BOWERBIRD

Bowerbird is a Philadelphia based non-profit organization that shares music, dance, film, and related art forms with audiences at locations across the region. We love presenting interesting, beautiful, and unconventional music in beautiful, and unconventional spaces.

Our mission is to expand public understanding of Experimental music, moving away from simplistic tropes such as “cutting edge” or “contemporary,” and instead striving to engage with experimentalism as a timeless and recurrent artistic practice.

bowerbird.org

SUPPORT BOWERBIRD.

If you believe in our expansive and wide-ranging programming, including concerts like this one, please make a tax deductible donation today and support Bowerbird.

BY VENMO OR PAYPAL

Venmo us a donation at: **BowerbirdPhilly**
or paypal: **donations@bowerbird.org**

BY CREDIT CARD:

Visit us online at www.bowerbird.org/give - or ask a Bowerbird staff member to donate via Square.

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Bowerbird
252 S. Saint Bernard St
Philadelphia, PA 19139

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BOWERBIRD PRESENTS

BLACKBOX ENSEMBLE

SATURDAY, OCT 24, 2026

THE PERCH

PROGRAM

Feldman: *Projection 1*

Feldman: *Projection 2*

Eastman: *Buddha*

Tania Leon: *In the Field*

~~~~brief intermission~~~~

Eliot Carter: *A Mirror on Which to Dwell*

BLACKBOX ENSEMBLE:
Leonard Bopp, Conductor
Amber Evans, Soprano
Madeline Hocking, Violin
Miguel Calleja-Rodriguez, Violin
Jay Julio, Viola
Jordan Bartow, Cello
Sam Zagnit, Bass
Annie Nikunen, Flute
Andrés Ayola, Oboe
Bradley Frizzell, Clarinet
Yifei Xu, Piano
J Clancy, Percussion

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Named as "ambitious" by TimeOut & The New Yorker, the NYC-based BlackBox Ensemble is a collective of contemporary music performers dedicated to exploring the wide-ranging world of the music of our time. Founded in 2018, BlackBox has presented work at leading museums, festivals, and performance spaces across the U.S., including the Whitney Museum, National Sawdust, Roulette Intermedium, PS21 Center for Contemporary Performance, Bang on a Can Long Play Festival, Noguchi Museum, and MATA Festival. Our 2026-2027 season includes performances of Morton Feldman and Earle Brown on the Graphic Content Festival, and a residency at the Stanford University's Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics, and engagements at Philadelphia's Bowerbird Concerts, Los Angeles' Oracle Egg, and the New Music Miami Festival. They will also be Ensemble-in-Residence at the University of California - Santa Cruz throughout the season, culminating in a performance on the April in Santa Cruz Festival.

Previous seasons have included concerts in New York and around the country. Our boundary-breaking projects have included Speculative Listening: The Sonic World of Julius Eastman, curated by Eastman scholar Isaac Jean-François; performances of Eastman's Femenine with Kyle Marshall Choreography; the staged premiere of Borrowed Landscape, a radio drama with original music by Dai Fujikura; and a site-specific, outdoor music and dance performance at the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts.

Our name, BlackBox, comes from the many meanings the term carries. In theatre, a black box is a bare, flexible space—four dark walls that can transform into anything, creating an environment ripe for bold experimentation and intimate connection. In science and technology, a black box is a system with known inputs and outputs, but mysterious internal processes. We believe music, as a cultural medium, lives in that same space—enacting an ambiguous but vital relationship between artistic expression and social life, where sound, expression, and human experience collide in ways that can't always be explained, but always resonate. Guided by the spirit of the theatrical black box, we create programs that invite risk, innovation, and connection, presenting contemporary classical music in ways that feel fresh, human, and alive.

blackboxensemble.org
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