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1020 Mizzou New Music Initiative
(MCF) will be held Monday, July 20 through Saturday, July 25 on the campus of the University of Missouri in Columbia, and will feature Hans Abrahamsen and Andrew Norman as guest composers.

Application process for resident composers is now open

Columbia, MO - The 2015 Mizzou International Composers Festival (MCF) will be held Monday, July 20 through Saturday, July 25 on the campus of the University of Missouri in Columbia, and will feature Hans Abrahamsen and Andrew Norman as guest composers.

The 2015 MCF (http://composersfestival.missouri.edu/) will include a series of public concerts presenting music from contemporary composers, as well as workshops, master classes and other events.

Saturday night's grand finale at the Missouri Theatre will feature the world premieres of new works from each of the festival's eight resident composers, with the acclaimed new music group Alarm Will Sound (http://www.alarmwillsound.com/), conducted by artistic director Alan Pierson, serving as resident ensemble.

Hans Abrahamsen
(http://www.musicsalesclassical.com/composer/long-bio/Hans-Abrahamsen) was born in Copenhagen and attended the Royal Danish Academy of Music. A published composer beginning at age 16, Abrahamsen in the early part of his career was considered part of the "New Simplicity" movement that began in the mid-1960s as a reaction to the perceived over-complexity of avant-garde music. Some of his best-known early works include "Wintermacht" (1976-78); "Nacht und Trompeten" (1981); and "Zwei Schneetänze" (1985).

Befriending and studying with György Ligeti during the 1980s, Abrahamsen received the Carl Nielsen Prize in 1989 and the Wilhelm Hansen Composer Prize in 1998. After a hiatus from composing, he re-emerged in the new century with a series of major compositions including the extended chamber work "Schnee" (2008), a Double Concerto for violin, piano and strings (2010-11); and "Let me tell you," for soprano and orchestra, premiered in 2013 by the Berlin Philharmonic.

Andrew Norman
(http://andrewnormanmusic.com/) is a Los Angeles-based composer and teacher at the USC Thornton School of Music. A graduate of the University of Southern California and Yale, Norman "draws on an eclectic mix of instrumental sounds, notational practices, and non-linear narrative structures. "His work has been noted by the New York Times for its "daring juxtapositions and dazzling colors" and by the Los Angeles Times for its "Chaplinesque" wit.

Norman has been the recipient of numerous commissions, prizes and awards, and his symphonic works have been performed by orchestras including the Los Angeles and New York Philharmonics, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the BBC Symphony, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich. His chamber music has been featured in the Wordless Music Series at Le Poisson Rouge and at the MATA Festival, the Tanglewood Festival of Contemporary Music, the Green Umbrella Series, and the Aspen Music Festival.

With the 2015 guest composers confirmed, eight resident composers now will be selected for the MCF through a portfolio application process to create a new work for Alarm Will Sound. During the week of the festival, they'll get composition lessons from Abrahamsen and Norman and take part in rehearsals with Alarm Will Sound. Each composer also will receive a copy of a professional live recording of his or her work.

The application process for resident composers begins Thursday, October 23, 2014, and the deadline for submitting an application is Monday, November 24, 2014. To help composers save on printing and mailing costs, the MCF this year has moved to an online application process. For more information on applying to become a resident composer for the Mizzou International Composers Festival, please visit http://composersfestival.missouri.edu/application.html

A complete schedule of events, times, dates and venues for the 2015 Mizzou International Composers Festival will be made available at a later date. For more information, please visit http://composersfestival.missouri.edu/

The Mizzou International Composers Festival is part of the Mizzou New Music Initiative, an array of programs intended to position the University of Missouri School of Music as a leading center in the areas of composition and new music. The Mizzou New Music Initiative is the direct result of the generous support of Dr. Jeanne and Mr. Rex Sinquefield and the Sinquefield Charitable Foundation.

For more information
Mizzou International Composers Festival: http://composersfestival.missouri.edu/
Mizzou New Music Initiative: http://mizzounewmusic.missouri.edu/
Andrew Norman: http://andrewnormanmusic.com/
Alarm Will Sound: http://www.alarmwillsound.com/
Sinquefield Charitable Foundation: http://www.sinquefieldcharitablefoundation.com/