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SUMMER FESTIVAL OFFERS A WAGGONER WORLD PREMIERE

"8 Singles" by Award-winning composer Andrew Waggoner is on the agenda for its world premiere in *From Classic to Cool*, Weekend of Chamber Music's Summer Music Festival in the Catskills. The piece is part of the Tea Time Concert at 5pm July 16 at the Eddie Adams Farm in Jeffersonville, NY.

Commissioned by WCM's Artistic Director Judith Pearce, "8 Singles" began as a musical response to the modern art works in the "Utopia" exhibition at the Catskill Art Society Gallery last year. The exhibition and WCM's concert series were inspired by the 19th-century panoramic wallpaper murals installed in the main entrance of the Livingston Manor Central School. The panels, entitled "Vues d'Amérique du Nord," depict a utopian ideal of America. CAS called for artists to submit modern reactions to the theme, and five of Mr. Waggoner's "Singles" were performed as part of the joint project.

Mr. Waggoner recently completed the work, and all eight movements - *Tall, Proud Black Men; Cartoons; Rocks; River; Wormhole; Skin Masks; Clouds and Black, White and Blue* - will debut with the composer in residence, who also gives a pre-concert talk at 4pm. Works by Hoiby, Stravinsky and Ravel are also on the program.

The composer has been praised as "the gifted practitioner of a complex but dramatic and vividly colored style" by the *New Yorker*, and his music has been commissioned and performed by the orchestras and chamber ensembles across the U.S. and Europe. In 2009, he received an American Academy of Arts and Letters Award for music, and ASCAP, Guggenheim Fellowship, Meet the Composer, and many others have recognized his work. He has also composed extensively for theatre and for film, is an active violinist and is composer-in-residence at the Setnor School of Music of Syracuse University.

Admission is \$25 per person; free for students 18 & under. Tickets are available by credit card online, or by cash/check at the door. The barn is a short hike across a rolling, grassy meadow from the parking area and we suggest appropriate shoes. Valet parking will be available for our handicapped patrons only.

For information about this concert or the Summer Music Festival, call 845-887-5803, or visit WCM online at WeekendofChamberMusic.org. WCM is also on [Facebook.com/WCMconcerts](https://www.facebook.com/WCMconcerts).

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COMPOSER'S STATEMENT

“8 Singles”

By Andrew Waggoner



“8 Singles” was composed for Weekend of Chamber Music and the Catskill Arts Society. As the title suggests, it takes the form of eight short movements, each with its own character, sound world and emotional tone. The jumping-off point for each was a different painting in the series of varied, sometimes hallucinatory, always imaginative responses to the wonderful Zuber wall panels in the Livingston Manor school. These murals, with their scenes of peaceful, prosperous and happily co-mingling white and black merchant and upper-class families from the late-eighteenth century, set against the elysian backdrop of the Hudson river, seem at first to be some Frenchman's idealized vision of egalitarian American society; in fact they depict an under-represented aspect of early American life, and are more accurate than they may at first appear. Each of the artists in the CAS's show has responded in different ways to the Zuber panels, from the monumental to the cartoon-like, within a range of media including sculpture and performance art. I love the vitality of these pieces, their unfettered re-imaginings of the originals (all this and a technical mastery that puts shows of recent American work at larger museums like those in New York City to shame), and had a great time re-imagining them myself, as music.



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