

Examples of Innovative Ensembles

Compiled by [Peabody LAUNCHPad](#), Updated Aug. 2018

Instrumental Chamber Ensembles

[Del Sol String Quartet](#)

Primarily perform music by living composers, especially those from their home state of California.

[Edgy Precision from Del Sol](#), by David Bratman

[eighth blackbird](#)

Chicago-based sextet with “the finesse of a string quartet, the energy of a rock band, and the audacity of a storefront theater company.”

[Artist Interview](#), by Garrett Schumann

[Prism Saxophone Quartet](#)

Seeks “to place the saxophone in unexpected contexts, chart fresh musical territory...”

[No Strings Attached: A PRISM on the Saxophone Quartet](#), by Matt Mendez

[So Percussion](#)

Brooklyn-based percussion quartet focused on collaborative projects, unique presentation, and creating community through music.

[A So Percussion Year in Review](#), by Adam Sliwinski

Larger Ensembles

[Alarm Will Sound](#)

20-member ensemble dedicated to the creation, performance, and recording of contemporary music; often incorporate multimedia and performance art.

[Alarm Will Sound's Gavin Chuck & Michael Clayville](#)

Podcast hosted by Andrew Hitz

[Bang on a Can](#)

Contextualizes music in novel venues and explores interdisciplinary collaboration. [The Who and Why of Bang on a Can](#), by Frank J. Oteri

[Cantata Profana](#)

Vocal and instrumental ensemble that performs in a narrative programming style.

[Group Bio](#)

[International Contemporary Ensemble \(ICE\)](#)

ICE is a modular ensemble with a focus on premiering new music.

[Claire Chase on New Music & the Dawn of the ICE](#)

[Age](#) by Carlton Wilkinson

Vocal Ensembles

[Lorelei Ensemble](#)

Nine-voice female modular ensemble, with vocalists occasionally doubling on percussion; focused on rarely heard repertoire.

[Interview](#) from WBUR

[New York Polyphony](#)

Accomplished male vocal quartet that commissions new music, presents diverse programs and explores uses of technology. [New York Polyphony: A Vocal Quartet Takes On Death](#) from NPR

[Rhymes with Opera](#)

“... performs new chamber operas, encourages theatrical innovation through multimedia and interdisciplinary collaboration”

[Interview with Rhymes with Opera](#) by Angel Lam

[Roomful of Teeth](#)

Uses extended and multi-cultural vocal techniques, and commissions diverse repertoire.

[Coffee Conversation: Roomful of Teeth's Brad Wells](#),

by Peter Matthew

[Skylark Ensemble](#)

Vocal ensemble creating narrative concerts combining stories and music.

[Interview](#) from Thought Catalogue