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**The San Francisco Contemporary Music Players presents
*Furious Craft***

Music of Boulez, Francesconi, Zhou, and Saariaho

SAN FRANCISCO, CA –

Monday, December 8, 2008

San Francisco Contemporary Music Players

David Milnes, Music Director

The San Francisco Contemporary Music Players presents *Furious Craft*, the third concert in its 2008-09 season, at 8:00 pm on December 8, 2008 at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum in San Francisco. Four pieces of intensity and craftsmanship – two for ensemble and two for solo cello – warm this winter concert. Music Director David Milnes conducts the evening's two ensemble pieces.

Pierre Boulez's watershed piece, *Le Marteau sans maître*, is widely considered to be Boulez's first great work. It is in this unusually orchestrated piece (for mezzo-soprano, flute, three percussion, viola and guitar) that Boulez began to "break the rules" of the total serialist technique that he had developed in his early years. The vocal part will be sung by Janna Baty, who has also performed this piece with the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Also on the program is *A fuoco* by Italian composer Luca Francesconi. This smoldering piece for flute, clarinet, percussion, piano, guitar, violin and cello features new ensemble member David Tanenbaum on guitar.

Two cello solos on ephemeral subjects complement the ensemble pieces in this concert. Leighton Fong plays *Sept Papillons* (Seven Butterflies) by Musical America's 2008 Composer of the Year, Kaija Saariaho; Stephen Harrison plays Zhou Long's *Wild Grass*. The text that inspired Zhou's piece is the forward to the book of the same name by Lu Hsun, which celebrates the transitory nature of life: "As long as [wild grass] lives it is trampled upon and mown down, until it dies and decays./ But I am not worried; I am glad. I shall laugh aloud and sing."

There will be a pre-concert talk at 7:15pm, moderated by Music Director David Milnes.

8:00 pm (pre-concert talk at 7:15 pm)

\$28 General, \$23 Seniors, \$10 Students

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum, 701 Mission St. at 3rd St., San Francisco

Tickets: (415) 978-ARTS (2787) or www.ybca.org

Info: www.sfcmp.org

Brief Listing:

Monday, December 8, 2008

S.F. Contemporary Music Players, *Furious Craft*. Music of Boulez, Francesconi, Zhou and Saariaho.

David Milnes, conductor.

8 pm, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum, 701 Mission St. at 3rd St., San Francisco

Pre-concert talk at 7:15 pm.

Full Listing:

WHO:	San Francisco Contemporary Music Players – David Milnes, Music Director.
WHEN:	Monday, December 8, 2008, 8:00 pm (pre-concert talk at 7:15 pm)
WHERE:	Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum, 701 Mission St. at 3 rd St., San Francisco
PROGRAM:	Luca Francesconi , <i>A fuoco</i> U.S. premiere (1995) Kaija Saariaho , <i>Sept Papillons</i> (Seven Butterflies) (2000) Leighton Fong, cello Zhou Long , <i>Wild Grass</i> (2002) Stephen Harrison, cello Pierre Boulez , <i>Le Marteau sans maître</i> (The Hammer without a master) (1955) Janna Baty, mezzo-soprano
TICKETS:	\$28 general, \$23 seniors, \$10 students (415) 978-ARTS (2787)
INFO:	www.sfcmp.org

Luca Francesconi's *A fuoco* is supported by the Istituto Italiano di Cultura. Pierre Boulez's *Le Marteau sans maître* is supported by Russ Irwin.

The San Francisco Contemporary Music Players is supported in part by:

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