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Portland Parks and Recreation

The Halprin Landscape Conservancy & Cascadia Composers present

# IN THIS TOGETHER

A performance bearing witness to change, protest, revolution, & the power of rebirth in the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the historic Keller Fountain

MUSIC BY  
**JENNIFER WRIGHT**  
**DANIEL BRUGH**

special guests  
**JORDIE CAMPBELL**, aerial artist  
**AKELA JAFFI**, poetry/dance

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020**  
**KELLER FOUNTAIN PARK**  
SW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. & Clay St., Portland OR

**2 SHOWS: 12 noon & 1:30pm**  
Socially distanced / masks required  
Limited seats available: reserve  
at [jenniferawright@yahoo.com](mailto:jenniferawright@yahoo.com)  
Free admission

World  
changes art,  
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world



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[cascadiacomposers.org](http://cascadiacomposers.org)

**PLACE**



# IN THIS TOGETHER

**Welcome Sound Bath** for sonic renewal

**Wild and Varied Empires Have Inhabited This Place**

*Jennifer Wright, solo hand pan drum*

Jennifer Wright

**Waterfall**

*Daniel Brugh, live synthesizer*

Daniel Brugh

**Never Have I Wished So Hard for Rain:**

**Elegy for Eagle Creek/ Resigning Prayers**

*Akela Jaffi, dance & spoken word*

*Jennifer Wright, piano & fixed media*

Music by Jennifer Wright

Poem by Akela Jaffi

**The Angry Magical Bumblebee**

*Daniel Brugh, live synthesizer*

Daniel Brugh

**The Whispered Counsel of Past Lives**

*Jordie Campbell, aerial dance*

*Jennifer Wright, toy piano & music boxes*

Jennifer Wright

**Grayling Lane**

*Daniel Brugh, live synthesizer & ROLI Seaboard*

Daniel Brugh

**One Hot Mess**

*Jennifer Wright, piano, fixed media & infantile percussion*

*Audience participation with the SHAKE IT OUTs*

Jennifer Wright

# PROGRAM NOTES

**Welcome Sound Bath** in this special place of gathering and community, the resonant tones of bells crafted from recycled oxygen tanks and the crisp, shiver-y sounds of the SHAKE IT OUTs bring us the joyous, healing power of real, live, not-through-Zoom sound waves!

**Wild and Varied Empires Have Inhabited This Place** for solo hand pan drum was composed to honor the history of the space currently inhabited by the Keller Fountain Park on the 50th anniversary of the park's opening. The park represented a revolution in urban public space design when it opened in 1970, a time when America was reeling with revolutionary energy. It was built upon land belonging to one of Portland's oldest neighborhoods, comprised predominantly of Jewish and immigrant residents. In its quest for urban renewal, the City of Portland designated the area a slum, relocated more than 1500 residents, and razed it to construct the park. What had life been like for the people who made their lives in those city blocks, or for the settlers that preceded them in Portland's "Stumptown" days, or for the First Nations people that preceded them, stretching back into distant prehistory? This honors the memories and hidden histories of the countless ghosts that fill this place, sounding echoes of many empires, each built upon the rubble of the previous ones, in a bittersweet, ongoing layer cake of human history.

**Waterfall** is a meditative piece for fixed media and Korg Kronos Workstation, a massively powerful piece of machinery that includes a sampler, sequencer, effects processor, nine engines, and multiple modulators to finely tune every level of musical detail. All of these capabilities give a composer a massive amount of possibilities to work with, while making performing on it in real time a complicated yet exciting task. Waterfall was composed specifically for this concert in honor of the Keller Fountain park's anniversary, bringing the water back in the form of sound waves in a summer when the fountain's literal water has been turned off due to COVID-19. The park has been meaningful place to Dan as he grew up in Portland, the scene of summer playtimes and fun childhood memories with his dad.

**Never Have I Wished So Hard for Rain: Elegy for Eagle Creek/Resigning Prayers** (2020 version) is an adaptation of piece for solo piano and amplified running water composed in 2017 when the horrific Eagle Creek wildfire was raging in the Columbia River Gorge and ash rained from red skies over northern Oregon. Poet and dancer Akela Jaffi created the poem *Resigning Prayers* in response to the music in summer 2020, bringing her powerful voice and modern dance choreography to this new expression of sorrow. 2020's devastating wildfires, which caused widespread grief across the Pacific Northwest at the previously unthinkable loss of wilderness and human environment, reinvigorated these passionate musical prayers of three years ago and lay the groundwork for the solemn understanding that this danger will be ever-present in our future.

**The Angry Magical Bumblebee** is an appropriately noisy modern fable about a bee who notices the expansive wings of a butterfly and wonders how it is that he is able to fly with his own tiny wings. As the bee ponders this, he becomes self-aware and simultaneously begins to gain awareness of the greater world around him. Observing how the thoughtless actions of humans have caused devastation among his fellow bees, he is filled with anger. The tiny insect gathers all of his bee compatriots together and...they hatch a plan to do away with the entire human race, thenceforth living happily ever after. The End.

**The Whispered Counsel of Past Lives** layers multiple music boxes with the melancholy strains of a toy piano to evoke a dreamlike, slightly unsettling sense of déjà vu, a feeling that somehow (impossibly) you've felt before what you're feeling now, or have arrived before at this place you have just arrived. Hidden within this feeling are uncertain premonitions of some important advice or understanding, yet the ability to uncover them lies just beyond your reach. Like echoes of past lives just out of hearing, they are too faint to guide you, leaving you to walk in this path anew, perhaps to learn the same lessons, or make the same mistakes, over again. Today, the inimitable aerial artist Jordie Campbell interprets this ethereal feeling in the actual ether.

