



# THE ETCHINGS FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

2 FREE CONCERTS

FRIDAY, JULY 10 • SATURDAY, JULY 11

ALL CONCERTS AT 8 PM - CHAPELLE STE. CATHERINE DU PORT

FEATURING PREMIERES BY

Hakki Eren Cengiz • Eun Young Lee • Jonah Haven • Niki Charlafti • Selim Göncü •  
Zeynep Toraman • Nicholas Nelson • Yu Chun Chien • Yohanan Chenlder

AND PERFORMANCES BY FESTIVAL GUEST AND RESIDENT COMPOSERS

Nicholas Isherwood • Franck Bedrossian • John Aylward

*Festival organized in partnership with VCCA.*

*For more information, go to [vcca.com/main/international](http://vcca.com/main/international) - and click on "Etchings Festival"*

## LA GAZETTE DU MOULIN À NEF



Photo: John Alexander

### ART AND COMMUNITY: ETCHINGS CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL

For the 7th summer, VCCA-France will host East Coast Contemporary Ensemble's (ECCE) Etchings Contemporary Music Festival. Executive Director, composer John Aylward began the Etchings Festival in 2009, with the help of trusted collaborators at the Virginia Center for Creative Arts. Aylward wanted to create a positive environment for young, emerging composers, where they would develop their craft through honest, frank interactions with each other.

"In a hyperactive internet culture, it is more and more a unique experience to retreat to a quiet place to cultivate your art in a community of other passionate artists," said Aylward. "To be influenced by such a community while being mentored by some of the great composers of our time and some of the best interpreters of modern music: that's what the Etchings Festival provides. Now, we are in our 7th year, and proud of the composers we've cultivated, the incredible amount of music we've premiered and the goodwill we have brought into our community."

The Etchings Festival is set in Auvillar, France, between Bordeaux and Toulouse. The Midi-Pyrénées region is secluded and preserved from centuries past. Concerts at the festival take place in a 14th century chapel, renovated and acoustically sublime. The village of Auvillar is deeply invested in the arts, and villagers come from across the countryside to attend festival concerts. Auvillar is on the Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage route, and often traveling

pilgrims will attend festival events. Participant composers meet each morning for private lessons and each afternoon for master classes where the guest artists share their music and critique participant work. In the evening, the village is alive with food and wine from local vineyards. The fellows who study at Etchings come from around the world, traveling from as far away as Singapore and Argentina. The level of teaching is as high as any major international festival, but with the intimacy that allows for great attention and consideration to be given to each fellow. Fellows know they will receive an expert performance of their work: we rehearse each day with each fellow, resulting in stellar performances and lasting collaborations.



Composer Turkar Gasimzada in the audience.



FRANCE  
Le Moulin à Nef  
18, Esplanade du Port  
Le Port 82340 Auvillar, France  
05 63 95 72 91  
[cfortier@vcca.com](mailto:cfortier@vcca.com)  
[vccafrance.com](http://vccafrance.com)

UNITED STATES  
154 San Angelo Drive  
Amherst, VA 24521 USA  
Tel: (434) 946-7236  
Fax: (434) 946-7239  
[nmcandrew@vcca.com](mailto:nmcandrew@vcca.com)  
[spleasants@vcca.com](mailto:spleasants@vcca.com)  
[vcca.com](http://vcca.com)

#### VCCA-FRANCE BOARD MEMBERS

PINKNEY HERBERT  
Président - Memphis, Tennessee  
EVA DE COLIGNY  
Secretary - Roanoke, Virginia  
PATRICK LAGARRIGUE  
Treasurer - Auvillar, France

VCCA-France would like to recognize the contributions of Chantal Philippon-Daniel and her students at the University of Pennsylvania for the translation of this newsletter.

## PRIX MOULIN À NEF 2015: ELKE DAEMMRICH



Elke Daemmrich has been selected as this year's winner of the Prix Moulin à Nef. Elke was born in Dresden, Germany. In 1994 she moved to Tournecoupe, near Toulouse, in southwest France. Her work is focused alternately on oil painting and engraving zinc and copper. She says about her creative process, "All that I do, I do directly: That is, I do not use projection. I do not prepare drawings on paper, nor on plate, nor on canvas in advance. My creation is always a direct communication with an object that captures my attention and which becomes the subject and direction of my work."

Elke will receive a residency at VCCA in Virginia in July 2015. The Prix Moulin à Nef is open to artists from the Midi-Pyrénées or Aquitaine regions of France. Recipients receive a residency either in Auvillar, France, or Virginia, USA. Visit [vcca.com/international](http://vcca.com/international) to apply or for more information.

