



LUNART FESTIVAL 2026 RESONANCE

Chamber Music • Visual Art • Treble Choir • Panel Discussion

Celebrating women
in the arts

May 27 – 31
Madison, WI

Gather. Discover.
Experience New Voices.

lunartfestival.org

Please join us in acknowledging that this festival is taking place at Arts & Literature Laboratory and the WYSO Center for Music, which are located on the ancestral lands of the Ho-Chunk Nation, who have stewarded this region for generations. We honor their resilience and ongoing presence in our community, and we commit to learning from and supporting Indigenous voices.

CENTENNIAL FESTIVAL WEEKEND

*John DeMain's
final concert
as Music Director*



**2 DAYS
25 HOURS
50+ ARTISTS 5 STAGES
ALL FREE!**

Saturday, June 13 • Sunday, June 14

8:30am - 9:00pm Daily

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Dear friends and art lovers,

Welcome to LunART's 2026 Festival season, RESONANCE, a dynamic experience that transforms Madison into a vibrant center of artistic exchange, meaningful connection, and bold creative expression. Across four dynamic events, audiences will encounter the extraordinary artistry of the LunART Choir alongside more than 40 performers and the voices of 20+ composers from across the United States and around the world.

At its core, RESONANCE explores how art connects us across generations, cultures, and disciplines. This year's festival brings forward world premieres, interdisciplinary collaborations, and compelling new works that amplify stories too often unheard, creating experiences that linger well beyond the final note.

We are honored to welcome our 2026 Composer-in-Residence, Libby Larsen, whose influential voice continues to shape the landscape of contemporary music. The festival also highlights new works by our Call for Scores winners and Composers' Hub cohort, alongside a beautiful original visual collaboration by artist Andrée Valley, created specifically to reflect this year's theme.

From powerful choral moments to intimate and electrifying chamber performances, RESONANCE offers a rich, immersive journey through today's most vital artistic voices.

We invite you to join us, not just as an audience, but as part of a living, breathing artistic community.



Creatively yours,

Dr. Iva Ugrčić
CEO & Artistic Director, Founder

"Music exists in an infinity of sound. I think of all music as existing in the substance of the air itself. It is the composer's task to order and make sense of sound, in time and space, to communicate something about being alive through music."

– Libby Larsen

COMPOSER-IN- RESIDENCE LIBBY LARSEN



Libby Larsen (b. 24 December 1950, Wilmington, Delaware) is one of America's most prolific and most performed living composers. She has created a catalogue of over 500 works spanning virtually every genre from intimate vocal and chamber music to massive orchestral and choral scores as well as 15 operas.

Her music has been praised for its dynamic, deeply inspired, and vigorous contemporary American spirit. Constantly sought after for commissions and premieres by major artists, ensembles and orchestras around the world, Libby Larsen has established a permanent place for her works in the concert repertory.

Larsen has been hailed as "the only English-speaking composer since Benjamin Britten who matches great verse with fine music so intelligently and expressively" (USA Today); as "a composer who has made the art of symphonic writing very much her own." (Gramophone); as "a mistress of orchestration" (Times Union); and for "assembling one of the most impressive bodies of music of our time" (Hartford Courant).

"Libby Larsen has come up with a way to make contemporary opera both musically current and accessible to the average audience." (The Wall Street Journal) "Her ability to write memorable new music completely within the confines of traditional harmonic language is most impressive." (Fanfare)

Her music has been praised for its "clear textures, easily absorbed rhythms and appealing melodic contours that make singing seem the most natural expression imaginable." (Philadelphia Inquirer)

Inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters, 2024, Libby Larsen has received numerous awards and accolades, including a 1994 Grammy for the CD: The Art of Arlene Augér, which features Larsen's Sonnets from the Portuguese.

Her opera "Frankenstein, The Modern Prometheus" was selected as one of the eight best classical music events of 1990 by USA Today. The first woman to serve as a resident composer with a major orchestra (Minnesota Orchestra), she has held residencies with the California Institute of the Arts, the Arnold Schoenberg Institute, the Philadelphia School of the Arts, the Cincinnati Conservatory, the Charlotte Symphony, and the Colorado Symphony.

