



**MALLARMÉ CHAMBER PLAYERS PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**March 26, 2022** *Media inquiries, photo/interview requests: office@mallarmemusic.org or Suzanne Rouso 919-413-3120*

**MALLARMÉ CHAMBER PLAYERS' presents  
Invisible Ritual with MacArthur Fellow, composer and multi-instrumentalist  
Tyshawn Sorey, and composer and violinist Jennifer Curtis**

**DURHAM, N.C. – Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7:00 pm @ Sharp Nine Gallery** the Mallarmé Chamber Players will present a concert based on the CD, *Invisible Ritual*, released in January 2020 by New Focus Recordings featuring Tyshawn Sorey and Jennifer Curtis. The CD as well as the Mallarmé performance is a free-style improvisation based on their prior work together through the International Contemporary Ensemble and several deep, personal conversations.

For a detailed review and background of this CD (and upcoming performance) there is no better information than given by Durham's own Dan Ruccia in the *IndyWeek* when the CD was first released: <https://indyweek.com/music/features/jennifer-curtis-tyshawn-sorey-invisible-ritual/>

If one could actually describe the music from this program in words, Cleveland musicologist Nick Stevens, comes close in the blog *I Care if You Listen* "...Picture a [painting of a drummer](#) by Basquiat, right next to a [Rockwell illustration](#) of a country fiddler. Imagine that you found their gallery in a dream, and that a shaft of sunlight abruptly woke you. The dream remains lodged in your mind, albeit distorted: that's I." (movement 1)

**Watch/listen to a clip from Invisible Ritual I:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uBj3ueh\\_DqA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uBj3ueh_DqA)

**On Monday, April 11 @ 12:30 pm, Tyshawn Sorey will hold a workshop for the music students at North Carolina Central University in the B.N. Duke Annex. This workshop is free and open to the public.**

Newark-born composer and multi-instrumentalist **Tyshawn Sorey** (b. 1980) is celebrated for his incomparable virtuosity, effortless mastery and memorization of highly complex scores, and an extraordinary ability to blend composition and improvisation in his work. He has performed nationally and internationally with his own ensembles, as well as artists such as John Zorn, Vijay Iyer, Roscoe Mitchell, Muhal Richard Abrams, Wadada Leo Smith, Marilyn Crispell, George Lewis, Claire Chase, Steve Lehman, Jason Moran, Evan Parker, Anthony Braxton, and Myra Melford, among many others.

The *New York Times* has praised Sorey for his instrumental facility and aplomb: "He plays not only with gale-force physicality, but also a sense of scale and equipoise." The *Wall Street Journal* describes Sorey as, "a composer of radical and seemingly boundless ideas." The *New Yorker* recently noted that Sorey is "among the most formidable denizens of the in-between zone...An extraordinary talent who can see across the entire musical landscape."

Sorey has composed works for the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the International Contemporary Ensemble, soprano Julia Bullock, PRISM Quartet, JACK Quartet, TAK Ensemble, the McGill-McHale Trio, bass-baritone Davóne Tines, Alarm Will Sound, the Louisville Orchestra, and tenor Lawrence Brownlee with Opera Philadelphia in partnership with Carnegie Hall, as well as for countless collaborative performers. Sorey has received support for his creative projects from The Jerome Foundation, The Shifting Foundation, Van Lier Fellowship, and was named a 2017 MacArthur fellow and a 2018 United States Artists Fellow.

Sorey has released twelve critically acclaimed recordings that feature his work as a composer, co-composer, improviser, multi-instrumentalist, and conceptualist. His latest release, *Pillars* (Firehouse 12 Records, 2018), has been praised by *Rolling Stone* as “an immersive soundworld... sprawling, mysterious... thrilling” and has been named as one of BBC Radio 3’s Late Junction 2018 albums of the year.

In 2012, he was selected as one of nine composers for the Other Minds Festival, where he exchanged ideas with such like-minded peers as Ikue Mori, Ken Ueno, and Harold Budd. In 2013, *Jazz Danmark* invited him to serve as the Danish International Visiting Artist. He was also a 2015 recipient of the Doris Duke Impact Award. Sorey has taught and lectured on composition and improvisation at Columbia University, The New England Conservatory, The Banff Centre, University of Michigan, International Realtime Music Symposium, Harvard University, Hochschule für Musik Köln, Berklee College of Music, University of Chicago, and The Danish Rhythmic Conservatory. Sorey joined the composition faculty of the University of Pennsylvania in the Fall of 2020.

The *New York Times* described violinist **Jennifer Curtis’s** second solo concert in Carnegie Hall as “one of the gutsiest and most individual recital programs.” She was celebrated as “an artist of keen intelligence and taste, well worth watching out for.”

Curtis navigates with personality and truth in every piece she performs. Jennifer is a member of the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) and founder of the group Tres Americas Ensemble. She has appeared as a soloist with the Simon Bolivar Orchestra in Venezuela and the Knights Chamber Orchestra; performed in Romania in honor of George Enescu; given world premieres at the Mostly Mozart Festival in New York; collaborated with composer John Adams at the Library of Congress; and appeared at El Festival de las Artes Esénias in Peru and festivals worldwide.

An educator with a focus on music as humanitarian aid, Jennifer has also collaborated with musical shaman of the Andes, improvised for live radio from the interior of the Amazon jungle, and taught and collaborated with Kurdish refugees in Turkey. She plays on a 1777 Vincenzo Panormo violin.

**SERIES CONCERT: Invisible Ritual Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm**

**Sharp Nine Gallery, 4608 Industry Lane, Unit L Durham, NC 27713**

**Tyshawn Sorey** - percussion and piano/ **Jennifer Curtis** – violin

Music from *Invisible Ritual* and excerpts from *New York/Copenhagen* by Tyshawn Sorey

Tickets: \$10-\$25/ INFO and ticket link:

<https://www.mallarmemusic.org/event/series-concert-invisible-ritual/>

**Masks will be required for all audience members for the entirety of the event, vaccination cards with ID will be required for entrance.**

**ABOUT MALLARMÉ CHAMBER PLAYERS:** The Mallarmé Chamber Players are a flexible ensemble of professional musicians based in Durham, North Carolina, whose mission is to enrich the lives of their community through outstanding chamber music. The ensemble distinguishes itself by its innovative educational programs, its commitment to creative collaboration with other organizations, its creation of significant new work, and its dedication to serve a diverse population.

Mallarmé annually presents a series of concerts that features great, diverse and multidisciplinary chamber music. Mallarmé performs everything from Bach on period instruments to commissioning and performing brand new works. In 2010, Mallarmé released, to great acclaim, a CD on Albany/Videmus records of chamber music by African American composers.

Mallarmé is unique in that they use the wonderful musical talent North Carolina has to offer to perform with the ensemble depending on the needs of the repertoire. Most of Mallarmé’s musicians are members of professional organizations like the NC Symphony, freelance players or faculty members of the numerous institutions of higher learning.

Mallarmé is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c) 3 organization. The 2020/21 concert season was made possible in part by grants from the Durham Arts Council's Annual Arts Fund and the North Carolina Arts Council. ##