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17 January 2012

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NEW MUSIC PERENNIALS LAUNCH 27th SEASON

Veteran San Francisco ensemble Earplay, noted for its “lyrical and ferocious” performances of new chamber music, kicks off its 27th concert season on February 6, with works by Morton Feldman, Alex Hills, Mauricio Rodriguez, Wayne Peterson and Chen Yi. The 7:30 p.m. concert is at Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco.

American composer Morton Feldman, Earplay’s featured composer this season, is represented in the opening concert by *Nature Pieces*, his 1951 piece for solo piano. Alex Hills’ *1958-1961* is the world premiere performance of a 2011 Earplay commission. Also a world premiere, *Crepitum* by Mauricio Rodriguez was co-commissioned in 2010 by Earplay and the San Francisco Foundation Fund for Artists. *Excursions*, a 2011 composition by Wayne Peterson, marks a third world premiere, and Chen Yi’s 2007 work *Tunes from My Home* rounds out the program in its first U.S. performance.

In addition to its flagship concert series, Earplay collaborates in multi-disciplinary projects, including Aurora Theatre Company’s recent groundbreaking production of *The Soldier’s Tale*, and administers the annual Aird Competition for composers. Its major sponsors include San Francisco Grants for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts and a variety of regional and national foundations. Earplay is a two-time winner of the ASCAP/Chamber Music America Award for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music.

Tickets for the February 6 concert are \$20 at cityboxoffice.com or (415) 392-4400. A 6:45 p.m. pre-concert talk is included in the ticket price. For additional information about Earplay, consult earplay.org.

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