



Boyer College
of Music and Dance
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NEWS

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MOMENTA QUARTET, BOYER ENSEMBLE-IN-RESIDENCE
TO PERFORM ON NOVEMBER 28 IN ROCK HALL

Wednesday, November 28, 2007 -- 7:30 pm
Rock Hall, Temple University, corner of N. Broad St. & Cecil B. Moore Ave.
Free and open to the public
215.204.7600 or www.temple.edu/boyer

Boyer composition graduate student Ryan Olivier will be in good company on November 28 when one of his works is premiered along with that of internationally-acclaimed composer, Agustín Fernández. Hailing from Bolivia, Fernández's musical tribute, *String Quartet No 1, 'Montes,'* honors the late painter, Agustín Fernández (1928-2007). Works by the artist, who was one of the most significant of self-exiled Cuban artists during the development of international modernism, will be projected during the performance. The concert also includes the String Quartet No. 1 of Leoš Janáček and Robert Schumann's String Quartet No. 2.

Members of the Momenta Quartet include violinists Miranda Cuckson and Annaliesa Place, violist Stephanie Griffin, and cellist Joanne Lin. Formed initially as an ensemble-in-residence for Boyer College of Music and Dance's department of composition, the Momenta Quartet quickly gained a following in New York City after its debut concert at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture in November 2004. Since then, the Quartet has been featured in faculty concerts and special programs at a variety of conservatories and colleges around New York and has premiered works by over thirty composers. In May 2005, Momenta gave a concert sponsored by the League of Composers/ISCM at Symphony Space in Manhattan. The quartet has also recorded new pieces for various composers, including Matthew Greenbaum's *Castelnau*, as part of a compilation of the composer's works on the Centaur label.

As it is a part of the quartet's mission to unite contemporary music with great works of the past, the group takes pride in its more eclectic programming, focusing on new and twentieth-century works but including lesser-known or even older works, such as viol music from the Renaissance.

Agustín Fernández' performances include, *Teopont,e* commissioned for the 1988 London International Opera Festival and *The Wheel*, commissioned by the Royal Opera House's Garden Venture in 1992. *Danza de la loma* has been broadcast by BBC Radio 3 recorded by the BBC Symphony *Mystical Dances* for orchestra was premiered at the 2006 Huddersfield Festival. 2007 saw the first performances of *Fantasia on a Theme by Kathryn Tickell* in Edinburgh and of *¡Oh Guitarra!* in Winterthur.