



ART
of
ELAN

COMMUNITY THROUGH MUSIC

COLLECTIVE IMPACT REPORT 2022-2023



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Tina Chong and Logan Chopyk, piano
Sam Zauscher Photography



DEAR FRIENDS,

Season 16 has been a busy one for us!

Dedicated to the idea of “Landscapes,” this season’s programming has been centered around a shared humanity and responsibility to care for each other and the world around us. We sought to raise awareness of the ever-shifting nature of the earth, as well as explore the cultural landscapes that shape our diverse communities. We hope you’ve joined us for some of these thought-provoking programs and that you’ve been able to bring some curiosity to the various “landscapes” of your lives.

In addition to our art-inspired 3-concert series at The San Diego Museum of Art, Art of Elan has been proud to partner with many of our region’s finest artists and institutions, including the Mingei International Museum, where we drew inspiration from the powerful “25 Million Stitches” exhibit and its amplification of the global refugee crisis to curate a musical program called “Defining Home.” We explored cultural identity and diasporic communities in collaboration with the Institute for Contemporary Art (ICA) and its resident artists Yaw Owusu, Shellie Zhang and Edra Soto. We also continued our community engagement work with The Preuss School, which serves first-generation college seekers, and A Reason To Survive (ARTS) in National City, where we deepened our relationships with the young people we work with to create original pieces of music.

Speaking of new music, our commissioning catalogue keeps growing! To date we’ve commissioned 28 new works from some of today’s most innovative composers, premiering it all here in San Diego, often in collaboration with other arts organizations and cultural institutions. We are super proud of this accomplishment and are grateful to you all for supporting our vision.

Thank you again for being on this journey with us and we'll hope to see you in Season 17!

Warmly,



Kate Hatmaker
Co-founder, Executive Director & Artistic Director



Composer Rand Steiger in rehearsal for his Art of Elan-commissioned piece, *Grace*, which featured Art of Elan co-founder Demarre McGill and the Myriad Trio

Sam Zauscher Photography





ART *of* ELAN

ABOUT

Known for its collaborative spirit, Art of Elan has been pioneering unique events and bringing exciting classical music to diverse audiences for over 16 years through innovative partnerships and bi-national initiatives that have cultivated curious audiences on both sides of the border. Its consistent track record of sold-out performances stems from its commitment to commissioning new work, collaborating with world class artists and composers, programming engaging and thought-provoking concerts, and expanding its impact in the region through thoughtful community engagement programs. By drawing inspiration from the word *élan*, which represents vigor, style, and spirit, Art of Elan continues to engage and energize audiences in new ways.

MISSION

The mission of Art of Elan is to build community through music and enrich the cultural life of San Diego by presenting exciting and exceptional chamber music concerts, simultaneously educating and exposing diverse audiences to classical music through innovative programming, the commissioning of new works, unique performance venues and personal connections with concertgoers.

“Attending a new music concert is like panning for gold. Sometimes you are rewarded with a nugget or two. Less frequently, everything is worthless sand.

But once in a while, **EVERY PIECE ON THE PROGRAM IS GOLDEN**. Take Tuesday’s Art of Elan concert at the San Diego Museum of Art: a wintry landscape by John Luther Adams; an intriguing miniature by Carlos Camacho; an engaging solo clarinet work by Michi Wiancko; and a substantial premiere by UCSD faculty composer Rand Steiger.



—Christian Hertzog, San Diego Union-Tribune

OUR TEAM



KATE HATMAKER
CO-FOUNDER, EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR & ARTISTIC
DIRECTOR



FIONA DIGNEY
MANAGING DIRECTOR &
ARTISTIC PRODUCER



EMILY PERSINKO
PERSONNEL MANAGER &
MARKETING ASSOCIATE



ELIZABETH BROWN
ACCOUNTING &
DONOR RELATIONS
COORDINATOR



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SOCIAL MEDIA & DESIGN

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Kate Hatmaker
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Alan Ziter



LANDSCAPES

16TH SEASON | 2022 - 2023

ARTS INNOVATORS • MUSIC EDUCATORS • COMMUNITY BUILDERS

“ If you've ever had any questions about the essential nature of music, and its power to move, enlighten, question and inspire, you haven't been paying attention to Art of Elan. Over 16 seasons the organization has quietly established itself as an essential and unique contributor to San Diego's arts community. As its 2022-23 season demonstrated again, nobody does what Art of Elan does.