Larsen's many commissions and recordings are a testament to her fruitful collaborations with a long list of world-renowned artists, including The King's Singers, Benita Valente, and Frederica von Stade, among others. Her works are widely recorded on such labels as Angel/EMI, Nonesuch, Decca, Naxos, Parma and Koch International.

Holder of the 2003-2004 Harissios Papamarkou Chair in Education at the Library of Congress and recipient of the Eugene McDermott Award in the Arts from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as well as a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the George Peabody Medal for Outstanding Contribution to American Music, Libby Larsen is a vigorous, articulate champion of the music and musicians of our time.

In 1973, she co-founded the Minnesota Composers Forum, now the American Composers Forum, which has been an invaluable advocate for composers in a difficult, transitional time for American arts. Consistently sought-after as a leader in the generation of millennium thinkers, Libby Larsen's music and ideas have refreshed the concert music tradition and the composer's role in it.



Commissioned Visual Artist **ANDRÉE VALLEY**

Andrée Valley's work is about shape, color with a bit of fun. Her sculptural goals primarily explore abstraction and are based upon perceived chaos. Her sculptures hang on the wall, sit on the floor or table, or swivel freely when hung from the ceiling. They explore randomness, orientation and color. Shape, color, pattern, piling, stacking, and tangling permit viewing one form and pattern through another. With few exceptions, her work is abstract and could be described as a collage of shape and color that is inspired by science and music, with some irony.

Andrée's artistic interests are wide-ranging. She began her career in ceramic sculpture and evolved to working in metal, now her primary medium. Other projects include 3-D paper collages, experimenting with the symphonic medium, and working as graphic artist and as a gallerist. Andrée lives and works in Madison, Wisconsin, and is retired from teaching in the Art Department at Madison College. She received a BFA from the University of Denver and an MFA from the University of Michigan and spent two years as Artist in Residence at the Archie Bray Foundation.

About the Commissioned Artwork

“The poster is a visual exploration of sound and how different sounds are put together into a cohesive unit. My artwork has always been a response to music and its structure. I think of music in an abstract way in that sounds are shapes and color. Layering of shapes, negative spaces and their interweaving mimic the complication of a measure, bar, or page of music. I remember reading a while ago on the scientific difference between an electronic sound and an analogue sound. The difference is in its depth or sound. Rather than one or two oscillating lines measured from an electronic string, the sound produced from a plucked or rubbed string, divorced from electronics, have signals that are complicated and messy, rendering the sound with depth and I suppose you could say an emotional quality. Throughout my career as a visual artist, I have always tried to use this quality, in an abstract way, in my work through shape, color and their tangling and layering within the piece. Resonance describes these concepts. The poster abstractly mimics sound vibrations, layerings, tempo and color of music.”

High-quality prints are available for purchase and order at the welcome desk. Take home a piece of inspiration!

Please visit the welcome desk for more information.



Composers' Hub: Professional Development Program

Led by Libby Larsen, Composer-in-Residence
May 26 – 31

COMPOSER PARTICIPANTS

Airlea Deutscher | Chloe DeSteno | Mari Alice Conrad
Lauren Greenberg | Sascha Beamer | Zoe Yost

GUEST LECTURERS

Elizabeth Russell | Madelyn Stewart | Iva Ugrčić

The LunART Composers' Hub is a professional development program designed to provide extraordinary experiences to women-identifying composers in their growing professional careers. During the festival, a cohort of six composers receive mentorship and hands-on experience, culminating in a final showcase of their works at the festival.

This program provides individual guidance for expressing creativity, creating clear scores, cultivating relationships with performers, the art of collaboration, and building a viable career path as a composer.

Private lessons, seminars, and masterclasses with the 2026 composer-in-residence, Libby Larsen, will explore the works submitted by participants. Attorney Elizabeth Russell, who specializes in copyright, trademark, and arts law, will present a workshop series, Copyright for Creatives: What Composers Need to Know. Our director, Iva Ugrčić, will present a Strategic Planning Artists workshop and lead individual career coaching sessions.

