

New music ensemble, SONOR, to play at UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium

February 17, 1989

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UCSD'S NEW MUSIC ENSEMBLE, SONOR, TO PLAY ON MARCH 1

SONOR, the new-music performance group at the University of California, San Diego, will play a program of compositions requiring a large ensemble, at 8 p.m. March 1, in the Mandeville Auditorium.

Three major works will be performed, including a West Coast premiere of a work commissioned by Edwin London for the Cleveland Chamber Orchestra.

The program: "LON-Don," by Salvatore Martirano, incorporating synthesizers and brass (this is a West Coast premiere); Elliot Carter's work, "A Mirror on Which to Dwell," for voice and ensemble, set to six poems by Elizabeth Bishop, and a work by Gyorgy Ligeti, "Chamber Concerto 1973," for woodwinds, brass, celeste, harpsichord and Hammond Organ. Ligeti's composition requires a 13-person ensemble, the largest one in the performance.

UCSD soprano and professor of music Carol Plantamura will perform in the Carter work, "A Mirror on Which to Dwell." She will sing six poems accompanied by a chamber ensemble, in which there will be parts for oboe, flute, clarinet and percussion instruments. The work will be conducted by Jan Williams, a visiting professor from SUNY Buffalo with whom Plantamura has worked for 25 years. She performed this work last year with Williams at SUNY Buffalo for Carter's 80th birthday celebration, for the North American Music Festival.

Ligeti was born and lived in Hungary until 1956, when he left for Vienna. It was in Austria that he came into contact with leading European avant-garde composers. He made a name for himself with the publication of "Apparitions," and has since been a prolific composer. An astute theorist, Ligeti also teaches at the Darmstadt Summer Institute.

Martirano's musical talent and technical abilities appear to have lain in wait for the advent of the computer. A pianist, composer and inventor of international standing, Martirano wrote his first computer-generated work in the early fifties. He now designs hybrid performance sound systems, while at the same time carrying out his duties as a full professor of music at the University of Illinois, Urbana.

Carter began composing while in his teens. After college he went to Paris to study with Nadia Boulanger in Paris. On his return to the U.S. he was musical director of Ballet Caravan until 1940. He has taught at the Juilliard School of Music, and at several universities, including Columbia, Yale, Cornell and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

SONOR is UCSD's new-music ensemble, made up of music faculty and graduate performers. The group is the department's major proving ground and disseminator of new music. The ensemble has an international reputation for exhibiting vanguard work, the stuff for which the UCSD music faculty is famous.

SONOR had the singular distinction of being the first American new music ensemble to be invited to the Darmstadt (Institute) New Music Festival last summer. The Darmstadtler Echo published the following review: "It's astonishing with what carefree spirit and technical competence the California musicians take in stride new music which encounters so many barriers elsewhere."

Tickets for the SONOR concert are \$6 for general admission and \$3 for students. They may be purchased at TicketMaster outlets and from the UCSD Box Office (534-4559). His performance is sponsored by the UCSD Department of Music.

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