

9-17-2016

## Guest Ensemble Recital: The Mellits Consort

The Mellits Consort

Kevin Gallagher

Danny Tunick

Christina Buciu

Elizabeth Simkin

*See next page for additional authors*

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.ithaca.edu/music\\_programs](http://digitalcommons.ithaca.edu/music_programs)

 Part of the [Music Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

The Mellits Consort; Gallagher, Kevin; Tunick, Danny; Buciu, Christina; Simkin, Elizabeth; and Mellits, Marc, "Guest Ensemble Recital: The Mellits Consort" (2016). *All Concert & Recital Programs*. 2104.  
[http://digitalcommons.ithaca.edu/music\\_programs/2104](http://digitalcommons.ithaca.edu/music_programs/2104)

This Program is brought to you for free and open access by the Concert & Recital Programs at Digital Commons @ IC. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Concert & Recital Programs by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ IC.

---

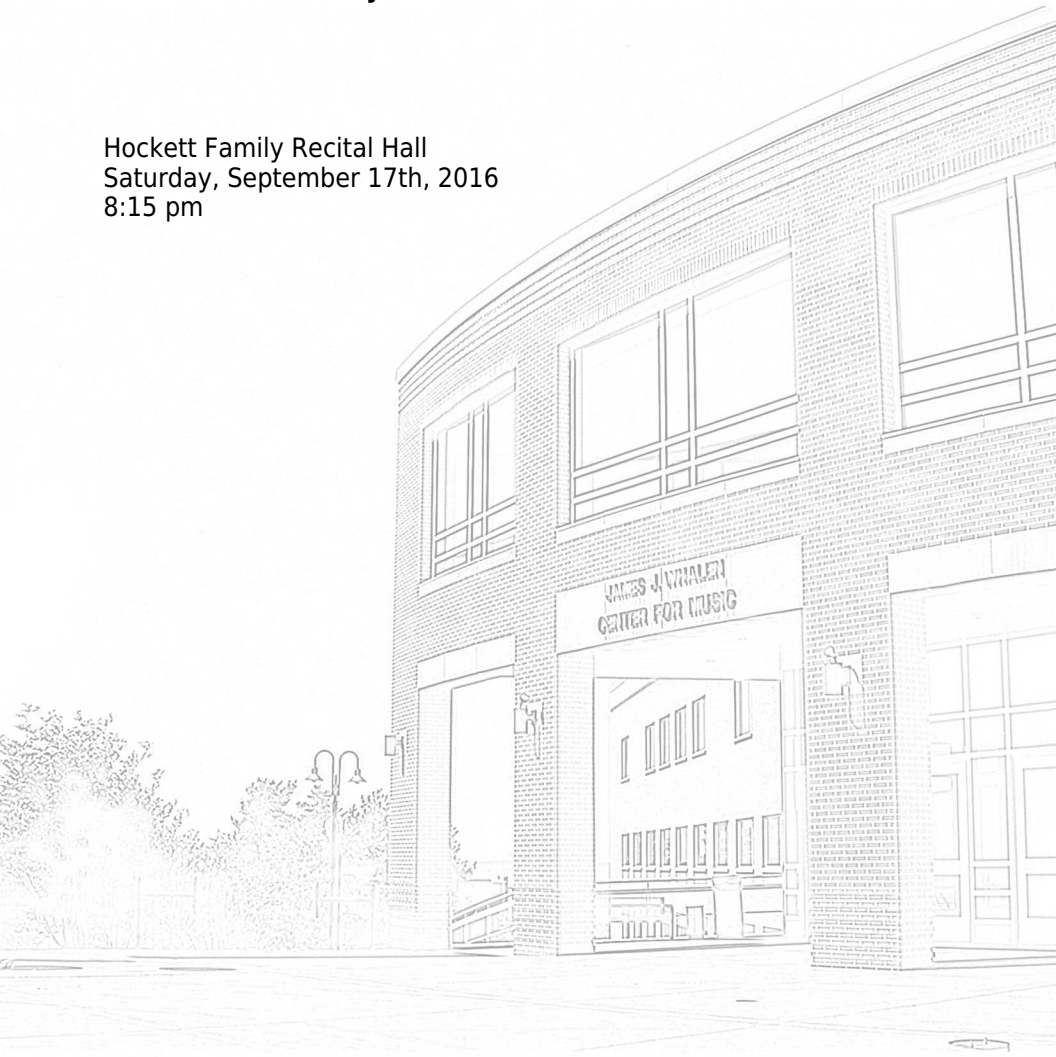
**Authors**

The Mellits Consort, Kevin Gallagher, Danny Tunick, Christina Buciu, Elizabeth Simkin, and Marc Mellits