## PERSPECTIVES FROM THE STUDIO

### VCCA-France in Auvillar

*I wrestled a suitcaseful of drafts to my third residency at Auvillar last September. Returning felt like coming home: once more, my high-ceilinged bedroom looked out on the river; again, my ample rear studio made the workplan less daunting. Unpacked, I began dismantling.*

*Interesting, amusing colleagues who shared their work eased the slog of reconciling and discarding. So did John and Cheryl. So did the culinary magic Cheryl, Fatiha, and Ariel worked in the little kitchen. Superb, congenial meals gathered new and old friends from the village.*

*The weather sharpened. Morning fog hid the river. The heaters and thermal windows kept things snug. Monsieur next door plowed summer under and set out cabbages. Those drafts disappeared; the characters got busy. The experience was tremendous. Again.*

Every artist should work there. Apply!

—Deirdra McAfee, writer, Richmond, Virginia

### VCCA in Virginia



Sigal in her studio at VCCA (Virginia) photo: Cheryl Fortier

"This residency at VCCA (Virginia) is for me an extraordinary experience: the chance to immerse myself fully in the composition of my next album, but also to exchange with artists from different cultures and disciplines. A real opportunity in my career."

—Marie Sigal, composer, Toulouse

## FAREWELL TO ROBERT REED

Robert Reed, Professor of Art, Yale University, and Director of YSS@ISS in Auvillar (2009 - 2014), passed away in December 2014. A VCCA Fellow, widely exhibited visual artist, and a great supporter of VCCA in Auvillar, Robert loved coming to Auvillar each year and had become a regular part of the local community. We will miss him.

(shown here in Auvillar with Auvillar Mayor Olivier Renaud and VCCA-France member Frans Wackers, photo: John Alexander)



## VCCA, VCCA-ABROAD & VCCA-FRANCE

Greetings from the President of VCCA-France!

I look forward to being in Auvillar from October 1-4, 2015 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of VCCA in Auvillar. I hope to meet many of you during that weekend. Many board members of VCCA, VCCA-Abroad, and VCCA-France will also be present for this celebration.

The cultural programming in Auvillar is made possible by the partnership of three non-profit organizations: VCCA, VCCA-Abroad and VCCA-France.

VCCA is a non-profit organization offering residencies in Virginia to professional artists, writers, and composers from all over the US and around the world. VCCA in Virginia provides a private studio, a private bedroom, and three meals a day to over 400 artists, writers, and composers each year. These Fellows, who are juried in by a selection panel, pay what they can afford.



VCCA also offers exchanges with artists residency programs in Austria, Germany, Ireland, and Malta.

In 2004, VCCA was given two buildings in Auvillar by the Donnell-Kay Foundation: a studio building and an office building with an apartment for the resident director. In 2013, VCCA received a gift to purchase the Maison Vieilhescazes to be used as a residence for Fellows.

In 2006, VCCA-Abroad was created as a non-profit organization to administer the VCCA's programming in France. The primary mission of VCCA-Abroad is to provide residencies for professional artists, writers, and composers in France and abroad. These Fellows are juried in by a selection panel. They are asked to pay a set fee. VCCA-Abroad also offers public workshops, a contemporary music festival, and rentals of VCCA facilities for arts programming by universities and other groups.

Also in 2006, VCCA-France was formed as an "association" (a French nonprofit) to support the work of VCCA in providing artists residencies in Auvillar, as well as to enhance the arts in Auvillar for its citizens.

VCCA-France is hoping to expand its reach to include other nearby communities and artists in the region.

I hope to see you at the VCCA-France Community dinner at the Salle des Fêtes in Auvillar on October 3!

Cordially,  
Pinkney Herbert

Auvillar with Storm Approaching. Oil on canvas by J. Duesberry

## CHANGING OF THE GUARD: VCCA-FRANCE'S TREASURER

Francis Sohier, volunteer par excellence, stepped down as Treasurer of VCCA-France in 2014. He had served in support of the Moulin à Nef since it began in 1994. Auvill'Art, as it was known then, facilitated exchanges of artists and school groups from Denver, Colorado, and Auvillar. After the Moulin à Nef was given to VCCA, Francis continued to serve as the Treasurer of VCCA-France. He has been tireless in his support of art and artists in Auvillar. He continues to be an invaluable help in matters ranging from the internet service to programming. Francis was recently elected to the Municipal Council of Auvillar.

Patrick Lagarrigue of Auvillar was elected Treasurer at the General Assembly meeting in October 2014. He has plans to expand the reach of VCCA-France. Pinkney Herbert of Memphis, Tennessee, continues to serve as President. Eva deColigny of Roanoke, Virginia, continues to serve as Secretary.



Francis receives his Medallion of Honor photo: John Alexander



The VCCA Fellows listed here were selected by a jury of professional writers and visual artists for a 2015 residency at the Moulin à Nef.

Among the VCCA Fellows coming to Auvillar for residencies are poets and fiction writers who have published numerous volumes. There are visual artists who teach at universities and who have exhibited their work widely. There are recipients of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and those who have been Visiting Artists at the American Academy in Rome.

