



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 20 June 2024

Four Canadian curators selected to take part in Vancouver New Music's *On Curation Mentorship Project*

VANCOUVER, BC – From 2024 to 2026 Vancouver New Music will be leading *On Curation* – a curatorial mentorship project focused on developing and sustaining work and research related to new curating practices in sound and music.

Mentors **Raven Chacon** (Diné), **Peter Hatch** (BC), **Laura Netz** (Spain/UK) and **Aki Onda** (Japan/US) will work one-on-one with four emerging Canadian curators to develop programming that will be presented as part of Vancouver New Music's 2025-26 season of events.

This project will encourage explorations, dialogues and reflections that might bring new perspectives and new ideas to music and sound curation, while exploring ways of creating an accessible and engaging form of sociality informed by sound-thinking.

The *On Curation Mentorship Project* mentor and mentee pairings are:

Raven Chacon (Diné) and **Anju Singh** (Vancouver)
Peter Hatch (BC) and **Terri Hron** (Montreal)
Laura Netz (Spain/UK) and **Freya Zinovieff** (Vancouver)
Aki Onda (Japan/US) and **Simon Grefiel** (Vancouver)

About the mentors

Raven Chacon (Diné) is a Pulitzer Prize–winning composer, performer and installation artist from Fort Defiance, Navajo Nation. As a solo artist, Chacon has exhibited, performed, or had works performed at LACMA, The Renaissance Society, San Francisco Electronic Music Festival, REDCAT, Vancouver Art Gallery, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Borealis Festival, SITE Santa Fe, Chaco Canyon, Ende Tymes Festival and The Kennedy Center. As a member of Postcommodity from 2009-2018, he co-created artworks presented at the Whitney Biennial, documenta 14, Carnegie International 57, as well as the 2-mile long land art installation Repellent Fence. A recording artist over the span of 22 years, Chacon has appeared on more than eighty releases on various national and international labels. His 2020 *Manifest Destiny* opera *Sweet Land*, co-composed with Du Yun, received critical acclaim from The LA Times, The New York Times and The New Yorker, and was named 2021 Opera of the Year by the Music

Critics Association of North America.

<http://spiderwebsinthesky.com/>

Composer and music curator **Peter Hatch** (BC) has composed works in a large number of genres, from orchestral and chamber music to instrumental theatre, electroacoustics and installations. Hatch's compositions are both heady and playful, profound and humorous. Peter has been very active as the artistic director of new music ensembles and festivals. He founded NUMUS Concerts and the Open Ears Festival of Music and Sound, served as Composer-in-Residence with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony and as Arts and Culture Consultant with the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics. Peter is Professor Emeritus at the Faculty of Music, Wilfrid Laurier University, where he was Professor from 1985 to 2017.

<https://www.peterhatch.ca/>

Laura Netz (Barcelona) is a curator, artist and researcher. Currently, she is an MPhil student at CRiSAP – UAL, where she studies the new tendencies in curatorial practices in sonic arts. Interested in sound art, science, technology and digital media, she is an active participant in hacking culture. Over these years, as a curator, she has taken part in many international events such as exhibitions, workshops, conferences, publications and concerts in Spain, Portugal, UK, Mexico, Colombia, Canada, Serbia, Russia, Hong Kong, the U.S. and Brasil.

Among the collaborations, she developed projects with various institutions and festivals such as Fonoteca Nacional de Mexico, MACBA Museum of Contemporary Art Barcelona, CCCB Centre of Contemporary Culture Barcelona, ArtFutura, MUTEK and Alpha-ville. She collaborates with artists such as Locus Sonus, Scanner, Roy Ascott, Konrad Becker, Fran Illich, Milo Taylor and Arcangelo Constantini, among many more.

<http://netzzz.net/>

Aki Onda

Aki Onda is an artist, composer, performer and curator. Onda's works are often catalyzed by and structured around memories—personal, collective, historical—such as their widely-known project, *Cassette Memories* (2004–ongoing), drawn from three decades of field recordings.

Crossing genres, Onda has been active internationally in art, film, music and performance. Their artistic collaborators include Michael Snow, Ken Jacobs, Paul Clipson, Raha Raissnia, Ho Tzu Nyen, Loren Connors, Alan Licht, Annea Lockwood, David Toop and Akio Suzuki.

