

PHOTO CREDIT Mindy Stricke

# about TElight Works biography Stontact

#### EINSTEIN'S MOZART: Two Geniuses

Text & Poems by Kate Light • Music by W. A. Mozart
Einstein's Mozart integrates two of Mozart's great string works
with Kate Light's original, information-packed poetry and prose about
the two men's extraordinary lives and creative work. The men "meet"
through the imaginations of both and through the magic of Mozart's
music, which inspired Einstein and helped to free his brilliant mind
when he found himself stuck on a difficult problem in physics or math.
Einstein's Mozart was commissioned by the Colorado Chamber Players
to commemorate Mozart's 250th birthday and the centenary of
Einstein's Miracle Year, and premiered in Denver in 2006.



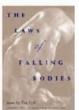


#### **OCEANOPHONY**

Text & Poems by Kate Light • Music by Bruce Adolphe
It's an ocean of poetry and music! Commissioned to celebrate the 100th anniversary
of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, *Oceanophony* is a concert piece about marine
creatures and their habitats, scored for narrator and octet or narrator and orchestra.
You'll hear Marine Snow, Pufferfish, The Reef, Coral Music, Parrotfish and a Parrotfish
Lullaby, Octopus Octet, Cleaning Station Rap – and meet a very Sarcastic Fringehead!
The work has been heard over fifty times throughout the United States, including at
Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, The American Museum of Natural History,
Cape Cod Chamber Music Festival, and SummerFest La Jolla, and is available on CD.







## also by Kate Light Gravity's Dream (Donald Justice Award) Open Slowly

The Laws of Falling Bodies (Nicholas Roerich Prize)

KATE LIGHT'S POETRY has appeared in The Paris Review, Dark Horse, Hudson Review, Washington Post Book World, New York Sun, Feminist Studies, Western Humanities Review, Barrow Street, Carolina Quarterly, Rattapallax, The Formalist, and many other publications, and has been featured four times on Garrison Keillor's The Writer's Almanac. Her work is included in the anthologies The Penguin Book of the Sonnet, Western Wind, Poetry Daily, the bilingual Lineas Conectadoas: Poesia Nueva de los Estados Unidos, and Garrison Keillor's Good Poems for Hard Times, and her lyrics for the original song "Here Beside Me" are heard in Disney's Mulan II. She has published articles, profiles, and reviews in the Philadelphia Inquirer and Chamber Music Magazine.

AS NARRATOR of her pieces, Ms. Light has appeared with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Louisville Orchestra, Colorado Chamber Players, and at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Also known for her lively readings, Ms. Light's recent engagements include the *New York Times*' 2006 "Great Read in the Park," Spoleto Festival USA, the Dodge Poetry Festival, the 3rd Annual DC International Poetry Festival, Interlochen Center for the Arts, Zimmerli Museum at Rutgers University, Wordstock Festival at Penn State University (as Keynote Speaker), Woodstock Poetry Festival, Cal State LA, and Fairfield, Cornell, CW Post, and West Chester Universities.

MS. LIGHT HAS TAUGHT at Hunter College, Cornell University, and the Musashino Art University in Tokyo. She is also a professional violinist in New York City.

## Recent readings by KATE light oceanophony | einstein's mozart | gravity's bream | open slowly | the laws of falling bodies winner of the donald history award | systems and the laws of falling bodies

WINNER OF THE DONALD JUSTICE AWARD | SHEILA MOTTON PRIZE | NICHOLAS ROERICH PRIZE

Contact Kate for readings, residencies, and performances of her pieces at kate@katelight.com katelight.com

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY Nashville, TN

LOUISVILLE ORCHESTRA Louisville, KY

MIZEL ARTS CENTER Denver, CO

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY NYC

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER NYC

LOS ANGELES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA Los Angeles, CA

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY Bethlehem, PA

COLORADO COLLEGE Colorado Springs, CO

CHAMBER MUSIC TOLEDO Toledo, OH

### appearances as narrator OCEANOPHONY or EINSTEIN'S MOZART

readings, workshops & residencies

NEW YORK TIMES "GREAT READ IN THE PARK" NYC

DONALD JUSTICE AWARD READING West Chester University, PA

INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY Interlochen, MI

MUSASHINO ART UNIVERSITY Tokyo, Japan

GERALDINE R. DODGE POETRY FESTIVAL Waterloo Village, Stanhope, NJ

SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA Charleston, SC

CORNELL UNIVERSITY Ithaca, NY

WOODSTOCK POETRY FESTIVAL Woodstock, NY

CHAPTERS BOOK STORE Washington, DC

NICHOLAS ROERICH MUSEUM NYC

3RD ANNUAL DC INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL National Museum of Women in the Arts, DC