Discussions and lectures address business skills and the role of the independent composer, offering participants a well-rounded approach to their career development.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

The Power of Collective Creative Practice

7:30 PM @ Arts + Literature Laboratory

PANELISTS & MODERATOR

Jen Uphoff Gray, Forward Theater Company Artistic Director

Libby Larsen, composer

Kayla Liederbach, radio host and performer

Dr. Iva Ugrčić, performer and LunART Founder and Artistic Director

What happens when artists create not in isolation, but in dialogue? This panel explores the dynamic relationships between performers, composers, artists, and art leaders, and how collaboration shapes contemporary art practice. From commissioning new work to interpretation, artists continually influence, challenge, and amplify one another's voices.

Join us for a conversation on the creative exchange, and discover how collective practice generates deeper resonance, innovation, and impact.

Oakwood Chamber Players Madison, WI

2026-2027 Season

September 25-27

December 8

Holiday Pops!

February 12-14

March 19-21

May 14-16



www.oakwoodchamberplayers.com

FRIDAY, MAY 29

Becoming Together
7:30 PM @ WYSO Center

FEATURED PERFORMERS

Dafydd Bevil, horn | Ingrid McDuffee, flute | Alissa Freeman, piano
Hillary Hempel, violin | Lina Lee, piano | Hannah Wolkstein, cello

LunART Choir

Akornefa Akyea | Emma Bijelić | Heidi Blanc-Blum | Rachael Brolin
Mackenzie Cole | Giuliana Chamedes | Victoria Donahue
Susan Gaeddert | Sherri Hansen | Ann Kruska | Kelsie Morschauser
Noelle Morschauser | Genevieve Mullen | Megan Saucke
Brigid Schultz | Madelyn Stewart | Kate Wellenstein

LunART Choir Artistic Director, Jen Terhune Streit
LunART Choir Accompanist, Rachael Brolin

JOCELYN HAGEN

Text by Meggan Tavel
LunART Choir, Brolin
Hempel, Wolkstein

**In the Lavender Stillness
of Dawn (2009)**

JOAN JOHNSON DREWES

2026 Call for Scores Winner
Text by Todd Boss
LunART Choir

Distant Murmurings (2023)

A Woman Sat Down at A Broken
Piano
The Trees
Who Knows What Dawn Sees

AMY BEACH

Text by Sara Teasdale
LunART Choir

Dusk in June (1915)

RITA STROHL

Freeman, Hempel, Wolkstein

Piano Trio No. 2 in D minor (1888)

for violin, cello, and piano
Andante sostenuto - Allegro
Andante. Très lent et très
mystérieux
Final

INTERMISSION

LIBBY LARSEN

LunART Choir, Brolin
Text by Janice Kimes,
Charles A. Wilson, Emily Dickinson

Today, This Spring (1998)

Today, this spring
She piped for us
If I can stop one heart from
breaking

BE BOYKIN

Text by Langston Hughes
LunART Choir, Brolin, Wolkstein

Silver Rain (2023)

MELANIE (MEL) BONIS

Bevil, Lee, McDuffee

Scènes de la forêt, Op. 123 (1927)

for flute, horn, and piano

Nocturne
A l'aube
Invocation
Pour Artémis

MADELINE BARRETT

2026 Call for Scores Winner

Text by Daniel Ladinsky
LunART Choir, Brolin

The Body a Tree (2025)

SARAH BAREILLES

Arranged by Allison Girvan
LunART Choir
Text by Sarah Bareilles

Kaleidoscope Heart (2020)

"Today, this Spring" is generously sponsored by Carol Schroeder in memory of her husband, Dean Schroeder.

"Dusk in June" is generously sponsored by Betty and Corkey Custer.

Lina Lee is generously sponsored by Inger Stole in loving memory of her husband, Robert Chesney.



Scan to View
Lyrics Sheet

SATURDAY, MAY 30

New Currents

7:30 PM @ WYSO Center

FEATURED PERFORMERS

Kaleigh Acord, viola | Dafydd Bevil, horn | Lindsey Crabb, cello
Ingrid McDuffee, flute | Hillary Hempel, violin
Ksenija Komljenović, percussion | Alicia Lee, clarinet | Lina Lee, piano

