



MEDIA RELEASE

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Zeitgeist to feature composer Randy Bauer during annual *Playing it Close to Home* concert

With winning songs from the 25th annual Eric Stokes Song Contest plus music by local composer Randy Bauer, Zeitgeist's *Playing it Close to Home* concert celebrates the wealth of musical creativity found right here in our own backyard.

The program includes music by Eric Stokes Song Contest winners plus the world premiere of *Holding Patterns*, a new multi-movement work composed for Zeitgeist by Randy Bauer.

Concerts will take place March 6-8 at Studio Z, Zeitgeist's performance space in Lowertown Saint Paul.

The **Eric Stokes Song Contest** is sponsored by Zeitgeist in memory of late composer Eric Stokes; the contest was designed to encourage and celebrate amateur composers throughout the Twin Cities. *Playing it Close to Home* will feature winning songs by Katie Condon, Kirsten Hanninen, and Samuel William Novak in the adult category, and Iris Hu (age 10) in the youth category.

RANDY BAUER is a composer and jazz musician based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Premieres of his work have been given by members of the Minnesota Orchestra and St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Brentano String Quartet, eighth blackbird, Nash Ensemble of London, Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, Synergy Vocals, New Millennium Ensemble, MATA Micro-Orchestra with Theo Bleckmann, Network for New Music, and many others.

He was named a 2013-14 McKnight Foundation Fellow in Music Composition by the McKnight Foundation of Minnesota. He also received a major fellowship in 2006 from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. He has been a resident artist at Yaddo, the Ucross Foundation, and the Atlantic Center for the Arts, and

has received many regional and national awards, including three ASCAP/Morton Gould Awards for Young Composers. He is also an accomplished jazz pianist and composer, and has received recognition from DownBeat, the Commission Project, Jazz Composers Alliance, and has won the ASCAP Young Jazz Composer's Award.

Bauer is Associate Professor of Music at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he teaches composition, theory, and jazz topics. He holds degrees from the Peabody Conservatory of Music (BM, MM), and Princeton University (MFA, PhD). His teachers have included Ronald Caltabiano, Chen Yi, Steven Mackey, and Paul Lansky.

Zeitgeist: Playing it Close to Home

March 6-7, 7:30 p.m.

March 8, 2 p.m.

Studio Z: 275 East Fourth Street, Suite 200, St. Paul

Tickets: \$15 / \$10 students & seniors

Tickets and details at zeitgeistnewmusic.org.

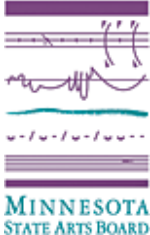
About Zeitgeist:

Founded in 1977, Zeitgeist is a new music chamber ensemble consisting of two percussion, piano and woodwinds, and is one of the oldest and most successful new music groups in the country. Based in St. Paul, Minn., the group presents an annual concert series and delivers a wide variety of community-based performance programs for residents of the Twin Cities and the surrounding areas. Zeitgeist's mission is to bring newly created music to life with performances that engage and stimulate. Members are: Heather Barringer, percussion; Patti Cudd, percussion; Pat O'Keefe, woodwinds; Nicola Melville, piano.

Zeitgeist is supported by the The City of St. Paul's Cultural STAR Program, The Amphion Foundation, The Knight Foundation, The Lowertown Future Fund, the Target Foundation, the McKnight Foundation, the Jerome Foundation, the Albrecht Family Foundation, the Aaron Copland Fund, The Mandel Family Foundation, and the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature.

This activity is made possible with support from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

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