

**NATIONAL  
SAWDUST**

Juilliard

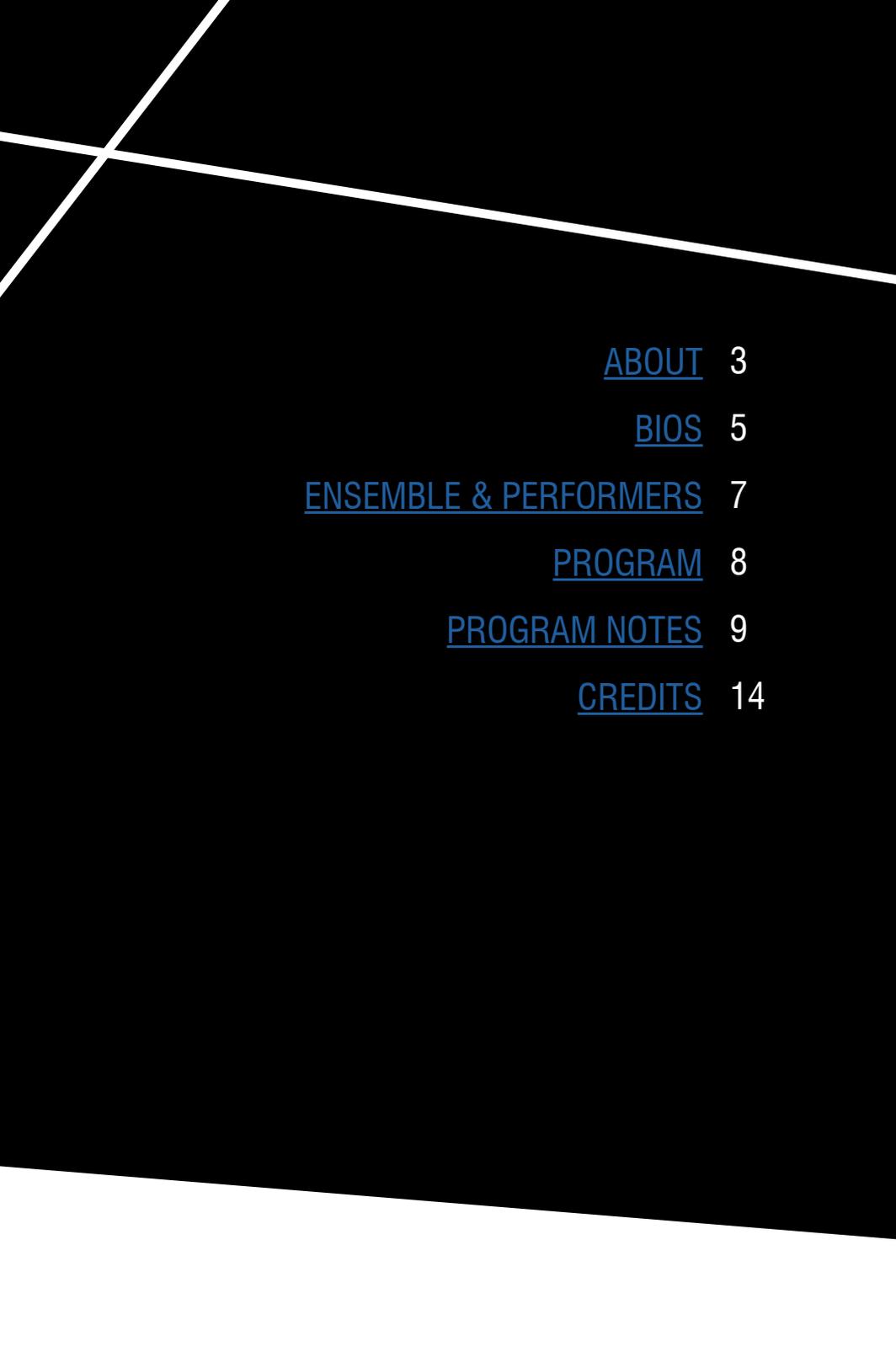


**THE JUILLIARD BLUEPRINT  
FELLOWSHIP CLASS OF 2021  
CONCERT PERFORMANCE**

**SOFIA OUYANG, FORREST EIMOLD,  
& CHRISTIAN-FRÉDÉRIC BLOQUERT**

**FEBRUARY 13TH, 2022 // 7:30PM  
NATIONAL SAWDUST**

---

The background is black with several white lines. One line is a straight diagonal line from the top left towards the middle right. Another line is a slightly curved line starting from the top left and extending towards the right edge. A third line is a wavy, irregular line at the bottom of the page.

