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American Contemporary Music Ensemble Performs *Nordic Noir*

Music by Danish Composers Ejnar Kanding and
Carsten Bo Eriksen (*My Beautiful Decay 1973*)

Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 7pm (doors 6pm)
(Le) Poisson Rouge
158 Bleecker St. | New York, NY

Tickets: \$15 - \$20 available at www.lpr.com

ACME: www.acmemusic.org

New York, NY – On **Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 7pm** (doors 6pm), the **American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME)** performs *Nordic Noir*, a program featuring music by Danish composers that captures the Nordic “dark side” – a coolness, calmness, mindfulness – at **(Le) Poisson Rouge** (158 Bleecker St., NYC). Inspired by the surroundings and the people that dwell within them, **Ejnar Kanding** and **Carsten Bo Eriksen** (alias *My Beautiful Decay 1973*) focus their evocative powers on the wider elements of their home region, touchingly capturing its unique spirit and affecting atmosphere in their compositions. ACME players for this concert include Laura Lutzke and Ravenna Lipchik, violins; Isabel Hagen, viola; and Clarice Jensen, cello and ACME artistic director.

Carsten Bo Eriksen (artist name “My Beautiful Decay 1973”) has been commissioned by ACME to write a new piece for string quartet and electronics, which will be premiered at the concert. Titled *Echoes*, its theme revolves around “lost memories and sounds – the sounds and voices that have become a part of our identity, and never could be lost in our memories.” The new piece will be accompanied by video that works as a visual counterpoint. www.mbd73.com

Composer Ejnar Kanding is internationally known for his uniquely colorful music, which unites electronic and acoustic sound in complex textures, physical energy and delicate simplicity. According to Kanding, “Music should not embellish, but be a realm of fantasy.” Like a hall of mirrors, his music is a journey into the ambiguous Nordic dark side and a sensuous voyage to the unknown areas of inner life. www.kanding.com

The **American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME)**, led by Artistic Director Clarice Jensen, was honored by ASCAP during its 10th anniversary season in 2015 for the “virtuosity, passion, and commitment with which it performs and champions American composers.” *NPR* calls them “contemporary music dynamos,” and *The New York Times* describes ACME’s performances as “vital,” “brilliant,” and “electrifying.”

ACME’s recordings appear on the Deutsche Grammophon, New World, Butterscotch, and New Amsterdam labels. ACME released its first portrait album on Sono Luminus in 2017, featuring music by members Caroline Shaw, Timo Andres, and Caleb Burhans, plus John Luther Adams. *The Strad* raved, “Warmth and care are fully evident in the ensemble’s immaculate, considered performances – the four composers could hardly wish for more committed, convincing accounts of their music.” In 2019, ACME records Jóhann Jóhannsson’s *Drone Mass*, a work the group commissioned in 2015, for Deutsche Grammophon.

Notable highlights of ACME’s 2018-2019 season include performances with Harold Budd at the Big Ears Festival; tours with Max Richter including his 8-hour work for a sleeping audience, *Sleep*, and a concert in Tokyo at the

Sumida Peace Memorial Festival; a featured performance during Marc Jacobs' New York Fashion Week show; plus concerts presented by the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, Portland Ovation, Columbia University's Miller Theatre, and more.

ACME's dedication to new music extends across genres and has earned them a reputation among both classical and rock crowds. ACME's many collaborators have included The Richard Alston Dance Company, Wayne McGregor's Random Dance, Gibney Dance, Meredith Monk, Jóhann Jóhannsson, actress Barbara Sukowa, filmmaker Jim Jarmusch, Blonde Redhead, Grizzly Bear, Low, Matmos, Jeff Mangum, A Winged Victory for the Sullen, Roomful of Teeth, Lionheart, and Theo Bleckmann. The group has performed at leading venues including Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, BAM, The Kennedy Center, (Le) Poisson Rouge, Miller Theatre, The Met Museum, Constellation Chicago, Stanford Live, UCLA, Peak Performances, Melbourne Recital Hall, Boston Calling, Big Ears, Sydney Opera House, the Sacrum Profanum Festival in Poland, All Tomorrow's Parties in the UK, Auckland Arts Festival in New Zealand, and the Summer Nostos Festival in Greece, among many others.

For more information, visit www.acmemusic.org.

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