



PRESS RELEASE

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Present Music Announces 37th Season as the Last Chance to Hear the Vision of Artistic Director Kevin Stalheim

PAST, PRESENT (MUSIC) & FUTURE

Celebrating music from Milwaukee’s favorite contemporary composers, bringing new music and talent, and looking toward a new future of Present Music in Milwaukee

July 15, 2018 – [Milwaukee, Wisconsin] – For 37 years, **Present Music** has brought new music to Milwaukee filtered through the imaginative mind of Artistic Director **Kevin Stalheim**. Stalheim recently announced that he will step down as artistic director at the end of the 2018-19 season. Stalheim founded the ensemble in Milwaukee in 1982.

“Kevin’s artistic vision, leadership, and curation of amazing concerts has excited and delighted our supremely curious audiences for 37 years,” said Board chair Claudia Egan. “He has promised a final season that you will not want to miss!”

Says Stalheim, about retiring next year: “I have always said that Present Music could not have happened anywhere except Milwaukee. It was the people here that made Present Music possible . . . and successful! We’ve toured internationally, commissioned world premieres, and drawn much larger audiences here than even New York performances do. As I approach retirement and look back at what we have accomplished here, I see a city of full of music lovers, looking for their next adventure. I’m proud to have helped create that environment and opportunity.”

Present Music’s concert season this year will celebrate music from Stalheim’s past concert creations, but will also introduce new composers to Milwaukee audiences and look to a new vision. The Season, titled: **Past Present (Music) & Future**, will include Stalheim collaborating with visiting young conductor David Bloom, the traditional **Thanksgiving** Concert, chamber music in the new Jan Serr Studio, and the **StalheimTime** Finale, a thank you concert from Stalheim to Milwaukee, at the Pabst Theater.

PRESENT MUSIC'S 2018-19 "PAST PRESENT (MUSIC) & FUTURE SEASON

Join **Kevin Stalheim** in a collaboration with Guest Conductor **David Bloom** (of [Contemporaneous](#) fame) and the Present Music Ensemble for **Kevin's Last Season Opener** concert featuring a mix Present Music's past hits and music that's sure to be new to Milwaukee's ears. The concert will take the audience on a scintillating spin from Sinatra to Stravinsky, America's Deep South to Africa, and to the waters of Turkey and Ireland. Come hear what Kevin & David are cooking up for Present Music's 2018-19 Season Opener!

A Milwaukee tradition, Present Music's annual **Thanksgiving** concert will include a world premiere commission from [Kamran Ince](#), our Hearing Voices vocal ensemble, the **Reagan High School Choir**, the Present Music Ensemble, and the **Bucks Native American Singing and Drumming Group**. Under the direction of artistic director **Kevin Stalheim** and in the resounding acoustics of the cathedral, the concert will create a unique and temporary community of listeners, who join in the performance for the annual concert's closing **Friendship Dance**. Composer **Ince** will be present at the concert.

Audience members will experience Present Music's **In The New Chamber** concert in the [Jan Serr Studio](#). Newly constructed, the Serr Studio serves as "a flexible technologically-integrated performance venue that will choreograph light and sound in as many unique ways as the diverse group of university and community artists it aims to serve". Named after artist and UWM Department of Art & Design alumna, Jan Serr, the school's new flagship venue will provide a much welcomed home for contemporary and interdisciplinary artists, and Present Music is thrilled to be one of the inaugural events in this new Milwaukee venue. Music you've never heard before in a space you've never seen before -- a private and cozy concert with the Present Music Ensemble.

Through Present Music and its concerts, Kevin Stalheim has brought some of the world's most exciting composers of our time from places such as Australia, Turkey, China, and Austria to Milwaukee. Stalheim's final concert as Artistic Director will bring Present Music back to the Pabst Theater for a celebration involving many local collaborators – both new and old - to the Ensemble. The **StalheimTime Finale** concert will express Kevin's gratitude to the Community, Musicians, Audiences, Supporters, and Artistic Collaborators who contributed to each concert experience. Present Music will present works of composers important to new music and personal to Stalheim including [John Adams' Son of Chamber Symphony](#), Aaron Copland's iconic *Appalachian Spring*, and [Elena Kats-Chernin's Village Idiot](#). This landmark event will include a post-concert party.

SEASON PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

September 8, 2018 at 7:30pm

Kevin's Last Season Opener

Zelazo Center for the Performing Arts

2419 E Kenwood Boulevard

Sunday, November 18, 2018 at 5:00pm

Thanksgiving

Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist

812 N Jackson Street

Thursday, February 21 (Concert and Reception) at 6:00pm

& Friday, February 22, 2019 at 7:30pm

In the New Chamber

Jan Serr Studio

East Kenilworth Place, 2155 N Prospect Ave 6th Floor

Saturday, June 1, 2019 at 7:30 pm

StalheimTime Finale

Pabst Theatre

144 E Wells Street

SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS AND SINGLE TICKETS

Present Music is offering two subscription options for the 2018-19 season. Subscriber benefits include exclusive invites to special events and pre/post-concert parties, reserved seats for every concert (best available seat in each section, determined by the box office,) special parking options, and discounted ticket prices on the seats included in your package and on any additional single tickets throughout the season.

Single General Admission tickets are on sale now for \$25 and do not include parking to any of the events. VIP tickets are 55\$ and include parking, reserved seats in the VIP section and special surprises for each concert! Family, Friends, & Student discounts are available! To purchase tickets go to presentmusic.org or call **414-271-0711**.

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