<u>ABOUT</u>	3
<u>BIOS</u>	5
<u>ENSEMBLE &amp; PERFORMERS</u>	7
<u>PROGRAM</u>	8
<u>PROGRAM NOTES</u>	9
<u>CREDITS</u>	14

# ABOUT



**The Juilliard Blueprint Fellowship** is an annual National Sawdust mentorship and commissioning initiative that connects Juilliard student composers with career and project mentorship culminating in a concert of their commissioned projects. The 2021 winning composers—**Sofia Jen Ouyang**, **Forrest Eimold**, and **Christian-Frédéric Bloquet**—were commissioned to explore collaboration, extra-musical themes, entrepreneurial project creation, and generally out-of-the-box thinking with real-world applications to a dream work that the National Sawdust Ensemble will workshop and perform at National Sawdust.

## Mentorship

The Blueprint Fellowship pairs Juilliard student composers with visionary and leading mentorship by composers, artists and industry experts in both project and career development. Project mentors for the class of 2021 included Claire Chase, Laura Kaminsky, and Amy Beth Kirsten. Paola Prestini begins every year with a series of sessions that provide a blueprint to her compositional and creative process as well as the pillars of interdisciplinary thinking in her work. Past project mentors include Reena Esmail, Nathalie Joachim, and Alex Temple. Guest speakers include Tiffany Soricelli, Peggy Monastrà, Ed Yim, Du Yun, Ashley Tata, and Garth MacAleavey.

The Juilliard Blueprint Fellowship program is generously supported by The Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation.

Major institutional support for *The Future Is...* 2021-22 season at National Sawdust is provided by private support from the Howard Gilman Foundation, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, Art Mentor Foundation, Francis Goelet Charitable Lead Trusts, and public support from the New York State Council on the Arts and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council in addition to significant leadership support from the National Sawdust Board of Directors. National Sawdust is a proud Meyer Sound Experience partner.

Paola Prestini is the Kris Sebastian & Alberto Cribiore artistic director chair for National Sawdust's seasons seven (2021-22) and eight (2022-23).

# BIOS



**Forrest Eimold** (no pronouns). The music of composer-keyboardist Forrest Eimold realizes that which was never meant to be in the continuous hope of pointing to the unbound world inherent within our own. Twice a National YoungArts Award recipient—and one whose work has been premièred by ensembles including the Choir of Trinity Wall Street, Ensemble Dal Niente, Mivos Quartet, and Wet Ink Ensemble—Forrest has studied with Thomas Adès, Robert Beaser, Michael Finnissy, Georg Friedrich Haas, and Laura Kaminsky, among others. Outside of composing, Forrest plays continuo for Trinity Baroque Orchestra and performs internationally as an interpreter of new and historical music.

Forrest Eimold is a junior in the Barnard-Columbia-Juilliard exchange program. Forrest's project mentor for the Blueprint Fellowship is Laura Kaminsky.

**Sofia Jen Ouyang** (she/her) is a composer interested in the fusion of musical, literary, and philosophical concepts, such as ideologies, binaries, ambiguities, indeterminacies, philosophies, literary theories, physicality, noise, gender, culture, sexuality, music, paradigms, hybridity, distortions, and liminalities. Currently pursuing her undergraduate degrees in music and philosophy at Columbia University, Sofia also studies composition with Andrew Norman at Juilliard. She has worked with the JACK Quartet, AMF Contemporary Ensemble, Jeffrey Zeigler, Juliette Kang, and Cornelia Herrmann among others, and has received

numerous honors, including from the BMI Student Composer Award (2021) and Luna Lab (2020).

Sofia is a sophomore in the Barnard-Columbia-Juilliard exchange program. Her project mentor for the Blueprint Fellowship is Claire Chase.

**Christian-Frédéric Bloquert** (he/him) is a French composer and a conductor whose aesthetic is often informed by other disciplines such as visual art, literature, film, poetry, or from personal experiences. He sees his work as a reflection of his perception of reality, albeit an imperfect one, but one he hopes captures the inherent beauty of its subject. He has worked with the Ensemble InterContemporain, the Sinfonieorchester Basel, the PHACE Ensemble, the MIVOS Quartet, and the Symphony Orchestra of Brasilia among others, and he has received accolades for his compositions and conducting, most recently as a finalist in the Basel Composition Competition.

Chris Bloquert is a second year master's student under Matthias Pintscher. His project mentor for the Blueprint Fellowship is Amy Beth Kirsten.

