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Program One: 1/21 in Berkeley, 1/22 in SF
Program Two: 2/25 in Berkeley, 2/26 in SF

Berkeley performances: [David Brower Center](#)
San Francisco performances: [Bayview Opera House](#)



Meet the artists behind the batons.

Snapshot's music directors **Mary Chun** and **Jonathan Khuner** take the stage in January and February. Leading members of San Francisco-based contemporary music ensemble **Earplay**, Chun and Khuner bring excerpts from eight new operas by Northern California composers and librettists to life.



Mary Chun: "Shining a spotlight on the riches of our Bay Area composers has been a hallmark of Earplay's 32-year history and with West Edge's focus on advancing new lyric work, we look forward to bringing these new scores to life. **Where else can one experience a wildly diverse program of eight operas, the likes ranging from**



Jonathan Khuner: "As West Edge's Music Director, I'm more than delighted that we are inaugurating a new opera series. The eight selected scenes provide fine contrasts of style and substance. **This is a wonderful, novel way to entertain our sophisticated audience with the best regional creative and performing talent."**

robots to Andy Warhol and Hagar to Helen Keller?"

Mary Chun is a fierce advocate of new work, and when she's not leading Earplay in the Bay Area, she can heard in engagements all around the world. As an opera conductor, she's collaborated with many of today's best-known composers, including Libby Larsen, Tan Dun, and John Adams, for whom she led the Paris, Hamburg, and Montreal premieres of the chamber opera *Ceiling/Sky*. Recently she made waves as one of the first musical theater music directors to be invited to China to direct Mandarin language version of Broadway hits, like *Avenue Q* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

Mary returns to work with West Edge Opera after conducting last year's *Powder Her Face*. On January 21st at 8:00 p.m. in Berkeley ([David Brower Center](#)) and January 22nd at 3:00 p.m. in San Francisco ([Bayview Opera House](#)), for Snapshot's first program, she conducts selections from **David Conte's *Famous* and Alden Jenks's *Afterworld***. Mary leads excerpts from **Carla Lucero's *Touch* and Linda Bouchard's *The House of Words*** in the second Snapshot program on February 25th in Berkeley and February 26th in San Francisco.

Jonathan Khuner has a long history with West Edge Opera, conducting over 65 productions since he began serving as Music Director in 1986. He's also worked as an assistant conductor at the San Francisco Opera for over thirty years, at the Metropolitan Opera in New York for over fifteen years, and has served as well on the musical staff of Chicago's Lyric Opera since 1992. In 2013 he conducted the first Wagner opera ever performed in the nation of Albania: *Tannhäuser*, at the National Theater in Tirana, and the Wagner *Mini-Ring* at Minnesota Concert Opera.

For the first Snapshot program on January 21st at 8:00 p.m. in Berkeley ([David Brower Center](#)) and January 22nd at 3:00 p.m. in San Francisco ([Bayview Opera House](#)), Jonathan leads excerpts from **William David Cooper and Will Dunlap's *Hagar and Ishmael* and Stephen Eddins and Michael O'Brien's *Why I Live at the P.O.*** He leads selections from **Allen Shearer and Claudia Stevens's *Howards End, America* and Liam Wade and Vynnie Meli's *The Stranger the Better*** in Snapshot's second program on February 25th in Berkeley and February 26th in San Francisco.



Snapshot's chamber orchestra is comprised of musicians from [Earplay](#), San Francisco's leading new music ensemble. Earplay has been a cornerstone of new music performance in the Bay Area since its formation in 1985. Throughout its history the ensemble has commissioned over 80 works and premiered more than 140 pieces by today's leading composers.

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West Edge Opera uses [Vendini](#) for ticketing, marketing, and box office management.

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