**Grayling Lane** is, quite simply, a fun romp around some very fun electronic media! It reminds us that good times are always there to be had, 2020 or no...especially when you have a pitch-bending ROLI Seaboard keyboard to mess around with!

**One Hot Mess** Horrified by the number and nature of the outright lies that appeared in Donald Trump's presidential nomination acceptance speech at the 2016 Republican National Convention, Jennifer spent hundreds of hours digitally reconstructing his words into a new, fictitious narrative and created an appropriately obtuse soundtrack for it. The piece was originally composed for string quartet and called for the second violinist to smash her violin to smithereens at the end (the premiere recording featuring the Delgani String Quartet is available on YouTube if you would like to view this). Imagine: this was how frustrated she was *four years ago*, when she was certain that the insanity would soon be over and that the United States would soon have its first female president...and now, here we are. Only a few days before what may well be the most consequential election of our lives, this solo piano version gives the audience a chance to let go of any pent-up frustrations they might have with the current political situation with the SHAKE IT OUTs. These colorful, sparkly shakers are constructed from household plastic packaging waste that Jennifer collected for an entire year, on the premise that when there's so much you *can't* control, at least you can divert toxic materials from ending up in the ocean and find a way to make sweet, cathartic music with them...there's probably a metaphor there somewhere.

**Please consider supporting our artists directly  
to show them that you value and appreciate their work!**

Every donation sustains them through the current crisis and shows that you want them to continue beautifying the world with art both for the duration of this pandemic and when it's over.

Jordie Campbell

Venmo: @Jordie-Campbell

PayPal: jordienotjordan@gmail.com

Akela Jaffi

Venmo/Cash App: @akelajaffi

Jennifer Wright

Zelle: jenniferawright@yahoo.com

Daniel Brugh

Cash App: Alonza1960

# THE ARTISTS



DANIEL BRUGH is a Portland native and a graduate of the school of music at the University of Oregon. He attended the internationally acclaimed music academy at Interlochen, Michigan. Daniel has studied composition with Doy Baker, Harold Owen, Derek Healey and Walter Saul, and piano performance with Ruth Roper, Michael Coonwrod, Andrzej Dutkiewicz, Victor Steinhart and Jill Timmons. As the Oregon Music Teachers Association's Composer of the Year in 2010, Daniel had his Sonata Concrete premiered at the OMTA state conference at Oregon State University. Daniel is Vice President of Cascadia Composers, and his works are frequently featured on Cascadia concerts. In 2016 and 2018, his work was selected, along with five other Cascadia members' works, to be featured at the 29th and 31st Annual

Contemporary Music Festival in Havana, Cuba. Daniel composes acoustic and electroacoustic music and takes special pride in concert production. His productions of have been some of Cascadia's most popular concerts.

JORDIE CAMPBELL is an interdisciplinary circus performer, coach, and curious explorer of all things movement. She performs and creates original work both on and off the ground specializing in aerial silks, rope, sling, and a signature blend of ground movement influenced by years of dance, acrobatics, hand balancing, and contortion training. Jordie is passionate about collaboration between people and also between styles and interests. From movies to music and art she draws inspiration from many sources to create movement uniquely her own and strives to encourage the same in others. With over ten years of performance experience she has trained and performed with an array of apparatus on a variety of stages from cabaret shows to full length productions. From small town Oregon U.S.A. to traveling the world she is hungry and humble to experience, create, and share new ways of expression with the body.



AKELA JAFFI is a writer and dancer currently residing in Washington DC. Her movement work has been largely centered around ritual, using dance as a way to pay homage to the passings of life. She has been training, choreographing and creating for stage for 15 years, and is still learning new things about dance at every turn. While movement provides a connection to the ego, the extrovert and the performer within, writing has served as a connection to spirit and bloodline. She believes in art as a healing medium, and hopes to create work that permits deep conversation with the self, both for the audience and the creator.

JENNIFER WRIGHT is a keyed-instruments performer, composer, educator, graphic artist, event producer, instrument destroyer/creator, and culture-maker. She holds two degrees in classical piano performance (B.M., Hartt School of Music, Connecticut; M.M., Trinity College of Music, London, England) and studied for two years at the Music

Conservatory in Stuttgart, Germany.

Jennifer thrives on interdisciplinary collaborations that produce spectacularly memorable juxtapositions and reinterpretations of human cultural expression and storytelling. Her eclectic acoustic and electroacoustic compositions include works for solo instruments, mixed ensembles, choir, dance, and film. Much of her work explores modern approaches to keyed instruments, including typewriters, toy pianos, and her one-of-a-kind experimental creation "The Skeleton Piano". Jennifer's compositions have been performed across the U.S., England, Finland and Cuba; on KBOO, XRAY and KTCB radio; and on KGW TV and Cuban National TV by herself, Resonance Ensemble, The Delgani String Quartet, The Venerable Showers of Beauty Gamelan Orchestra, Ensemble Interactivo de la Habana, 20 Digitus piano duo, Fear No Music, CORVUS, and Free Marz String Trio, among others. More info at her websites [jenniferwrightpianostudio.com](http://jenniferwrightpianostudio.com) & [skeletonpiano.com](http://skeletonpiano.com).

