
American Composers Orchestra Announces President Edward Yim is Completing his Tenure with Gains for Composers, Musicians and Audiences of Orchestral Music

New York, NY – American Composers Orchestra (ACO), praised for its “robust and diverse commissioning program” and described as “vibrant” and “riveting” by *The New York Times*, announced today that President Edward Yim will be stepping down, effective September 18, 2020, to lead New York Public Radio’s classical music station, WQXR.

“Ed has brought leadership and vision to ACO, and we are grateful for his service,” said Sameera Troesch, chair of ACO’s Board of Directors. “Our Board originally entrusted Ed to build on ACO’s legacy and lead it into the future as an innovative, inclusive organization dedicated to nurturing and supporting American composers. Ed and the ACO team have surpassed our expectations, advancing ACO’s longstanding commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and putting at the forefront programs centered on social justice,” said Troesch.

"Ed's dynamism has helped keep ACO flourishing at a time of unprecedented change," says ACO Artistic Director Derek Bermel. "We're so excited about our upcoming premieres of works by Mark Adamo, Nina C. Young, Christopher Cerrone, Alexander Timofeev, Tomàs Peire Serrate, Joel Thompson, Dai Wei, Carlos Simon, Lisa Bielawa, Carlos Bandera, and Tania León, among others, and look forward to announcing plans for our 2020-2021 season."

Troesch added that the Board has initiated a search for Yim’s successor and has secured Yim’s continued assistance with the transition until his departure.

About American Composers Orchestra

American Composers Orchestra (ACO) has been dedicated to the creation, celebration, performance, and promotion of orchestral music by American composers since 1977. With commitment to diversity, disruption and discovery, ACO produces concerts, middle school through college composer education programs, and emerging composer development programs to foster a community of creators, audience, performers, collaborators, and funders.

ACO identifies and develops talent, performs established composers, champions those who are lesser-known, and increases regional, national, and international awareness of the infinite variety of American orchestral music, reflecting gender, ethnic, geographic, stylistic, and age diversity. To date, ACO has performed music by 800 American composers, including over 350 world premieres and newly commissioned works. ACO recordings are available on ARGO, CRI, ECM, Point, Phoenix USA, MusicMasters, Nonesuch, Tzadik, New World Records, InstantEncore.com, Amazon.com and iTunes.

EarShot – in collaboration with the League of American Orchestras, New Music USA and American Composers Forum – enables ACO and partner orchestras across the country to identify talented young composers. With

guidance from ACO, partner orchestras – such as the Detroit Symphony, the Sarasota (FL) Orchestra, the Charlotte Symphony, and the Philadelphia Orchestra – undertake readings, residencies, performances and composer-development programs that speak directly to their communities and leverage local resources. ACO itself holds annual readings in New York with a multi-performance commission awarded to the most promising participant through the Composing a New Orchestra Audience platform.

For nearly two decades, ACO has brought composers and musical teaching artists into New York City public schools through Sonic Spark (formerly known as Music Factory). Sonic Spark aims to leverage composition as a platform for creativity, and creativity as a platform for achievement in all areas of student's life. Students in Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan and Queens, work directly with professional composers to create and perform original music. ACO also offers the intensive Compose Yourself! seminars, during which high school and college composers participate in hands-on composition classes, culminating in a performance of student compositions played by ACO's professional musicians.

More information about American Composers Orchestra and resources about American orchestral composers is available online at www.americancomposers.org.