EAR INN, BOWERY POETRY CLUB, AND CORNELIA STREET CAFÉ NYC

CW POST UNIVERSITY Long Island, NY

STONECOAST MFA, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE Portland, ME

NEWBURYPORT ART ASSOCIATION Newburyport, MA

HUNTER COLLEGE NYC

ZIMMERLI MUSEUM, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY New Brunswick, NtJ

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY New Britain, CT

CAFÉ MAKOR OF THE 92ND STREET Y NYC

SOL GOODMAN YMHA MYC

CAL STATE Los Angeles, CA

1ST AND 3RD ANNUAL WORDSTOCK FESTIVALS Penn State University, PA

FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY Fairfield, CT

NORTHERN WESTCHESTER CENTER FOR THE ARTS Mt. Kisco, NY

SARATOGA PUBLIC LIBRARY Saratoga, NY

UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE Evansville, IN

SALEM STATE COLLEGE Salem, MA

POETS HOUSE "POETS IN THE BRANCHES" NYC

WORD THURSDAYS Treadwell, NY

BARNES & NOBLE LINCOLN SQUARE, CHELSEA AND UNION SQUARE, "SUMMER IN THE SQUARE" NYC

SEWANEE WRITERS CONFERENCE Sewanee, TN

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER PLUTZIK SERIES NYC

SHEILA MOTTON PRIZE READING Cambridge Public Library, MA

"POET TO POET" Cable TV, NYC and "STANDUP POETRY" Cable TV, MA

CANIO'S BOOKS Sag Harbor, NY

WRITER'S TALK, WRPI Troy, NY

BARROW STREET READINGS NYC

#### SYNOPSIS OF EINSTEIN'S MOZART: TWO GENIUSES

(Copyright 2006 Kate Light)

Einstein's Mozart: Two Geniuses integrates two of Mozart's great string works with Kate Light's original poetry and prose. The narration draws listeners into ordinary and extraordinary moments of these two exceptional men, while the music – separating the texts into discrete segments – casts its own magic.

In poems such as "The Friends Which Could Not Be Lost", "Time and Tempo", and "A Remarkable Year: 1905", Ms. Light's text delivers facts with humor and poignancy. Einstein's Mozart begins with Einstein at the end of his long life as he looks back -- as he so often did -- in gratitude to great men "of the past...as well as the insights which they had achieved," calling these "the friends which could not be lost."

Part 1, *Mostly Einstein*, comprises a poetic recasting of Einstein's early creative life and times and his scientific insights, including the five papers of his Miracle Year (1905), interwoven with a performance of Mozart's *String Quintet in Eb Major*, K. 614 (1791).

Part 2, Einstein and Mozart, introduces Pythagorus' concept of the "music of the spheres", Einstein the philosopher, and Mozart as both young prodigy and maturing artist, interwoven with Mozart's String Quartet in C Major, K. 465 "The Dissonant" (1785).

At the end of this journey with the "the friends which could not be lost," the circle closes as Mozart dreams forward to his listeners of the future.

EINSTEIN'S MOZART: TWO GENIUSES

Part 1: MOSTLY EINSTEIN (1879-1955)

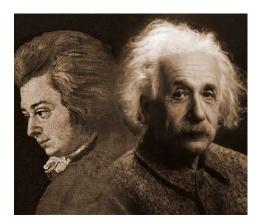
Mozart: String Quintet in Eb Major, K. 614 (1791)

Intermission

Part 2: EINSTEIN AND MOZART (1756-1791)

Mozart: String Quartet in C Major, K. 465 "The Dissonant" (1785)

Please note: Shortened versions are available for younger audiences.



## EINSTEIN'S O Z A R T: GENIUSES

Text and poems by Music by W. A. MOZART KATÉ LIĞHT

NARRATOR AND STRING QUARTET F O R

> Immerse young audiences in history, science, biography, poetry, and music, all in one unique concert!