Consider, for example, the March 15, 2023 'Portraits and Pictures' concert at the San Diego Museum of Art. New works by Canadian composer Michael Oesterle, Italian composer Ludovico Einaudi and American composer Derrick Skye (whose 'American Mirror' brought together music practices from different cultural traditions around the world) were both provocative and inspirational. And the concert's closer, 'American Roadmap' offered a rush of joy with its arrangements of Appalachian fiddling, jazz (Dizzy Gillespie's 'A Night in Tunisia'), blues (W.C. Handy's 'St. Louis Blues') and Motown (Ashford and Simpson's 'Ain't No Mountain'). Where else are you going to find a program like that?

Or, consider Young Artists in Harmony (YAH), Art of Elan's innovative Creative Youth Development program at A Reason to Survive (ARTS) and the Preuss School. Rather than teaching high school students to play an instrument, Art of Elan teaching artists empower YAH participants to create and compose original works of music, collaborating with each other and with professional classical musicians. This is something unique in San Diego, but as far as anyone can tell, also nationally.

I know I speak for the other members of the board, the advisory board, our donors and ticket buyers when I say I'm proud to be associated with Art of Elan. I look forward to what founding artistic director Kate Hatmaker has in store for us in the 2023-24 season. ”

—James Chute, 2022-2023 Board Chair

BY THE NUMBERS

9 Years of collaboration with ARTS for our Young Artists in Harmony program

16 Years of art-inspired programming

28 World premieres of commissioned works

105 Original compositions created by Young Artists in Harmony participants

107 Unique, cross-disciplinary, and collaborative productions

130 Musicians showcased

367 Public concerts

63K Streams on Art of Elan's free music app thanks to online listeners in 28 countries

This season:

