

Wednesdays@7 presents

BE - longing

An interdisciplinary exploration of (s)pace

A Project by Nuria Manzur-Wirth, Maximilian Haft, Jérôme Piguet, and Wilfrido Terrazas

Wednesday, November 2, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.
Conrad Prebys Music Center, Experimental Theater

Nuria Manzur-Wirth, texts, voice, staging
Maximilian Haft, violin, voice
Wilfrido Terrazas, flutes, voice
Jérôme Piguet, video
Alain Wirth, video

BE - longing explores the converging specters that exist between sound, music, word, and image, and the construction of meaning in human experiences of space, its expansions, and contractions. Nuria Manzur-Wirth (texts, voice, staging), Jérôme Piguet (video installation), Maximilian Haft (music/violin), and Wilfrido Terrazas (music/flutes) make up the axes of this interdisciplinary and intra-sensory dialogue.



Artist Bio:



Nuria Manzur-Wirth

Poet, translator, playwright and stage director, Nuria Manzur-Wirth was born in Mexico City in 1979. Both her research on the work of Paul Celan (subject of her doctoral dissertation), and her interests in the fields of music, film, dance, and theater have great influence on her artistic explorations and reflections.

Her bonds to different artistic expressions allow her to return to poetry in various ways, by enriching the multi-faceted and interdisciplinary aspects of her interests, to truly honor the original sense of the term *poïesis*: i.e., the one that alludes to creative forces.

In March 2019, she founded the *poésie vivante* company Les Eaux Courantes, of which she is artistic director. This platform's synergy allows her to build interdisciplinary dialogues that feature poetry as their central axis and always keep bonds to the performing and visual arts, especially with music, theater, and video-art. The company's most relevant projects include *Constelaciones Meridianas*, an interdisciplinary homage to Paul Celan on his 100th birthday, premiered at the Theater Oriental-Vevey in September 2020, and co-produced by Ensemble Contrechamps. It was then that Nuria met the violinist Maximilian Haft, and both artists have continued to collaborate in various subsequent projects.

In music, she has collaborated with the composer Ezko Kikoutchi, and in several projects with the composer/flutist Wilfrido Terrazas, among others. Other collaborations include projects with video-artists/filmmakers Alain Wirth and Jérôme Piguet, choreographer Jasmine Morand, and photographer Laetitia Gessler.

She has translated the work of poets like Rose Ausländer (Sexto Piso: Madrid, 2016) and Paul Celan (UPF: Barcelona, 2014). Her own poetic work in Spanish includes *Exilio de la Palabra* (Elefanta Editorial: México, 2013) and *Cartografías* (Amphibia Editorial: Barcelona, 2009). Her most recent publication, written mostly in French, is *Esquilles* (Vevey, Switzerland: Éditions de l'Aire, 2021).



Maximilian Haft

Belgian-American violinist, Maximilian Haft has lived on the European continent since 2009. A multifaceted musician performing a wide array of repertoire, Maximilian Haft specializes in interpretations of contemporary music and improvisation. He has performed on major stages and in intimate venues.

As a soloist, Maximilian Haft has performed and premiered contemporary violin concertos with the Chamber Orchestra of Geneva, Ensemble Contrechamps, and Collegium Novum Zurich. He has premiered solo, and chamber works by such composers as Samuel Andreyev and Dominique Schafer, and has worked closely with Heinz Holliger, Oliver Knussen, Hans Zender, Beat Furrer, and Michael Gordon. He has appeared at such festivals as Donaueschingen, Eclat, Warsaw Autumn, Archipel, Pori Jazz, Orvieto Winter Jazz, Edinburgh World Festival, and the Festival for New American Music in Sacramento. He has taken part in performance residencies at

Stanford University, University of California, Berkeley, and The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, and has been a guest lecturer at La Manufacture in Lausanne, and the Conservatory of Geneva (HEM).

Max studied at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music precollege division with Zaven Melikian and Wei He. He has a Bachelor's in Violin Performance from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. He graduated with a master's degree cum laude from the Royal Conservatory of The Hague having studied with Vera Beths. He is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Leiden's artistic research program.