# ENSEMBLE & PERFORMERS

## NATIONAL SAWDUST ENSEMBLE

Raquel Acevedo Klein	Conductor
Rusti Ropec	Soprano
Isabel Lepanto Gleicher	Flute
Eric Umble	Clarinet
Blair McMillan	Piano
Todd Reynolds	Violin
Jeffrey Zeigler	Cello
Sae Hashimoto	Percussion
Matt Wong	Electric Guitar
Sydney Chawon Lee	Visual Artist & Photographer

## JUILLIARD MUSICIANS

Britt Hewitt	Soprano	(Vocal Arts, MM '20)
Luca Fontaine	Actor	(MFA '22)
Forrest Eimold	Keyboard & Electronics	(Composition, BCJ '22)
Peter Glynn	Drums	(Jazz, BM '23)
Christian-Frédéric Bloquert	Conductor	(Composition, MM '22)

# PROGRAM

*You Without a Bodie* by Forrest Eimold

Three Movements: i. Easter 1633, ii. Church-Musick,  
iii. Easter-Wings

Rusti Ropac

Todd Reynolds

Jeffrey Zeigler

Forrest Eimold

Soprano

Violin

Cello

Keyboard, Live Electronics  
and Live Visualizations

*return to root* by Sofia Jen Ouyang

Britt Hewitt

Isabel Lepanto Gleicher

Sae Hashimoto

Claire Chase

Sydney Chawson Lee

Soprano and

Pre-recorded Improvisation

Flute, Bass Flute

Percussion

Flute,

Pre-recorded Improvisation

Visual Artist and

Photographer

*Imploding the Fantastic Dream*

by Christian-Frédéric Bloquert

Rusti Ropac

Luca Fontaine

Isabel Lepanto Gleicher

Eric Umble

Blair McMillan

Todd Reynolds

Jeffrey Zeigler

Matt Wong

Sae Hashimoto

Peter Glynn

Soprano

Actor

Flute

Clarinet

Piano

Violin

Cello

Electric Guitar

Percussion

Drums

# PROGRAM NOTES

*You Without A Bodie* (2021) 12 minutes

Composed by Forrest Eimold

Poem by George Herbert

## Composer Note

Religion is a weird thing. I say “weird,” connoting both the various senses of our time (as in “quirky” or “difficult to understand or accept”), but also that more archaic sense of the word (as in “supernatural,” perhaps “wired up”). Here I’m not referring just to those capital-letter religions we all know, but also to those sacred practices that aren’t always explicitly cited as such: concert-going, clubbing, higher education. How strange the attachment we have to one or another such thing, as mediated by its angels (in the case of much music-making, the performers).

There’s a crucial figure standing between a God (they could be a person or a concept) and their followers (same with them). Growing up as a boy chorister at a strict Catholic school, I became well aware of this, especially when singing those pure and distilled texts written by the 17th-century English poet George Herbert: “I was made to sound like an angel.” What does it sound like, though, to construct an angel?

*You Without a Bodie* takes the leap of faith to say, first, that it’s possible to hear and embody such a sound, and, second, that in hearing and embodying it, the possibility of moving beyond it—transing it—becomes conceivable. After all, doesn’t any material, any process, any rule inevitably contain its own undoing?

### 1. Easter [1633]

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise  
Without delays,  
Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise  
With him mayst rise:  
That, as his death calcined thee to dust,  
His life may make thee gold, and much more, just.

Awake, my lute, and struggle for thy part  
With all thy art.  
The crosse taught all wood to resound his name,  
Who bore the same.  
His stretched sinews taught all strings, what key  
Is best to celebrate this most high day.

Consort both heart and lute, and twist a song  
Pleasant and long:  
Or, since all musick is but three parts vied  
And multiplied,  
O let thy blessed Spirit bear a part,  
And make up our defects with his sweet art.

I got me flowers to straw thy way;  
I got me boughs off many a tree:  
But thou wast up by break of day,  
And brought'st thy sweets along with thee.

The Sunne arising in the [...]

### 2. Church-musick

Sweetest of sweets, I thank you: when displeasure  
Did through my bodie wound my minde,  
You took me thence, and in your house of pleasure  
A daintie lodging me assign'd.

Now I in you without a bodie move,  
Rising and falling with your wings:  
We both together sweetly live and love,  
Yet say sometimes, *God help poore Kings*.

Comfort, I'll die; for if you poste from me,  
Sure I shall do so, and much more:  
But if I travel in your companie,  
You know the way to heavens doore.

### 3. Easter wings

[...] thee  
Oh let me rise  
As larks, harmoniously,  
And sing this day thy victories:  
Then shall the fall further the flight in me.

