



Robert Paterson, photo by Daniel Dottavio. Available in high resolution at www.christinajensenpr.com

Composer Robert Paterson's

“Do not stand at my grave and weep”
from *Eternal Reflections*

winner of the Cincinnati Camerata's
Annual Composition Contest

Sunday, May 15, 2011 at Xpm
Mount Auburn Presbyterian Church
103 William Howard Taft Road | Cincinnati, OH

FREE admission. More information at
www.cincinnati-camerata.com or 859.491.2362

Robert Paterson: www.robpateron.com

Cincinnati, OH— Composer Robert Paterson's "Do not stand at my grave and weep" from *Eternal Reflections* has been chosen as the winner of the Cincinnati Camerata's Annual Composition Contest, and will receive its Ohio premiere in a performance by the Camerata led by Gonçalo Lourenço on Sunday, May 15 at Xpm at Mount Auburn Presbyterian Church (103 William Howard Taft Road). The concert will also include [OTHER PIECES.]

Eternal Reflections consists of settings of the poems *A Song on the End of the World* by Czeslaw Milosz, *Life's Tragedy* by Paul Laurence Dunbar and *Do not stand at my grave and weep* by Mary E. Frye, the latter being performed this evening. Mary E. Frye was a housewife and florist who became best known as the author of this poem. According to an article in the *London Times*, "Frye had never written any poetry before 1932, when she and her husband had a young German Jewish girl, Margaret Schwarzkopf, staying with them. According to Frye, their guest had been concerned about her mother, who was ill in Germany, but she had been warned not to return home because of increasing anti-Semitic unrest. When her mother died, the heartbroken young woman told Frye that she never had the chance to 'stand by my mother's grave and shed a tear.'" Although many versions of this uncopyrighted poem exist, the version used in this setting is the one Frye claimed as definitive before she died.

About Robert Paterson: Composer Robert Paterson's richly colorful, wildly eclectic and intensely rhythmic music is influenced by visual art, nature, machines, and more, and is inspired by everything from the changing seasons, crashing waves, and Dali's melting clocks to the life of New York Mets Baseball catcher Mike Piazza. *Fanfare* describes his work as, "immediately engaging" and "beautifully crafted."

In 2011, Paterson will receive the Composer of the Year Award from the Classical Recording Foundation for his album, *The Book of Goddesses*. From 2011-2014, he is the Music Alive composer-in-residence with the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association, sponsored by Meet The Composer and the League of American Orchestras. The residency will culminate in a commission for a major new work for orchestra and chorus. Other recent honors include winning the Cincinnati Camerata Composition Competition, the Copland Award, Louisville Orchestra Composition Competition, Brian Israel Prize, two ASCAP Young Composer Awards, and grants from Meet The Composer, the American Music Center, the American Composers Forum and ASCAP, as well as fellowships to Yaddo, the MacDowell Colony, the Aspen Music Festival, and the Atlantic Center for the Arts.

Born in 1970, Paterson was raised in Buffalo, New York, the son of a sculptor and a painter. Percussion was his first love, and an enduring one. Paterson pioneered the development of a six-mallet marimba technique presenting the world's first all six-mallet marimba recital at the Eastman School of Music in 1993. He discovered a passion for composition early in life as well, writing his first piece at age thirteen.

Recent and upcoming performances of Paterson's work include the European premiere and sixteen additional performances of *Dancing Games* by the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire (France); the premiere of a new work for the Vermont Symphony Orchestra conducted by Jaime Laredo; two new choral works for the Chamber Choir of Europe; an orchestral opera in two acts with writer and librettist David Cote, based on the award-winning British novel *A Child Possessed* by R.C. Hutchinson; *Wind Quintet* by the Philharmonia Quintet (Poland); *Eternal Reflections*, commissioned for the San Francisco-based Volti choir; *Embracing the Wind* by the Aureole Trio and New York Harp Trio; the Louisville Orchestra world premiere of *Electric Lines*, winner of the orchestra's new music competition, and a work previously selected for the Minnesota Orchestra and American Composers Orchestra New Music Readings; *Enlightened City*, commissioned for the 100th anniversary of the IHS Orchestra; and the world premiere of *Crimson Earth* by the University of Connecticut Wind Ensemble.

Ensembles that have performed Paterson's music include the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, New York New Music Ensemble, Da Capo Chamber Players, California EAR Unit, Finger Lakes Chamber Ensemble, Ensemble Aleph (Paris), Naiades Ensemble (London), Ensemble Nouvelles Consonances (Belgium), the Kairos String Quartet, the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra, the MANCA Festival presented by the Centre National de Création Musicale (CIRM) and the June in Buffalo new music festival.

Paterson appears on recordings for Mode Records, Centaur Records, Capstone, and RiAx. Two new albums of his music will be released by American Modern Records, the label of American Modern Ensemble, in 2011.

Paterson has received degrees from Eastman (BM), Indiana University (MM), and Cornell University (DMA), and his composition teachers include Frederick Fox, Christopher Rouse, Joseph Schwantner, Roberto Sierra, and Steven Stucky. He resides in New York City with his wife, Victoria, a violinist, and their young son Dylan. For more information, visit www.robpaterson.com.

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