

Wang Lu Bio

Composer and pianist Wang Lu writes music that reflects a very natural identification with influences from urban environmental sounds, linguistic intonation and contours, traditional Chinese music and freely improvised practices, through the prism of contemporary instrumental techniques and new sonic possibilities.

Wang Lu's works have been performed internationally, by ensembles including the Ensemble Modern, Ensemble Intercontemporain, Ensemble Recherche, Ensemble Mosaik, the Tapiola Sinfonietta, The Phoenix Ensemble, the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony Orchestra MusicNOW, Minnesota Orchestra, Boston Lyric Opera, American Composers Orchestra, Orchestre National de Lille, Holland Symfonia, Shanghai National Chinese Orchestra, Musiques Nouvelles, Le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, International Contemporary Ensemble, Talea Ensemble, Seattle Modern Orchestra, Alarm Will Sound, Ensemble Dal Niente, Third Sound, Yarn/Wire, The Crossing Choir, New York Virtuoso Singers, and soloists Miranda Cuckson, Jennifer Koh, Claire Chase and pianist Jacob Greenberg among others.

Wang Lu has received the Wladimir and Rhoda Lakond award from American Academy of Arts and Letters (2020), the Berlin Prize in Music Composition (Spring 2019 residency) and was a 2014 Guggenheim Fellow, commissions from the Koussevitzky Foundation at the Library of Congress and the Fromm Foundation at Harvard, commissions from the National Endowment for the Arts, The Barlow Foundation, New Music USA and the Alice M. Ditson Fund at Columbia University.

Wang Lu's music was programmed on festivals such as the 2023 Musical Nova in Finland, 2022 New York Philharmonic's Sound On series curated by Nadia Sirota, 2014 New York Philharmonic Biennial, MATA Festival, Cresc. Biennale in Frankfurt, Gaudeamus Music Week, Tanglewood, Cabrillo Music Festival, Beijing Modern, Pacific and Takefu festivals in Japan, Mostly Mozart, Aspekte Festival in Salzburg, Mizzou International Composers Festival, and the Havana New Music Festival. She has also been a resident at the Civitella Ranieri Foundation, Yaddo, MacDowell and Hermitage Artist Retreat. Collaborations have included an evening of poetry and music with poet Ocean Vuong. In 2019, her music was featured on portrait concerts at Miller Theater with ICE and Yarn/Wire, with Ensemble Recherche in Paris, and with Ensemble Mosaik plus soloists Ryan Muncy and Wu Wei in Berlin. In 2021, her projects include *Aftertouch* a flute electronic and video piece for Claire Chase's Density 2036.

Wang Lu was the Vanguard Emerging Opera Composer at the Chicago Opera Theatre (2020-22). Her full-length chamber opera *The Beekeeper* in collaboration with librettist Kelley Rourke was concert premiered at Chicago's Athenaeum Center in March 2021.

In 2022-23 season her projects include a new orchestra work *Surge* commissioned by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation for the New York Philharmonic (Jan. 2023), with following performances by the Cincinnati Symphony, Aspen Music Festival, Des Moines Symphony and Pensacola Symphony Orchestra; A large ensemble work *The Nothing Man and Other Tales* commissioned by the Barlow Foundation for the Seattle Modern Orchestra (Jun. 2023), a large ensemble work commissioned by the National Endowment for the Arts for Chicago based Ensemble Dal Niente, a new string

quartet *Motion* for the Parker Quartet, and a piano quintet *Wave Field* for the Danish Quartet and pianist Saleem Abboud Ashkar . Other international ensembles performing Wang Lu's compositions this season also include: Ensemble Sillages in France, Phoenix Ensemble in Basel Switzerland, Tapiola Sinfonietta, in Finland, Jennifer Koh at Phoenix Symphony's new music festival REVERB.

Wang Lu is an Associate Professor of Music at Brown University, after receiving her doctoral degree in composition at Columbia University and graduating from the Beijing Central Conservatory of Music.

From 2022-23, Wang Lu is a mentor at Luna Composition Lab that provides mentorship, education, and resources for young female, nonbinary, and gender-nonconforming composers ages 13-18. She will be teaching at Yarn/Wire Institute and Music on the Point in summer 2023.

Of her portrait album *Urban Inventory*, released in March 2018, Alex Ross wrote in the *New Yorker*, "I've listened at least a dozen times to the composer Wang Lu's new album, "Urban Inventory" (New Focus Recordings), and remain happily lost in its riotous maze of ideas and images. Every moment is vividly etched, drenched in instrumental color, steeped in influences that range from ancient Chinese folk music to the latest detonations of the European avant-garde... The sense of loneliness that emerges at the end of "Cloud Intimacy" lurks behind all of Wang Lu's meticulous frenzies: it is of a piece with the essential solitude of composing, of sitting in silence and dreaming of a music that has never been heard."