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Photo Caption: Wild Up

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For Immediate Release

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**Wild Up Launches Partnership with Sierra Madre Playhouse,
Its New Long-Term East Los Angeles-Based Home,
with Program Reflecting Southern California's Landscape and Open Space
Curated by and Featuring Mattie Barbier on Trombone and Bass Trumpet**

**Program, Part of Wild Up's L.A. Composer Series,
Includes Contemporary Works for Brass by
Barbier, Catherine Lamb, and James Tenney**

Monday, September 9, 2024, 7:30PM, at Sierra Madre Playhouse

(Sierra Madre, CA – August 27, 2024) Contemporary music ensemble Wild Up, which has premiered hundreds of new works since its inception and engaged audiences across the country with its fresh take on classical music, presents the first of two programs in its L.A. Composer series at Sierra Madre Playhouse, its new long-term East Los Angeles-based home, on Monday, September 9, 2024, 7:30 pm. The program, curated by and featuring Mattie Barbier on trombone and bass trumpet, Jonah Levy and Nev Wendell on trumpet, and Mason Moy on tuba, includes works by Barbier, James Tenney, and Catherine Lamb.

Barbier, an LA-based musician and sonic researcher renowned for an experimental approach to intonation, noise, and the physical processes of instruments, says the music on the program includes "long/slow form sounds that explore just-intonation (pure) tuning, in a way that's reflective of the Southern California landscape and open space."

The program is bookended by two works written in the 1970s by the late composer James Tenney, an influential pioneer in the field of electronic and computer music and faculty member at the newly opened CalArts. *For Percussion Perhaps, or ... (Night)* (1971) from the *Postal Pieces*, opens the concert, and *Saxony* (1978) for brass quartet and tape delay, caps the program. The brass version of *Saxony* that is being featured was found unpublished in Tenney's archive by his wife, Lauren Pratt, after his death and was premiered by Wild Up in 2015. Both works were composed for several of

CalArts' early faculty members.

Wild Up also premieres a new version of Catherine Lamb's *Pulse/Shade* (2014) for trumpets and bass trumpet that includes several pre-recorded parts. It was originally composed for four voices. Barbier notes that Lamb, currently based in Berlin, "was a critical member of the LA scene for a very long time and was also one of Tenney's last students."

Additionally, the program includes Barbier's own *paper blown between the spaces in my ribs*, a 30-minute work made with field and geophone recordings from the shoreline of Lake Erie in Cleveland, Ohio, as well as from Tree People in Los Angeles, a non-profit organization that inspires, engages and supports people to take personal responsibility for the urban environment. The geophone is a type of microphone modified from seismic equipment that records surface vibrations. The work was commissioned by Chicago's Lampo, an organization that supports artists working in new music, experimental sound, and other interdisciplinary practices.

Wild Up is a Grammy-nominated performance group noted for its unique approach to live music, fusing theater, pop music, and performance art.

Tickets and Information

Tickets to **Wild Up** (\$12 - \$35) are on sale now. For tickets and information, please call 626.355.4318 or visit www.sierramadreplayhouse.org. Sierra Madre Playhouse is located at 87 West Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024.

SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE, a vibrant Southern California cultural hub with a rich history spanning a century, energizes audiences and the community with distinctive theatrical productions and captivating live performances. Hailed as a "jewel" (*Pasadena Weekly*) and "a landmark theater" (*ABC7 Los Angeles*), the performing arts center has garnered tremendous accolades for its varied repertoire and thought-provoking education and outreach programs curated with social impact in mind. The *Los Angeles Times* proclaims, "This is theater from the heart." As one of San Gabriel Valley's only performing arts center presenting a broad spectrum of performance genres, including theater, music, dance, film, comedy, and family-friendly productions featuring eminent local and national professional artists, the treasured artistic beacon draws audiences from across the Southland. The intimate 99-seat Sierra Madre Playhouse offers an up-close and personal connection to performances that resonate deeply, earning multiple Ovation Awards, NAACP Awards, and LA Times Critics' Choice honors. It is nestled into a historic building on the inviting Main Street of Sierra Madre, a charming village in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. Retaining its distinctive movie theater façade and instantly recognizable marquee, the structure has undergone numerous transformations since opening in 1910, from furniture emporium to silent movie theatre to the artistic institution that now stands as a vibrant embodiment of the region's rich cultural legacy. The Sierra Madre Playhouse fosters creativity that aspires to bridge divides and spark dialogue, all while celebrating the rich tapestry of the American experience and the enduring pursuit of shared understanding.

EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT:

Sierra Madre Playhouse Presents Music @ the Playhouse: Wild Up – L.A. Composer Series

Mattie Barbier, curator, trombone, bass trumpet

Jonah Levy, trumpet

Nev Wendell, trumpet

Mason Moy, tuba

WHEN:

Monday, September 9, 2024, 7:30 pm

PROGRAM:

James Tenney - *For Percussion Perhaps, or ... (Night)* (1971) from the *Postal Pieces*

Mattie Barbier - *paper blown between the spaces in my ribs* (2024)

Catherine Lamb - *Pulse/Shade* (2014)

James Tenney - *Saxony* (1978)

WHERE:

Sierra Madre Playhouse

87 West Sierra Madre Boulevard

Sierra Madre, CA 91024

TICKETS AND INFORMATION:

Tickets: \$12-\$35

(626) 355-4318

www.sierramadreplayhouse.org

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