38 Pieces of music performed

37 Featured artists

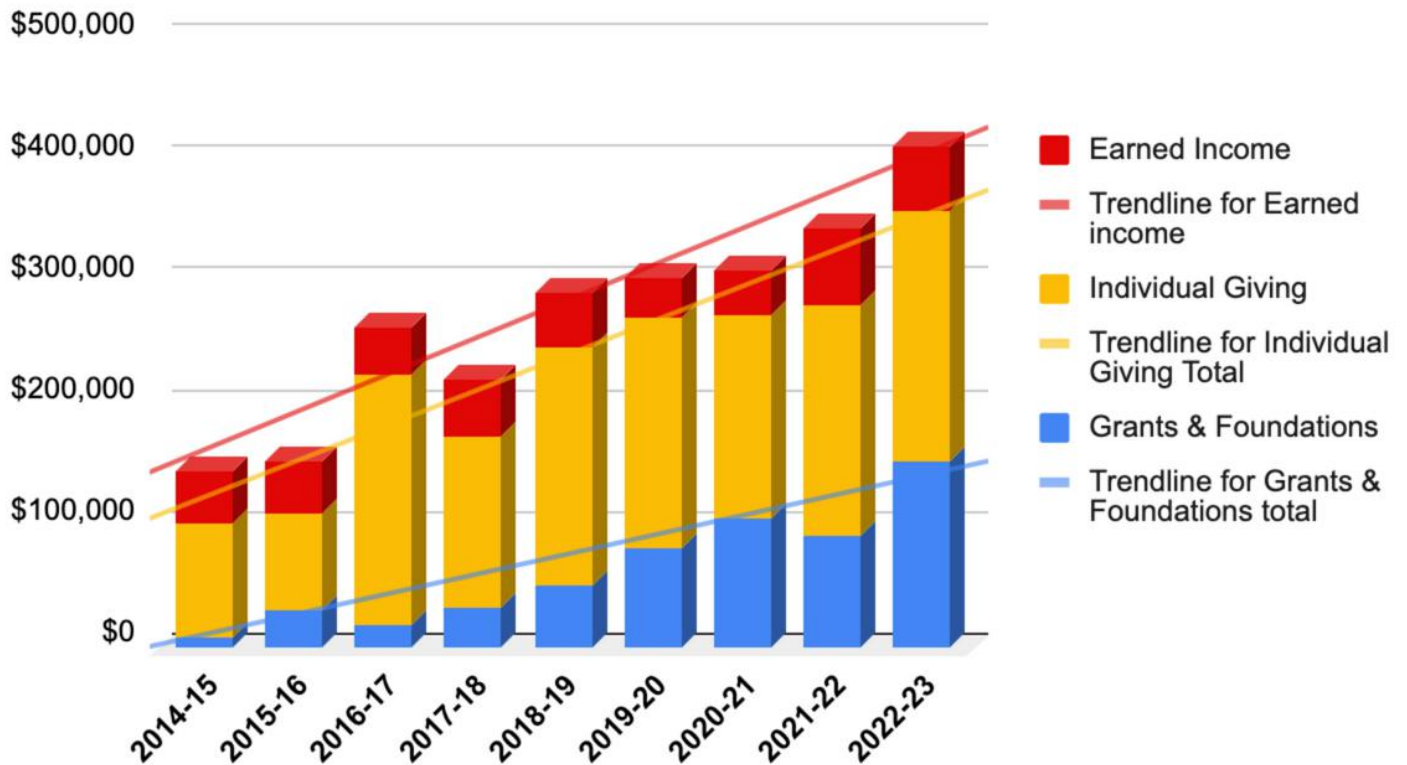
9 San Diego premieres

2 World premieres

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Individual giving accounts for more than half of our annual budget.
It is because of **YOU** that we can continue to
Build Community Through Music.

Total Revenue Over Time (2014 - 2023)



We do this for you and because of you! Your contribution really does matter!

23% Year-over-year growth over the last eight years

19% Total revenue increase from last year

43% Increase in grants and foundational giving



Fiona Digney at ICA San Diego / North
Tim Hardy Photography



Julia Pautz at Mingei International Museum



Deborah Pae at The San Diego Museum of Art



Alex Greenbaum at The San Diego Museum of Art
Gary Payne Photography

SEASON 16 HIGHLIGHTS

Art of Elan's 2022-23 season 'Landscapes' reflected on the ever-shifting nature of the earth and the world around us, while also exploring the cultural landscapes that shape our lives. With a renewed commitment to thoughtful, relevant programming and intentional community relationships, this 16th season reminded us of the power of creative expression to be an agent of change. Highlights include:

- Art of Elan receiving its first-ever National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant
- Art of Elan musicians collaborating directly with visual artists through the ICA San Diego / North artists-in-residence program
- Being featured as one of the "Top Classical Music Picks this Season" in the San Diego Union-Tribune's 2022 Fall Preview
- Presenting 11 thought-provoking concerts
- Creating 9 San Diego Premieres
- Producing 2 world premieres of Art of Elan commissioned works
- Record-breaking participation in the Young Artists in Harmony composition program

MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Consistent growth across all social media platforms, with our strongest channel being Instagram, which saw a **51% increase in followers** in 2022.
- Releasing more virtual content this season, including artist interviews, with plans to drive more engagement to our YouTube channel in the 2023-24 season.

Other highlights in 2022-23 include:

31% Increase in social media reach during the 2022-23 season

68% Increase in monthly website views in 2022

8% Increase in our our average open rate for Art of Elan's e-newsletter (Art of Elan's open rate is 51%; the industry average is 25%)





Calling all young and emerging composers!