Jérôme Piguet

An independent director for more than 18 years, he has directed more than two hundred audiovisual objects (documentaries, television programs, short films, web series, etc.).

In 2020, he directed a documentary film (90") on the real situation of the electric car and on the disinformation related to this mode of transport: *The Great Intox: Electric Cars Investigated*. A feature-length film that tries to get a glimpse behind the scenes, between the cobalt mines in Congo, the lithium mines in Chile and the production of batteries in Germany. His previous film takes place in the world of extreme sports and high mountains. *CERVIN: The Dream of the Bird Woman* (co-directed and co-written with Rinaldo Marasco) follows a wingsuit athlete as she prepares for and achieves a feat: jumping from one of Switzerland's highest mountains, the Matterhorn. The film won the award for best film at the Mountain Film Festival in California.

He regularly engages in immersive documentaries such as the one for which he followed the world-famous conductor Michel Corboz for more than two years, for the film *Michel Corboz, le combat entre le vrai et le beau* (co-directed and co-written with Rinaldo Marasco) in which he re-transcribed the world of the recording of the Mass in B minor by Johann Sebastian Bach.



Wilfrido Terrazas

Wilfrido Terrazas is a flutist, improviser, composer, and educator whose work explores the borderlands between improvisation, musical notation, and collective creation. He has performed over 380 world premieres, composed around 70 works, and recorded more than 50 albums, eight of them as a soloist or leader. His recordings have been published in Mexico, the US and Europe, on labels like Abolipop, Another Timbre, Bridge, Cero, Creative Sources, New Focus, New World, Umor, and Wide Hive. Wilfrido has presented his work in 21 countries in Europe and the Americas. He has been a guest performer at international festivals such as Creative Fest (Lisbon),

¡Escucha! (Madrid), Festival Cervantino (Guanajuato), High Zero (Baltimore), MATA (NYC), NUNC! (Chicago), and TENOR (Hamburg), and at venues and series for experimental music like Auditorio Nacional (Madrid), Bowerbird (Philadelphia), Teatro Nacional Cervantes (Buenos Aires), CCRMA (Stanford University), Splendor (Amsterdam), Flagey (Brussels), Littlefield Hall (Mills College), Unerhörte Musik (Berlin), St. Ruprechtskirche (Vienna), The Wulf and REDCAT (Los Angeles), Soup & Sound and The Stone/New School (NYC). He has also carried out residencies at Omi International Arts Center (NY), Atlantic Center for the Arts (Florida) and Ionion Center for the Arts and Culture (Greece).

Wilfrido is a member of two influential Mexico City-based ensembles: the improvisers' collective Generación Espontánea, widely acknowledged as one of the pioneering groups for freely improvised music in Latin America, and Liminar, one of Mexico's leading new music groups. Since 2014, Wilfrido co-curates the Semana Internacional de Improvisación, an improvised music festival in Ensenada, his hometown. Other current projects include Filera, a trio with vocalist Carmina Escobar and cellist Natalia Pérez Turner, and the Wilfrido Terrazas Sea Quintet, an Ensenada-based creative music group, paradoxically formed by six people. Recent collaborations include projects with Angélica Castelló, Amy Cimini, Michael Dessen, Lisa Mezzacappa, Roscoe Mitchell, Abdul Moimême, artist G.T. Pellizzi, and poets Ricardo Cázares, Nuria Manzur-Wirth, and Ronnie Yates. Additionally, his compositions have been performed by José Manuel Alcántara, Anagram Trio, Aldo Aranda, Ensemble Süden, Ghost Ensemble, in^set, International Contemporary Ensemble, Omar López, Low Frequency Trio, Kathryn Schulmeister, Alexandria Smith, and wasteLAnd, among many others. Wilfrido has also published more than 30 texts about music, amongst them four book chapters. Some of his writings can be read in the Pendragon, Routledge, and Suono Mobile presses. He has been an Assistant Professor of Music at the University of California San Diego since 2017.