Onda has been active as a curator and organized major performances and exhibitions throughout Asia and North America. They were Guest Director of TPAM-Performing Arts Meeting in Yokohama (current YPAM), Japan from 2016-19 and currently work as Curator-at-Large for Western Front, Vancouver.

<https://akionda.net/>

About the mentees

Simon Grefiel is an artist whose work engages with ancient and pre-colonial histories and practices from Southeast Asia and around the Pacific. Working with sculpture, found objects, drawings, and plant life, his explorations of language, dreams, spirits, familial stories and speculative narratives proposes new ways of experiencing the supernatural realm, and the material universe.

Grefiel is currently exploring "Budots," an electronic music genre and dance style originating from Davao City, Philippines and heavily influenced by the indigenous Sama-Bajau. He DJs as a way to explore electronic music in Southeast Asia and the Global South. He is also producing music with collaborator Reylinn McGrath under the moniker "Gulod Tanawin."

Grefiel was born and raised in Tacloban City, Philippines, and his work has been exhibited and screened at Vancouver Art Gallery, Gallery Gachet, WAAP and Libby Leshgold Gallery in Vancouver and Gallery TPW in Toronto, ON.

Terri Hron is a musician, a performer and a multimedia artist whose work explores relationships and belonging with places, people and scores. Using historical performance practice, field recording, invented ceramic instruments and videoscores, she often works in close collaboration with others and produces performances, gatherings and events. From 2017-2024, she was Executive Director of the Canadian New Music Network, where she developed programs focusing on pluralism and sustainability. She is now the editor and general manager of the francophone magazine, *Circuit, musiques contemporaines*.

<https://terrihron.com/>

Anju Singh is a composer, multi-instrumentalist, performer and noise/sound artist exposing and interrogating texture through the use of extended/experimental techniques, electronics, musical and non-musical materials, custom-built instruments and processing. Her works use methods of deconstruction and reanimation to repurpose and contextualize materials in new compositional environments and to bring contrasting themes and dynamics into shared spaces.

Anju has presented and performed work across Canada, in Europe, Brazil, Mexico, Japan and the United States. She also works as a producer, arts programmer and curator working on the Vancouver Noise Festival for 9 years, participating in a co-curating committee for the MAC (Media Arts Committee) Sound Art program since 2011, and curating and organizing Fake Jazz Wednesdays for a few years in its early inception period.

<https://www.anjusingh.com/>

Freya Zinovieff is an interdisciplinary scholar, sound artist and curator of British and Russian descent, currently completing her PhD at The School of Interactive Arts and Technology, Simon Fraser University. Her thesis, *Situated Praxis: Activist Listening in Violent Times*, examines the political potential of sound, alongside decolonial and ethical listening as critique to hegemonic systems of power.

Freya's curatorial practice seeks to challenge both colonial hierarchies and aesthetic sensibilities, and foregrounds collaboration as an act of resistance. She is interested in work that engages decolonial and anti-imperial thinking in radical ways, and especially through the amplification of voices that seek disruption for the purposes of justice and community building.

<http://criticalmediartstudio.com/>

<https://chaotic-rhythms.ca/>

<https://radicalpraxislab.com>

ABOUT VANCOUVER NEW MUSIC

Vancouver New Music engages communities in the exploration, creation, and experience of progressive and outstanding new music. VNM regularly commissions and premieres new works by Canadian composers, presents leading and emerging electroacoustic and electronic music artists, international composers and performers, sound installations and music theatre. VNM presents an annual festival that focuses each year on a theme within the new music landscape, and explores the interaction of contemporary music with other disciplines such as theatre, installation and media arts. Other activities include lectures and workshops with visiting artists, ensemble workshops and presentations open to the community, and other sound art and new music related community events. newmusic.org

Vancouver New Music gratefully acknowledges the support of The Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage through Arts Presentation Canada, The Province of British Columbia through the British Columbia Arts Council and Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, and The City of Vancouver.

We acknowledge and give thanks that we work, live and play on the unceded, ancestral lands of the Squamish (Skwxwú7mesh), Tsleil-Waututh (Stó:lō and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh) and Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm) Nations.

MEDIA CONTACT

Vera Gamboa | vera@newmusic.org | Tel: 604.633.0861