

MASON BATES

The music of Mason Bates fuses innovative orchestral writing, imaginative narrative forms, the harmonies of jazz and the rhythms of techno. Frequently performed by orchestras large and small, his symphonic music has been the first to receive widespread acceptance for its expanded palette of electronic sounds, and it is championed by leading conductors such as Riccardo Muti, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Leonard Slatkin. He has become a visible advocate for bringing new music to new spaces, whether through institutional partnerships such as his residency with the Chicago Symphony, or through his classical/DJ project *Mercury Soul*, which has transformed spaces ranging from commercial clubs to Frank Gehry-designed concert halls into exciting, hybrid musical events drawing over a thousand people.

Carnegie Hall's 2012-13 season opens with Riccardo Muti leading the Chicago Symphony in *Alternative Energy*, an 'energy symphony' that spans four movements and hundreds of years. Premiered last season to rave reviews, the work subsequently toured California and receives its Canadian premiere in February by the Toronto Symphony. A new violin concerto for Anne Akiko Meyers and the Pittsburgh Symphony premieres in December under the baton of Leonard Slatkin, and the Pittsburgh Symphony will perform many additional works as he serves as Composer of the Year.

Numerous repeat performances of his music occur across the country this season, from Houston Ballet's new ballet based on *The B-Sides* to the Phoenix Symphony performing two works this season, including a new song cycle. While Bates often performs the electronica onstage with orchestras, dozens of repeat performances of his symphonic music happen without him. Many purely acoustic works complement his diverse catalogue, such as *Sirens*, an *a cappella* work touring with the superstar chorus Chanticleer. For more info, go to www.masonbates.com.

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