LOUIS HARRIET-VIARDOT

Acord, Crabb, Hempel, Lee

Piano Quartet No. 2 in D major, Op. 11, Spanish (1883)

for violin, viola, cello, and piano

Paseo. Allegretto

Caña. Andantino

Serenada. Allegretto con moto

Divertimento. Allegro giocoso

HARRIET STEINKE

Komljenović

Text by Jean Valentine

Door in the Mountain (2023)

for marimba and voice

LAWREN BRIANNA WARE

Commissioned for the 2026 Festival

Bevil, Crabb, Hempel

Komljenović, Lee, McDuffee

Crane Cycles (2026)

World Premiere

for flute/piccolo, clarinet, horn, violin

cello, and marimba

Birth

Dance

Flight

INTERMISSION

CHANDA DANCY

Bevil

January on Altadena Drive (2026)

World Premiere

for horn and fixed media

LIBBY LARSEN

Lee, Lee, McDuffee

Barn Dances (2010)

for flute, clarinet, and piano

Forward Six and Fall Back Eight
Divide the Ring
Varsouvianna
Rattlesnake Twist

RAIN (YURUI) HOU

2026 Call for Scores Winner

Lee, McDuffee

Manhattan Suite (2025)

for flute and piano

Night at Vanguard
West Village
Pigeons

LEAH REID

2026 Call for Scores Winner

Acord, Komljenović

Crossed Wires (2024)

for amplified viola, percussion, and electronics

“Crane Cycle” is commissioned by LunART for the LunART Festival 2026, with generous support from Judith Brandt, who is inspired by the beauty, elegance, fragility, and resilience of Cranes and by the people worldwide who are committed to their welfare.

Lina Lee is generously sponsored by Inger Stole in loving memory of her husband, Robert Chesney.



Scan to View
Lyrics Sheet

SUNDAY, MAY 31

Composers' Hub Spotlight Concert

2:30 PM @ WYSO Center

FEATURED PERFORMERS

Linda Pereksta, flute | Bethany Schultz, clarinet | Dafydd Bevil, horn
Marie Pauls, viola | Lindsey Crabb, cello | Alissa Freeman, piano
Julia Rottmayer, soprano | Marc Vallon, bassoon | Laura Medisky, oboe

LAUREN GREENBERG

Freeman

Nightmare Rag (2025)

for solo piano

CHLOE DESTENO

Crabb, Freeman, Rottmayer

Song Cycle No. 1 (2025)

for soprano, cello, and piano

A Hope Carol
Another Dream
May Morning

ZOE YOST

Crabb, Pauls, Pereksta

A Midsummer's Daydream (2024)

for flute, viola, and cello

LIBBY LARSEN

Vallon

Jazz Variations (1977)

for solo bassoon

SASCHA BEAMER

Freeman

Dreaming of the Indigo Sea (2023)

for solo piano

MARI ALICE CONRAD

Acord, Crabb, Hempel
Pauls, Schultz

Where the Waters Were (2025)

World Premiere

for clarinet and string quartet

AIRLEA DEUTSCHER

Bevil, Medisky, Pereksta
Schultz, Vallon

A Turn with the Sun (2025)

World Premiere

for wind quintet

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8 AM - 9 PM

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Genevieve Murtaugh | Dawn & Dean Krahn

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Jen Terhune Streit, LunART Choir Artistic Director
Madelyn Stewart, Development & Operations Manager
Anna DiMaggio, Communications & Programs Coordinator Intern
Paige Wynn, Marketing Coordinator Intern
Collin Strang, Graphic Design Intern

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Beth Skogen | Elizabeth Russell

AUDIO & VIDEO PLAYBILL DESIGN

Audio for the Arts

Collin Strang

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LunART is dedicated to sharing women's voices and admiring their creativity!

As with many arts organizations, we rely on audience support to create uplifting, artistic experiences such as this.

WAYS TO SUPPORT US



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SHOW UP at our events.

FOLLOW US on social media.

@lunartfestival

Help us establish LunART as a cultural icon, one that invests in the future of arts, connects with audiences, and most importantly, celebrates women's contributions to the arts!

Text "FEST26" to 50155 to donate now!

Let us know what you thought of this year's festival by filling out the survey below:



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November 7, 2026

Featuring LunART Choir and Chamber Music Collective

March 2027 TBD

May 18-23, 2027

LunART Festival 2027

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2027 Composer-in-Residence: Sarah Kirkland Snider

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ORCHESTRA OF EVOLUTION."
– ALDO LEOPOLD**



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