Visit [vccafrance.com](http://vccafrance.com) for more information about these artists, as well as dates of open studios and readings. Members of VCCA-France will receive announcements of all events.

Come be a part of our community!



Visual artist Wendy Lewis will serve as Associate Resident Director after Cheryl Fortier and John Alexander depart in October. Photos: John Alexander

- Elizabeth CRISMAN, visual artist (1–25 June) Baltimore, Maryland
- Nancy MITCHELL, writer (2 June–2 July) Salisbury, Maryland
- Alexandra KLEEMAN, writer (6 June–2 July) Staten Island, New York
- Jeffrey WEAVER, writer (8 June–2 July) Hatfield, Massachusetts
- Nicholas BOGGS, writer (20 July–13 Aug) Brooklyn, New York
- Foon SHAM, sculptor (20 July–3 Aug) College Park, Maryland
- Karen HEAD, poet (20–30 July) Atlanta, Georgia
- Colin POTTS, photographer (20–30 July) Atlanta, Georgia
- Judith KRAUSE, writer (3–13 Aug) Saskatchewan, Canada
- Joyce HINNEFELD, writer (10–20 Aug) Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
- Marie-Atina GOLDET, visual artist (15 Aug–14 Sept) Bordeaux, France
- Michael DIXON, painter (17 Aug–3 Sept) Albion, Michigan
- Cheryl TAN, writer (24 Aug–4 Sept) Brooklyn, New York
- L.B. GREEN, poet (7–24 Sept) Davidson, North Carolina
- Kristina DARLING, writer (14–29 Sept) Ballwin, Missouri
- Karen BELL, photographer (23 Sept–4 Oct) New York, New York
- Andrea CARTER BROWN, poet (21 Sept–22 Oct) Los Angeles, California
- Joan GRUBIN, visual artist (28 Sept–15 Oct) New York, New York
- Nancy KLINE, writer/translator (5–22 Oct) Woodstock, New York
- Georgina LEWIS, visual artist (12–22 Oct) Allston, Massachusetts
- Anna Jean MAYHEW, writer (19–29 Oct) Hillsborough, North Carolina
- Wendy LEWIS, visual artist (22 Oct–10 Dec) Union City, New Jersey
- Adria ARCH, visual artist (26 Oct–19 Nov) Boston, Massachusetts
- BettyJoyce NASH, ceramist/writer (26 Oct–12 Nov) Charlottesville, Virginia
- Marilyn KALLET, poet (2–12 Nov) Knoxville, Tennessee
- Jeannette ROGERS, writer/translator (2–12 Nov) Raleigh, North Carolina
- Alice TEMPLETON, writer (16 Nov–3 Dec) Berkeley, California
- Martha DUDMAN, writer (23 Nov–10 Dec) Northeast Harbor, Maine



Dear members and friends of VCCA-France,

Our 11th year of programs and residencies is under way. In May Professor Agnes Carbrey from James Madison University, along

with her colleague Martha Saunders, will be leading her summer painting program in Auvillar. They will present an exhibition and community project in la Chapelle Ste Catherine du Port. Also in May the fabulous poet and Auvillar enthusiast Marilyn Kallet returns with her very popular poetry workshop “O Taste and See”.

June will bring several artists to le Moulin à Nef for residencies followed in July by the Etchings Contemporary Music Festival with Director John Aylward. The festival will be celebrating its 7th successful year

of workshops and concerts in Auvillar! Professor Colleen Kinder of Yale University will return to le Moulin à Nef for her second annual travel writing program. She and her students will explore the village and travel to nearby destinations to find inspiration for their stories.

Individual artists and writers will be in residence at le Moulin à Nef in June and from mid-July to mid-December. From October 1st to 4th we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of VCCA in France, and we hope that you will join us for the festivities.

Thanks to your warm welcome and support, we continue to flourish and grow. This year we look forward to getting to know you better and to creating more partnerships and projects with local associations. Please join us during the season for our events, meet the artists, and discover their work.

Warmly,  
Cheryl Fortier  
Resident Director

## ARTISTS FROM THE MIDI-PYRÉNÉES OR AQUITAINE REGIONS

To apply for a residency in Auvillar or in Virginia  
visit: [vcca.com/international](http://vcca.com/international)



Students from the 2014 Yale Creative Writing Program on the pilgrimage trail. Photo: Colleen Kinder

## BECOME A VCCA-FRANCE MEMBER

Would you like to be a member of VCCA-France in 2015?  
Join for \$15 or 10 €  
(\$25 or 18 € for a couple)

Contact Cheryl Fortier ([cfortier@vcca.com](mailto:cfortier@vcca.com))  
or Patrick Lagarrigue, VCCA-France Treasurer.

## COMMUNITY DINNER

The annual dinner for VCCA-France will be held Saturday, October 3, 2015 at the Salle des Fêtes in Auvillar.  
All are welcome.