YOUNG ARTISTS IN HARMONY

Now Accepting Applications for Spring 2023

ART of ELAN

ART of ELAN APR 23

DEFINING HOME

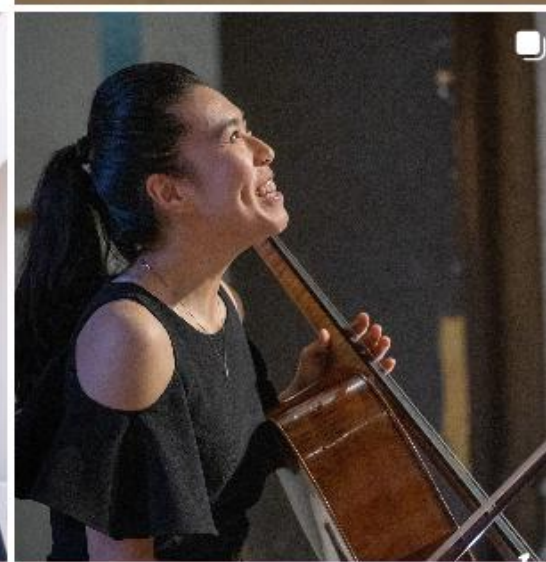
A Live Performance at Mingqi International Museum

Inspired by the 25 Million Stitches exhibition, this colorful musical program features Sara Caswell, Hausmann Quartet, and works by composers Shih-Hui Chen, Reza Vali, and a world premiere by San Diego composer Yale Stram. Sunday, April 23 at 6:30pm.

STORY
Reviewing San Diego's Professional Performing Arts

The Formosa Quartet Plays Both For and With Art of Elan Audience

By Ken Herman | March 16, 2023 | 1



INSTAGRAM TAKEOVER!
with the Formosa Quartet



ICA SAN DIEGO YOU SATURDAY! ART of ELAN MAR 18

EDRA SOTO RESIDENCY COLLABORATION

Edra Soto, Marco Granados, Gabriela Lena Frank, Angelica Negrón

Art of Elan, in collaboration with ICA San Diego, explores music as an entry point into the world of visual art in response to Edra Soto's exhibition *Graft*. Features



Erin Douglas Dowrey at The San Diego Museum of Art
Sam Zauscher Photography

ART OF ELAN @ SDMA

"BROKEN WINDOWS" ON NOVEMBER 9, 2022

Broken Windows was inspired by the thought-provoking multimedia work of artist Justin Sterling and his *Chapel of the Rocks* installation at The San Diego Museum of Art (SDMA), featuring a diverse lineup of musical works by Jonathan Bailey Holland, Juhi Bansal, Kevin Puts and others.

"PORTRAITS AND PICTURES" ON MARCH 15, 2023

Portraits and Pictures was inspired by the incredibly life-like oil paintings of local artist Carlo Miranda and his exhibition at SDMA, *Carlo Miranda: In Search of Sonder*. This diverse musical program was a mosaic of sounds, drawing from a myriad of musical traditions, histories and cultures, featuring the internationally renowned Formosa Quartet, along with San Diego Symphony musicians Andrew Hayhurst and Jeremy Kurtz-Harris.

"DIVIDED LANDSCAPES" ON MAY 16, 2023

Divided Landscapes was inspired by the one-of-a-kind exhibition comparing the work of two iconic modernists: Georgia O'Keeffe and Henry Moore. This powerful program explored our shared humanity and our shared responsibility to care for each other and the world around us, featuring the world premiere of an Art of Elan commissioned work written by San Diego composer Rand Steiger and performances by The Myriad Trio and San Diego Symphony musicians.



Formosa Quartet at The San Diego Museum of Art
Gary Payne Photography

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Generously Underwritten by:

Elaine Baldwin, Christine A. Baltuth, Gordon Brodfuehrer, Maureen Brown,
Mary and James* Dawe, Harold and Pam Fuson, Webster Burke (Buzz) and Helen Kinnaird,
Julianne and Greg Markow, Rena Minisi, Deborah Pate and John Forrest, Jeanette Stevens

*in memoriam



Fiona Digney at ICA San Diego / North
Tim Hardy Photography

ICA SAN DIEGO / NORTH COLLABORATION

In a renewed and more integrated partnership with ICA San Diego / North, Art of Elan explored various cultural landscapes across musical and visual art through creative collaboration directly between musicians and visual artists.

