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WINTER COMPOSERS CONCERT

Douglas Cohen, *Faculty Coordinator*
Shane Chapman, *Program Coordinator*

Composers Now Festival

Tania León, *Artistic Director*

Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Topfer Recital Hall

Leonard & Claire Tow Center for Performing Arts

The Composers Now Festival celebrates living composers, the diversity of their voices, and the significance of their musical contributions to our society. During the month of February, the Festival brings together myriad performances ranging in genre from jazz to indie, classical to post-classical, experimental to folk, and beyond. Composers will be in attendance at all events. Composers Now is a project partner of The Fund for the City of New York.

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FUND FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK



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*This concert is dedicated to Tania León
in gratitude for her years of service to the
music composition students of Brooklyn College*

Desperation

Georgios Gkikas

Mary Beth Perez Castaño, *violoncello*

Keeping On

Gidong Kim

Gidong Kim, *piano*

Waves (Set Sail)

Francesco Pillitteri

Christopher Lutsker, *piano*

I Heard it From the Mist

David Hernandez

Samuel Braiman and Isabel Bruschi, *violin*
Lexi Lester-Williams, *viola*
Mary Beth Perez Castaño, *violoncello*

Program Notes

***Desperation*—Georgios Gkikas**

My first cello encounter. Exploring a lot of different sounds and emotions through cello was such an enriching experience. In music, emotions can be interpreted in many different ways; however, I believe there is a common line that connects music with emotions, and that is the human experience. In this piece, I explore a despaired state, with elements of music that depict an emotion familiar to all humans: the hopelessness, the vicious circle of emotions.

—G.G.

***Keeping On*—Gidong Kim**

Keeping On depicts the journey of the mind to continue the will when you want to give up. A pattern of repeating triplets represents a continuous effort that fills a series of processes, as if the journey of a long marathon was eventually made up of steps with the left foot and the right foot. This piece is an encouragement to myself as well as to others. If we carry on what we do, wouldn't it take us somewhere wonderful in the end?

—G.K.

***Waves (Set Sail)*—Francesco Pillitteri**

This piece is like the ocean. It is both serene and raging. It has its riptides that pull you in, and is fluid in timing. When I wrote this last year, I played it differently every time while practicing. It still followed the score, but loosely. Now it will be performed by a colleague who I trust will do even better than I ever did.

—F.P.

***I Heard it From the Mist*—David Hernandez**

I Heard it From the Mist is a piece for string quartet that will be part of a larger work. It focuses on an image I had in my head of being led through a foggy marshland with no concept of time or location.

—D.H.