



CHARLOTTE STREET FOUNDATION'S  
URBAN CULTURE PROJECT presents  
a KANSAS CITY ELECTRONIC MUSIC AND ARTS ALLIANCE concert

Cheryl Melfi: Digital Reeds



SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2012  
Doors open at 7:30pm, Concert begins at 8:00pm  
Admission \$10/Students \$5  
City Center Square / 1100 Main Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor KCMO

The **Kansas City Electronic Music and Arts Alliance** (KcEMA) celebrates the beginning of 2012 by welcoming **Cheryl Melfi** back to Kansas City for a concert of electro-acoustic music for clarinet. She brings with her a program of new music including two world premieres.

**Cheryl Melfi** is a highly experienced and respected performer of electro-acoustic music. She has numerous festival performances to her credit, including Electronic Music Midwest, Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States (SEASMUS), Electro-Acoustic Juke Joint, and the Thailand International Composition Festival. She is a frequent collaborator with KcEMA, both as a soloist and as a member of the Kansas City-based new music ensemble Quadrivium. She has also electro-acoustic music to Kansas City audiences via Dark Matter, a group of artists, astronomers, and educators combining the sounds of electro-acoustic music with awe-inspiring science education.

In addition to two world premieres—**Daniel Eichenbaum's *The Lonely Road*** and **Richard Johnson's *Hiram***—Cheryl will perform works by an international group of composers. **Alex Harker's *Fluence*** explores the simultaneous existence of multiple musical worlds through interactions between the clarinet and an electronic "tape" part generated in real time. ***Butterfly*** is composed by multimedia artist **Mark Snyder**, whose work has been described as "expansive, expressive and extremely human." The program is completed by **Rob Mackay's *Equanimity***, a delicately balanced piece inspired by a moonlit beach in Majorca.

**Cheryl Melfi** has served as principal clarinetist in the Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra, the Catalina Chamber Orchestra, and the Michigan Pops Orchestra. She is a past member of Quadrivium, the Crosswinds Ensemble, the Arizona-based wind quintet Fünf, and the contemporary music quartet THUD. She has also performed with contemporary music groups including the Contemporary Directions Ensemble, the Prime Directive, and the Nova Chamber Players, and has collaborated with numerous composers on new works for the clarinet. She is a frequent collaborator with the Kansas City Electronic Music and Arts Alliance. With Quadrivium, she was a featured artist at the 2010 Electro-Acoustic Juke Joint and the 2011 Thailand International Composition Festival. Dr. Melfi has appeared as a guest artist and clinician at the University of Central Oklahoma and the Music/Arts Institute, and her performance at the 2008 International Clarinet Association's ClarinetFest was called "excellent" and "exotic." Other festival performances include Electronic Music Midwest, SEAMUS, the KMTA/MMTA Joint Conference, and the University of Central Missouri's new music festival.

From 2005–2007 Dr. Melfi was Instructor of Clarinet at Mahidol University in Salaya, Thailand. While living in Southeast Asia she served as faculty artist for the Southeast Asian Youth Orchestra and Wind Ensemble (SAYOWE), and presented recitals, clinics and workshops at the Asian Symphonic Band Competition (ASBC), the Singapore Bandmasters' Workshop, the Gitameit Music Center in Yangon, and other events throughout the region. In 2007 she performed in Yangon with U Maung Maung, the principal clarinetist of the Myanmar Radio and Television Orchestra, in the first-ever collaboration between American and Burmese clarinetists.

From 2008–2011 Dr. Melfi was Assistant Director and Instructor of Clarinet at the Community Music and Dance Academy at UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance in Kansas City, Missouri. In that capacity she expanded the Academy's clarinet studio, founded a faculty recital series, and collaborated with outstanding artists and educators on the creation of new and innovative arts programs.

Dr. Melfi holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Arizona, the Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan, and the Bachelor of Music degree from Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory of Music. Her clarinet teachers include Jerry Kirkbride, E. Fred Ormand, and David Bell.

The **Kansas City Electronic Music and Arts Alliance (KcEMA)**, founded in 2007, is now in its fifth season. KcEMA endeavors to encourage and develop understanding and appreciation of electronic music and to create an expansive sense of community for electronic musicians and other artists in the Kansas City Area. KcEMA organizes concerts of electronic music and collaborative projects with generative and performing artists. KcEMA provides a forum for electronic musicians and artists in other media to collaborate, exchange ideas, and grow as an interactive, supportive community.

***Urban Culture Project is an initiative of the Charlotte Street Foundation, an organization dedicated to making Kansas City a place where artists and art thrive. Urban Culture Project creates new opportunities for artists of all disciplines and contributes to urban revitalization by transforming spaces in downtown Kansas City into new venues for multi-disciplinary contemporary arts programming. For more information, visit [www.charlottestreet.org](http://www.charlottestreet.org).***

*for more information on the Charlotte Street Foundation, please visit*  
[www.charlottestreet.org](http://www.charlottestreet.org)

*for more information on KcEMA, please visit*  
[www.kcema.net](http://www.kcema.net)

*for more information on Cheryl, please visit*  
<http://cherylmelfi.wordpress.com>