



Ann DuHamel, piano

Winner of 2023-24 McKnight
Artist Fellowship for Musicians

Prayers for a Feverish Planet:
New Music About Climate Change

In the Fall of 2019, pianist Ann DuHamel was feeling despondent about the climate crisis. Wanting to do *something*, she launched a call for scores, asking composers to share their works about climate change. More than 170 composers in 35+ countries sent 300+ discrete movements of music for piano and piano/electronics, on the themes of water, grief/anxiety, shadows and light, time, human “progress,” trees, hope, and more.

Pianist Ann DuHamel presents *Prayers for a Feverish Planet*

New and recently composed music about the climate crisis. The entire venture encompasses more than 60 new pieces for piano and piano/electronics by composers on six continents. This program is infinitely flexible: a one-hour long program featuring a selection of works; shorter programs grouped by theme; a series of programs over one day or a weekend; a multi-day presentation; an 8-hour marathon. The program lends itself especially well to guest expert speakers, augmenting the audience’s musical experience for a more powerful impact.

In the spirit of eco-artivism, this musical series asks urgent questions of the listener:
How do our actions generate positive change for the environment?
How can we live more mindfully and conscientiously as global citizens?
What sustainable impact can we create for generations to come?

Recent Press:

[La Circular: Revista de Cultura Rural y Circular, “Ann DuHamel, piano por un planeta febril,” “DuHamel receives McKnight Fellowship”](#)

[Modern Notebook Radio \(WSMR, Tampa FL\) Program Interview with Tyler Kline](#)
[Earth Day 2022 Interview with Minnesota Public Radio’s Tom Crann, *All Things Considered*](#)
University of Minnesota Morris [Earth Day 2022 Series Press Release](#) and [Program Listing](#)

Audio and Video Clips from Prayers for a Feverish Planet

[Our World so Freely Given](#), by Vanessa Cornett

[White Parasol](#), by Ian Dicke

[Those Who Watch](#), by Gunter Gaupp

Writing

[Anxiety, Courage, Imagination, and Joy at the Crossroads: Music as a Response to the Climate Crisis](#)

in *I Care If You Listen.com*

And More

[Rückblick: New Piano Music Inspired by Brahms](#) (Furious Artisans, 2020).

Featuring all new works commissioned by Marc Chan, Luke Dahn, Joseph Dangerfield, Jocelyn Hagen, and Edie Hill.

Praise for *Rückblick*:

Midwest Record: “Forward thinking classical pianist”

Piano Magazine: “depth of programming and playing”

“range of sound and full melodic tone”

“clear voicing and vibrant sense of color”

Piano Bulletin (Dutch reviewer Olga de Kort): “an extraordinary, fascinating CD”

“The album is musically very strong”

“Kudos to the pianist who [assembled] a collection so passionate, technically excellent and inspiring.”

The American Prize: Finalist in Piano Performance, 2021

Special Judges’ Citation: “Championing the Music of Marc Chan”

Petrichor International Music Competition: Finalist for Best Album, 2022

Also appearing on [Tyler Klime: Orchard](#) (Neuma Records, 2022).

Performing *Kimi* + 5 commissioned works: *Blackberry*, *Cloudberry*, *Elderberry*, *Juniper*, *Sand Cherry*.

Praise for *Orchard*:

Fanfare Magazine: “alive ... [played with] aching expression”

Jazz Weekly: Ann DuHamel is tart on “Blackberry” and sweet during “Kiwi”.

Biography



Pianist Ann DuHamel’s performances have been praised as poetic and “... a **delight for the ears and the soul**” (Encuentro Universitario Internacional de Saxofón, Mexico City). *La Circular: Revista de Cultural Rural y Circular* (Spain) wrote, “**Ann DuHamel's concert at the Porto Pianofest demonstrated ... the ability of classical music in general, and the piano in particular, to transmit the concerns and thoughts of the contemporary world.**” Ann is a 2023-24 recipient of the McKnight Artist Fellowship for Musicians.

She has performed in 18 countries and 37 of the United States, including at Sala Verdi in Milan, Italy; the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland; the HoGent Conservatory in Ghent, Belgium; and Trinity College in Oxford, England.

Hailed as a **“forward thinking classical pianist”** (*Midwest Record*) for her debut album *Rückblick: New Piano Music Inspired by Brahms* (Furious Artisans, 2020), Ann actively champions contemporary composers, recently commissioning works by Flannery Cunningham, Jocelyn Hagen, and Edie Hill, among others. *Piano Magazine* applauded “the depth of programming and playing” in *Rückblick*, admiring Ann’s **“range of sound and full melodic tone,”** as well as her “clear voicing and **vibrant sense of color.”** Tracks from *Rückblick* have appeared on WFMT (Chicago), WRUW (Cleveland), WSMR (Tampa), WMBR (Cambridge, MA) and Minnesota Public Radio. *Dr. Brahms’s Book of Rags*, which appears on the album, was a finalist in The American Prize in Piano Performance, 2021, and received a Special Judges’ Citation: “Championing the Music of Marc Chan.” *Rückblick* was also a finalist for Best Album in the 2022 Petrichor International Music Competition.

Ann also appears on the 2022 release *Tyler Kline: Orchard* (Neuma Records, January 14, 2022), performing six works of Tyler Kline, five of which she commissioned. *Fanfare* magazine praised her performance as **“alive ... [played with] aching expression.”**

In demand as a collaborative pianist, Ann has performed chamber music with members of both the Grammy-Award winning Minnesota Orchestra and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, as well as with Martha Cuncell-Vargas, flute; Preston Duncan, saxophone; Tracey Engleman, soprano; Maria Jette, soprano; and Clara Osowski, mezzo-soprano. Her performance at Carnegie Weill Recital Hall with *ensemble: Périphérie* was hailed by the New York Concert Review as **“outstanding,”** praising the group of **“superb musicians”** who **“played with power and assurance.”**

Ann currently serves as Associate Professor of Music at the University of Minnesota Morris, where she devotes herself to the mission of sharing high quality traditional and contemporary classical music with students and the greater community. Prior to earning a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance and pedagogy at the University of Iowa under the tutelage of Ksenia Nosikova, Ann was Assistant Artistic Director at the Wirth Center in St Cloud, MN, for 8 years. An active member of the Minnesota Music Teachers Association for over 25 years, Ann is a Past President of the organization. Some of her most important contributions on the MMTA Board of Directors include initiating a Diversity-Equity-Inclusion committee, as well as ushering forth a Land Acknowledgement to honor the Indigenous people and cultures from Minnesota.

Ann’s latest project, **“Prayers for a Feverish Planet,”** is a musical response to the climate crisis. Ann has been awarded artist residencies at Tofte Lake Center (MN), Everwood Farmstead Foundation (WI), and Porto Pianofest (Portugal) for this project, which has also received extensive support from the University of Minnesota (Institute for Advanced Study Residential Fellow, Fall 2021; Imagine Fund Special Events Grant; and Grant-In-Aid of Research, Artistry, and Scholarship).

Featuring 60 new works for piano and piano/electronics by composers on six continents, this series of programs reflects on the urgency of climate catastrophe and inspires the audience to make meaningful changes.





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