# The Mellits Consort

Kevin Gallagher, electric guitar  
Danny Tunick, amplified marimba  
Cristina Buciu, amplified violin  
Elizabeth Simkin, amplified cello  
Marc Mellits, keyboard

Hockett Family Recital Hall  
Saturday, September 17th, 2016  
8:15 pm



**ITHACA COLLEGE**

School of Music

# Program

|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Opening                   | Marc Mellits<br>(b. 1966) |
| Broken Glass              | Mellits                   |
| paranoid cheese           | Mellits                   |
| The Misadventures of Soup | Mellits                   |
| Lefty's Elegy             | Mellits                   |
| Machine IV                | Mellits                   |

## Intermission

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Srećan Rođendan, Marija! | Mellits |
| Troica                   | Mellits |
| Mara's Lullaby           | Mellits |
| Dreadlocked              | Mellits |
| Machine III              | Mellits |
| Machine V                | Mellits |

## **The Mellits Consort**

The Mellits Consort is an ensemble devoted to the music of Marc Mellits. It is an amplified group consisting of amplified Violin, amplified Cello, Electric Guitar, amplified Marimba, and Keyboard. The music is both hard edged and rhythmic as well as lyrical and sultry. The repetitive nature of the sounds often propels the music forward, spiraling into groove patterns with soaring lyricism. The combinations of instrumentation and timbre often results in a unique scoring always aware of moving the music forward. The ensemble has thrilled audiences throughout the US as well as Europe, sometimes incorporating video into the concert.

## **Marc Mellits**

Composer Marc Mellits is one of the leading American composers of his generation, enjoying hundreds of performances throughout the world every year, making him one of the most performed living composers in the United States. From Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center, to prestigious music festivals in Europe and the US, Mellits' music is a constant mainstay on programs throughout the world. His unique musical style is an eclectic combination of driving rhythms, soaring lyricism, and colorful orchestrations that all combine to communicate directly with the listener. Mellits' music is often described as being visceral, making a deep connection with the audience. "This was music as sensual as it was intelligent; I saw audience members swaying, nodding, making little motions with their hands" (New York Press). He started composing very early, and was writing piano music long before he started formal piano lessons at age 6. He went on to study at the Eastman School of Music, Yale School of Music, Cornell University, and Tanglewood. Mellits often is a miniaturist, composing works that are comprised of short, contrasting movements or sections. His music is eclectic, all-encompassing, colourful, and always has a sense of forward motion.

Mellits' music has been played by major ensembles across the globe and he has been commissioned by groups such as the Kronos Quartet, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra (Holland), Duo Assad, Bang On A Can All-Stars, Eliot Fisk, Canadian Brass, Nexus Percussion, Debussy Quartet, Real Quiet, New Music Detroit,

Four-In-Correspondence (National Symphony Orchestra), Musique En Roue Libre (France), Fiarì Ensemble (Italy), Percussions Claviers de Lyon (France), Third Coast Percussion, Talujon, the Society for New Music, Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, and the Albany Symphony's Dog's Of Desire. Additionally, Mellits' music has been performed, toured, and/or recorded by members of the Detroit Symphony, Atlanta Symphony, Boston Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Minneapolis Symphony, Brooklyn Philharmonic, eighth blackbird, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, New Millennium Ensemble, Da Capo Chamber Players, and the American Modern Ensemble, among many others.

On film, Mellits has composed numerous scores, including the PBS mini-series "Beyond The Light Switch" which won a 2012 Dupont-Columbia award, the most prestigious award in documentaries. Mellits also directs and plays keyboards in his own unique ensemble, the Mellits Consort. He was awarded the prestigious 2004 Foundation for Contemporary Arts Award.

On CD, there are over 50 recorded works of Mellits' music that can be found on Black Box, Endeavour Classics, Cantaloupe, CRI/Emergency Music, Santa Fe New Music, Innova, & Dacia Music. Marc Mellits is an Assistant Professor of music at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He lives in Chicago with his wife and two daughters, and spends significant time in Romania.

*-Andrew Russo & Gerald Blackhammer*