In September, Art of Elan's Fiona Digney performed in a collaborative performance with ICA San Diego's Artist-in-Residence, Yaw Owusu, whose exhibition, "A Penny, for What It's Worth," deconstructs the exchange rates of copper through the different stages of being: from raw material, to monetary value, to art, to the art market.

Local Chinese-American composer Lei Liang was featured alongside artist Shellie Zhang, whose work centers around diasporic communities. This January concert consisted of a thought-provoking conversation between Liang and Zhang, paired with a musical performance that featured the Hausmann Quartet and included works by Lei Liang and Tania León, among others.

March saw Art of Elan curate a concert where the musicians themselves weaved through and between the sculptural artwork of Puerto Rican artist Edra Soto. They enlivened the space with music by J. S. Bach, Angelica Negrón, Marco Granados, and Gabriela Lena Frank.



Hausmann Quartet and Sara Caswell at Mingei International Museum
Studio Luniste Photography

ART OF ELAN @ MINGEI

"AMERICAN STORIES" ON NOVEMBER 3, 2022

Inspired by "This is Our Story," a fascinating and diverse exhibit of self-taught visual artists based in the United States, this musical program explored some of our collective stories through the eyes of various American composers. Music by William Grant Still, Mark O'Connor, Carlos Simon and Samuel Adams, whose new work, *Sundial*, received its San Diego premiere, was expertly performed by the Artonic Quartet along with percussionist Fiona Digney (pictured below).

"DEFINING HOME" ON APRIL 23, 2023

This colorful program was inspired by the immersive "25 Million Stitches" exhibit that is raising awareness of the global refugee crisis through large hand-sewn panels. Highlighting various folk traditions from around the world, the evening included works by Shi-Hui Chen and Reza Vali, as well as the world premiere of an Art of Elan commissioned work written by Yale Strom, featuring the Hausmann Quartet and the acclaimed jazz violinist Sara Caswell.



Artonic Quartet and Fiona Digney at Mingei International Museum
Gary Payne Photography

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2022-2023 SEASON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
PROGRAM SUPPORTERS:



SAMUEL I. AND
JOHN HENRY FOX
FOUNDATION



CLARE ROSE
FOUNDATION



THE SCHOENITH
FOUNDATION



PRATT MEMORIAL FUND



SINCE 2014:

- 17** Performances have taken place featuring Young Artists in Harmony composers
- 31** Professional musicians have participated as mentors and performed works for YAH
- 105** Original compositions have been created by Young Artists in Harmony participants



For the past nine years, Art of Elan has offered its “Young Artists in Harmony” (YAH) program in partnership with the nationally recognized A Reason To Survive (ARTS), an organization that believes in the power of the arts and creativity to literally transform lives. YAH consists of weekly workshops where high school and community college students have the opportunity to explore musical composition with professional musicians, to create and be part of a professionally recorded public performance, to meet and collaborate with other like-minded music students of high school and college age, and to build a musical composition portfolio. Participants in YAH receive weekly mentoring and coaching from professional Art of Elan musicians who workshop and provide feedback on student works. This unique program culminates each semester with a multidisciplinary and collaborative concert that showcases original compositions the students create over the 6-10 week period, performed by Art of Elan musicians. Each concert is professionally recorded and is available for free streaming and download on Instant Encore.



Young Artists in Harmony Spring 2023 participants
Sam Zauscher Photography

HELP US BROADEN OUR IMPACT

Even a small donation will help Art of Elan fulfill its mission of building community through music.

Art of Elan is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and, as such, all contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Tax ID: 20-8136710

Donations can be made online at www.artofelan.org, and are also gratefully accepted at:

Art of Elan
6165 Radcliffe Dr
San Diego, CA 92122

**Scan the QR Code to
make a Donation Today!**

INSTANTENCORE

Art of Elan records and shares audio from concerts for FREE on InstantEncore so you never have to miss the music. Download our free Art of Elan app to listen the fast, easy way.

