



TUESDAYS @ MONK SPACE

2025-26 Season

MATT MCBANE:
Music for Synthesizers & Strings

October 13, 2026
8:00 PM

Monk Space

presented by

Brightwork
newmusic





The 2026-27 Season of Tuesdays @ Monk Space
is curated by **Shalini Vijayan.**

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STEINWAY & SONS



PROGRAM

Compositions by Matt McBane

Eleven Eleven

Buoy

Improvisations

with Ian Dicke, Synth

Through Fragments

VCV Chaconne

Turn Around Again

Arpeggiator

Topography – Chorale and Scales

with Betsy Rettig, cello

ARTIST BIOS

MATT MCBANE

Matt McBane is a composer, electronic musician and violinist whose music draws on classical minimalism and studio production techniques; analog synthesizers and fiddle music; orchestras and found percussion; complex patterns and emotional nuance.



Matt's most recent large-scale project is the diptych of 'Bathymetry' and 'Topography.' 'Bathymetry,' is a 40-minute composition for percussion and analog synthesizer with Sandbox Percussion (2022 Grammy nominees) in 2022 on Cantaloupe Music. 'Bathymetry' was selected as an album of the month on Bandcamp, and an album of the year by the band Wilco, and called "an electro-acoustic tour de force" by Steve Smith. 'Topography' is a 45-minute septet for cellist Ashley Bathgate, Mantra Percussion and analog synthesizer, premiered in 2023 at National Sawdust in Brooklyn, featured as a "fall highlight" in The New York Times, and co-presented and broadcast by WNYC's New Sounds. 'Topography' will be released on Cantaloupe Music in 2027.

Matt's latest release, 'Buoy' (Gradient Music, 2025), is a solo electroacoustic album for synthesizers and violin. Bandcamp featured the album and called it "a stunning blend of neoclassical instrumentation and minimalist modular synth music" and PopMatters listed it as a best ambient album of the year. This project grew out of a performance in Brooklyn in 2020 on a concert curated by Laurie Anderson and Arto Lindsay.

Matt's music has been performed by ensembles including Contemporaneous, Wild Up, So Percussion, Toolbox Percussion (Hong Kong), Blow Up Percussion (Italy), Martelo Percussion (Brazil), Unheard-of Ensemble, Calder Quartet and NOW Ensemble, at venues including Carnegie Hall, the Los Angeles Philharmonic

Brooklyn Festival, the Whitney Museum of Art, the Bang on a Can Marathon (NYC), Roulette (NYC), and many others.

In addition, Matt's music was featured in the 2022 Hulu/BBC TV show 'Conversations with Friends' and in 2025-26 he scored his first feature film, 'Genoa' (release forthcoming) directed by Neal Dhand and Mika Johnson. His 25-min suite for bluegrass string band, 'Drawn' was released on the Jake Schepps Quintet's album 'Entwined' which was called a 2015 album of the year by Colorado Public Radio.

Matt's instrumental band, Build, released two critically-acclaimed albums on New Amsterdam Records and has been described by New York Magazine as a "rocking post-classical quintet which takes inspiration from minimalist chamber music, instrumental rock, modal jazz, and more." Matt was the Founder and Artistic Director of the Carlsbad Music Festival from 2003-2021, widely known for its programming of "adventurous music by the beach" for which he was called, "a first-rate organizer with a broad range of musical interests" by the Los Angeles Times. He holds degrees from Princeton University and the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music.

IAN DICKE

Ian Dicke is a composer, musician, and software designer whose work explores the intersection of technology and social-political culture. Praised for his “refreshingly well-structured” and “uncommonly memorable” music, his works have been commissioned and performed worldwide by ensembles and artists including the New World Symphony, Alarm Will Sound, the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, Paul Drescher Ensemble, pianist Vicky Chow, the MATA Festival, and ISCM World New Music Days. He has received grants and awards from the Fulbright Program, Hellman Foundation, Barlow Endowment, and New Music USA, among others. Dicke is Professor of Composition at the University of California, Riverside, and founder of Novel Music.



BETSY RETTIG

Cellist Betsy Rettig is a performer and educator dedicated to collaborative and experimental music. A founding member of the Isaura String Quartet, her creative projects include working with Sofia Gubaidulina, Ulrich Krieger, and David T. Little, recording on ISQ's 2024 Grammy-nominated opera film *Black Lodge*. Recent project highlights include performances of Ákos Rózmán's works via Buffalo's Hallwalls Music Program and touring with ballerina Tiler Peck in *Turn It Out*. Betsy can be heard on recent releases by Man Man, Baths, and Malachi.



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