My tender age in sorrow did beginne:  
And still with sicknesses and shame  
Thou didst so punish sinne,  
That I became  
Most thinn.  
With thee  
Let me combine  
And feel this day thy victories:  
For, if I limp my wing on thine  
Affliction shall advance the flight in me.

***return to root (2021) 13 minutes***

Composed by Sofia Jen Ouyang

Poem by Sofia Jen Ouyang

Composer Note

*On the cyclical nature of a leaf, of nature, of life, of what is:* On an evening in the fall of 2020, as Sydney and I were returning to our dorms from a study session, I mentioned how I detested saying my music is about x. Turns out so does she. This little statement eventually led to ‘return to root’. To pinpoint the x, to say this music is about that, reduces it to some object, idea, memory, image, or other, as if the intentions and meanings of an intricate work of art are definite, absolute, and describable. It is to leave out the bits of uncertainty and ambiguity that lie—I think inherently in each artistic entity. This project is in every way related to, inspired by, and in dialogue with my poem “return to root”, but it is in no way merely about it. It involves attempts to translate, reinterpret, and de-create the poem; the elements of language, music notation, electronically-processed improvisations, video-art, and photography are layered and diffused across the project, thereby transfiguring the original artistic meaning(s). The words themselves are taken apart and scattered throughout, existing in fragments of sounds. Through this process, the original poem is destabilized, subverted, and new meanings unfold. And so for art we take from reality—life, experience, thought—and we make something that fulfills, questions, or reveals, that is not merely about. Recorded improvisations by Blueprint Fellowship mentor Claire Chase and soprano Britt Hewitt. Artwork by Sydney Chawson Lee.

Poem

*return to root*

In this season of fury  
leaves permeated the air, with all withered flowers and fallen  
fruits

The wilted sought fulfillment from fleeting in  
the autumn wind they dispersed,  
and dispersed.....

No root for return, fallen leaves get dumped in barrels  
forgotten  
or near swamps stacked, in mountainous heights

Yet I

A leaf

Wavered, between stem and root  
At the edges of yellow and blue I lingered  
and lingered...

—Sofia Jen Ouyang, 2019

***Imploding the Fantastic Dream (2021) 15 minutes***

Composed by Christian-Frédéric Bloquet

Composer Note

The vowel and onomatopoeia in this piece do not represent actual words and one should not seek to interpret them as such. Rather, as they appear, they should be seen as echoes of a distant reality.

Poem

Wake up!  
Familiar is the façade of  
Faces that manifests before me.  
Faces, which I have seen?  
Falling forward, inward,  
Finding the furthest reaches of my fears.  
Finally, the door. Will I  
Find it? No.  
Four steps onto the sinking floor,  
Failing to see that which was so:  
Fast fragments of formidable figures  
Formed the familiar façade,  
Forcefully collapsing, ripping the  
Frail fabric unto which it is bound,  
Imploding the fantastic dream.

- Christian-Frédéric Bloquet, 2021

# CREDITS

## National Sawdust Production Team

Eve O'Donnell, Senior Producer, Mentorship Initiatives  
Shara Lunon, Stage Manager  
Ryan Caruso, Tech Director  
Bruce Steinberg, Lighting Designer  
Carlton Bright, Videographer  
Jack McGuire, Stagehand  
Brian Schuh, Front of House

## National Sawdust Staff

Alfonso Acatecatl, House & Hospitality Associate  
Brian Berkopec, Managing Director  
Ryan Caruso, Venue Production and Technical Manager  
Kim Chan, Deputy Director and Head of External Affairs  
Nicole Merritt Chari, Programming Director  
and Senior Curator  
Ana De Archuleta, Director of Artistic Operations  
Kyle Dolan, Director of Finance and Facility  
Sophia Dumaine, Director of Development  
Zan Emerson, Director of Marketing and Design  
Garth MacAleavey, Sound Designer  
Eve O'Donnell, Senior Producer, Mentorship Initiatives  
Paola Prestini, Co-Founder and Artistic Director  
Sally Scheidt, Director of Partnerships and Special Events  
Jeferino Tomas, Hospitality and House Manager

# The Juilliard School

**Damian Woetzel, President**

**Adam Meyer, Provost**

**Ara Guzelimian, Special Advisor to the President**

**David Serkin Ludwig, Dean and Director, Music Division**

**Annabelle Avenier, Associate Director of Artistic Programs,**

**Music Division**

**Melinda Wagner, Composition Department Chair**

**Joseph Rubinstein, Composition Department Coordinator**

**NATIONAL  
SAWDUST**

Juilliard