maestro Brossé. Cost is \$40 per person, which includes brunch and your very own copy of the score. Space is limited.

Admission: \$40

215.545.5451

[chamberorchestra.org](http://chamberorchestra.org)

### *Classical Conversations*

Sunday Post-Concert Q&A

Perelman Theater at the Kimmel Center of the Performing Arts



COP Music Director Dirk Brossé and guest artists host an informal and informative conversation and Q&A session in the Perelman Theater following all Sunday matinée performances.

AFRICA: Schubert, Arriaga, and Jegede

Sunday, October 7, 2018 | Post-Concert

Featuring: Dirk Brossé, Tunde Jegede

ASIA: Mozart, Dvořák, and Harrison

Sunday, December 9, 2018 | Post-Concert

Featuring: Dirk Brossé, Wu Man

EUROPE: Bach, Vivaldi, and Corelli

Sunday, February 24, 2019 | Post-Concert

Featuring: Caterina Lichtenberg

THE AMERICAS: de Falla, Villa-Lobos, and Clearfield

Sunday, March 31, 2019 | Post-Concert

Featuring: Dirk Brossé, Conductor, Jordan Dodson, Guitar *Astral Spotlight Artist*

MIDDLE EAST: Mozart, Saint-Saëns, and Shaheen

Sunday, May 19, 2019 | Post-Concert

Featuring: Dirk Brossé, Simon Shaheen

Admission:

Included in Sunday's ticket

### Concerts & Cocktails

Post-Concert Cocktail Hour

The Encore Bar at the Kimmel Center's Commonwealth Plaza

Immediately following every Monday series concert

This post-concert celebration, featuring cocktails crafted by Garces Group, offers patrons the opportunity to meet-and-greet with COP soloists, guest conductors, composers, and musicians.

Admission:

Included with the purchase of concert ticket

Bar:

Cash Bar

## Thank you to our 2018/2019 Season Partners

### Media Sponsor



The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia is proud to be sponsored by the Philadelphia area's leading provider of classical music, WRTI. Throughout the 2018-2019 season, WRTI will broadcast Live from exclusive COP events.

Tune in all season long as WRTI and COP bring you exciting highlights of the 2018-2019 *Migrations* Season, with live interviews, on air performances, and monthly broadcasts..  
More Information: [wrti.org](http://wrti.org)

### Season Partnerships



The Chamber Orchestra is excited to partner with Global Philadelphia. In a season dedicated to the world traditions, Global Philadelphia and COP's will highlight the many rich and diverse cultures that

create the fabric of the Philadelphia landscape. More Information: [globalphiladelphia.org](http://globalphiladelphia.org)



The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia is proud to enter its second year partnership with Astral Artists, one of Philadelphia's leading artist management organizations dedicated to fostering rising-stars in music. In the 2018-2019 *Migrations* season COP will feature

Jordan Dodson, Guitar. More Information: [astralartists.org](http://astralartists.org)



The American Composers Forum Philadelphia Chapter, the Chamber Orchestra, and the Steven R. Gerber Trust are excited to continue our Steven R. Gerber Composer in

Residency for the 2018-2019 season. More Information: [acphiladelphia.org](http://acphiladelphia.org)



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