Find the music at:
www.instantencore.com/artofelan

All recordings by
Rumley Music and Audio Production

**Scan the QR Code to
start listening**



Studio Luniste Photography



Sam Zauscher Photography

COMMISSIONS: LUMINARIA CIRCLE

28

ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS
commissioned by Art of Elan
between 2009 and 2023

As part of its mission to keep classical music exciting and relevant, Art of Elan has made a commitment since inception to commission at least one new work a year. As a result, numerous relationships have developed with both emerging and established composers, including David Bruce, Shih-Hui Chen, Lei Liang, Geoffrey Keezer, Jonathan Holland, Joseph Hallman, Kurt Stallmann, Lev "Ljova" Zhurbin, and Chris Brubeck among others. The Luminaria Circle supports these commissioning projects with membership at \$1,000 that goes directly towards the creation of new works. As a Luminary, members receive unique behind-the-scenes access to rehearsals of commissioned works, as well as private events with the composer, Artistic Director and performing musicians.

Two new Art of Elan commissioned works performed during the 2022-23 season:

Detroit by Yale Strom, premiered April 2023

Grace by Rand Steiger, premiered May 2023

OTHER RECENT ART OF ELAN COMMISSIONED WORKS:

Wistfully Yours by Jory Herman (2021)

Two Roads by LJOVA (2021)

Jabberwocky by Andrea González (2021)

Hidden Mothers by Steven Snowden (2020)

Dew, Time, Linger by Adele Faizullina (2020)

Precise Sentiments by Timo Andres (2020)

Starlighter by Colin Jacobsen (2019)

Beg, Borrow, or Steal by Dan Visconti (2018)

Bruja by Andrés Martín (2018)

Tree Suite by Hannah Lash (2017)

First Light by Joel P. West (2017)

Variations on a Simple Theme by Avner Dorman (2017)

Petal by Petal, Leaf by Leaf by Lei Liang (2017)

Beat Suite #2 by AJ Nilles (2017)



LUMINARIA CIRCLE 2022-2023 MEMBERS

Claude & Veronique Benchimol
Gordon Brodfuehrer
James Chute & Holly McMillan
Kathleen Charla
Hal & Pam Fuson
Eric Lasley & Judith Bachner
Julianne & Greg Markow
Cynthia Obadia
Deborah Pate & John Forrest
Tommy & Julie Phillips
Audrey Ratner
James Robbins
Jeanette Stevens
Terri Tunnicliff & Peter Otto



Hausmann Quartet, violinist Sara Caswell and composer Yale Strom
with Art of Elan supporters Elaine Baldwin and Carl Nelson
Studio Luniste Photography

ART OF ELAN AFFILIATED ARTISTS

2022-2023 SEASON

Abraham Martin - *viola*

Ai Nihira - *violin*

Alex Greenbaum - *cello*

Andrea Overturf - *English horn*

Andrew Hayhurst - *cello*

Andrew Watkins - *percussion*

Angela Choong - *viola*

Batya MacAdam-Somer - *violin*

Bram Goldstein - *violin*

Che-Yen Chen - *viola*

David Rich - *YAH teaching artist*

Demarre McGill - *flute*

Deborah Pae - *cello*

Diego Rodriguez - *YAH teaching artist*

Erin Douglas Dowrey - *percussion*

Fiona Digney - *percussion*

Fernanda Baltodano - *YAH teaching artist*

Gregory Cohen - *percussion*

Hanah Stuart - *viola*

Isaac Allen - *violin*

Jasmine Lin - *violin*

Jeremy Kurtz-Harris - *double bass*

Johanna Nowik - *viola*

Jing Yan Bowcott - *violin*

Julia Pautz - *violin*

Julie Smith Phillips - *harp*

Kate Hatmaker - *violin*

Kyle Adam Blair - *piano*

Matthew Cohen - *viola*

Max Opferkuch - *clarinet*

Nicole Sauder - *violin*

Nathan Walhout - *cello*

Pei-Chun Tsai - *violin*

P.J. Cinque - *double bass*

Rose Lombardo - *flute*

Sara Caswell - *violin*

Susan Wulff - *double bass*

Tina Chong - *piano*

Wayne Lee - *violin*

Wesley Precourt - *violin*



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