



PCMS
CONCERTS.ORG

PREVIEW
NOTES

**Curtis 20/21 Contemporary Ensemble; David Hayes, conductor;
Roberto Díaz, viola; Anna Davidson, soprano
Sunday, December 4 – 3:00 PM
Perelman Theater**

Background

David Hayes takes the baton for this concert of modern masterpieces, leading Curtis's renowned new music ensemble and guest artists (and Curtis President) Roberto Díaz, viola and Anna Davidson, soprano.

Program

Siddhartha's Dream

Daniel Shapiro

Born: 1985

Composed: 2011

Last PCMS performance: World premiere

Duration: 8 minutes

Commissioned by the Curtis Institute of Music for the 20/21 Contemporary Ensemble, *Siddhartha's Dream* was inspired by the image of Herman Hesse's title character glimpsing Nirvana. Distant brass, ecstatic woodwinds, lush strings and delicate percussion depict Siddhartha's river-vision: the myriad voices of humanity melding into a single, variegated continuum.

Sidereus

Oswaldo Golijov

Born: December 5, 1960 in La Plata, Argentina

Composed: 2010

Last PCMS performance: PCMS premiere

Duration: 8 minutes

The name of this work comes from a book by Galileo, *Sidereus Nuncius*, which the astronomer wrote after observing the moon for the first time by telescope. In *Sidereus*, Golijov employs simple melodies that reveal more upon closer examination. For the "Moon" theme he used a melody with a magnified scale fragment, so that the patterns from which the melody emerges and into which it dissolves, point to a more molecular, atomic reality.

Viola Concerto

Roberto Sierra

Born: October 9, 1953 in Vega Baja, Puerto Rico

Composed: 2006

Last PCMS performance: PCMS premiere

Duration: 16 minutes

Roberto Sierra studied composition both in Puerto Rico and Europe, where one his teachers was György Ligeti. In 2003 he was presented with the Academy Award in Music by the American Academy of Arts and Letters, which described his music as "brilliant... mixing fresh and personal melodic lines with sparkling harmonies and striking rhythms."

Time Cycle

Lukas Foss

Born: August 15, 1922 in Berlin, Germany

Died: February 1, 2009 in New York, NY

Composed: 1960

Last PCMS performance: Network for New Music in 2005

Duration: 31 minutes

At the time of this composition, Foss was probing and questioning the ideas of tonality, notation and fixed form. In this work scored for soprano and orchestra he questions time itself through settings of darkly fatalistic texts by W. H. Auden, A. E. Housman, Franz Kafka and Friedrich Nietzsche.