ALBERT EINSTEIN (1879-1955) AND WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)

part one

MOSTLY EINSTEIN explores Einstein's childhood and his creative life and times, including his time working as an unknown patent clerk in Switzerland, interwoven with one of the string quartets of his favorite composer, W. A. Mozart. We begin with Einstein at the end of his long life, looking back—as he so often did—in gratitude to great men "of the past... as well as the insights which they had achieved," calling these "the friends which could not be lost."

part two

EINSTEIN AND MOZART introduces Mozart first as young prodigy and then as maturing artist. As Mozart dreams forward to his listeners of the future, the circle of "friends which could not be lost" is complete.

did you know?

Einstein loved to play the violin! Mozart's music inspired Einstein and helped to free his brilliant mind when he found himself stuck on a difficult problem in math or physics.

#### SAMPLE PROGRAM

part one

#### MOSTLY EINSTEIN

"The Friends Which Could Not Be Lost" (EINSTEIN) An Age Of Invention (EINSTEIN) A Remarkable Year: 1905 (EINSTEIN)

#### EINSTEIN AND MOZART

Traveling In Coach (MOZART) Friends Of The Past (MOZART)

WITH EXCERPTS FROM MOZART'S STRING QUARTETS

duration

45 MINUTES TO ONE HOUR, DEPENDING ON AUDIENCE AGE GROUP. WE ENCOURAGE RESERVING TIME FOR A POST-PERFORMANCE Q & A!

your quartet... or ours?

INVITE POET KATE LIGHT AND THE ALBERT STRING QUARTET TO PERFORM AT YOUR SCHOOL OR VENUE - OR BRING KATE TO NARRATE WITH YOUR LOCAL MUSICIANS!

for more information

CONTACT kate@katelight.com VISIT www.katelight.com

### EINSTEIN'S MOZART: TWO GENIUSES TEXT BY KATE LIGHT MUSIC BY W.A. MOZART

#### RECENT PERFORMANCES WITH KATE AS NARRATOR

#### 2009

May 23
Madison String Quartet Concert Series
With the *Madison String Quartet*Grace Episcopal Church, Madison, NJ
Featuring Quartets in Bb Major, K. 458 and D Major, K. 575

April 4
With the *Open Heart String Quartet*Philipstown Depot Theatre, Garrison, NY
Featuring Quartets in Bb Major, K. 458 and D Major, K. 575

February 14-18
Tippecanoe Chamber Music Society
With *Artists of the Society*, Lafayette/West Lafayette, IN
Featuring Quartets in F Major, K. 168 and D minor, K. 421

February 15 Duncan Hall, Lafayette, IN

February 14 Westminster Village, West Lafayette, IN

#### **Abridged Version for Young Audiences**

February 16 and 18 West Lafayette High School, West Lafayette, IN Jefferson High School, Lafayette, IN

February 8
Zoellner Arts Center Concert Series
With the Seraphin String Quartet
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA
Featuring Quartets in G Major, K. 387 and Eb Major, K. 428

#### 2008

February 20
Colorado College
With the Colorado Chamber Players
Packard Hall, Colorado Springs, CO
Featuring Quartet in C Major, K. 465 and Quintet in C Major, K. 515

### February 12 **Abridged Version for Young Audiences**

With *Various Artists*South Avenue Elementary School, Beacon, NY

#### January 25

#### **Abridged Version for Young Audiences**

With the *Albert String Quartet*Alexander Hamilton Elementary School, Morristown, NJ

January 6
Chamber Music Toledo
With the Zin String Quartet
Maumee Theatre, Maumee, OH
Featuring String Quartets in D minor, K. 421 and F Major, K. 590

#### 2007

November 18
With students coached and directed by Dale Stuckenbruck and other faculty
Waldorf School, Garden City, LI
Featuring Quartets in D minor, K. 421 and F Major, K. 590, "Prussian"

November 12
Vanderbilt University Concert Series
With the Blair String Quartet
Blair School of Music, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
Featuring Quartet in G Major, K. 387 and Quintet in G minor, K. 516

September 23
New York Multi-Arts Centers' Conference and Retreat
With the Albert String Quartet
Minnowbrook Conference Center, Blue Mountain Lake, NY
Featuring Quartets in Bb Major, K. 458 and C Major, K. 465

April 30

With the *Albert String Quartet*South Street Seaport District Cultural Association Gallery & Performance Space, New York, NY
Featuring Quartets in Bb Major, K. 458 and C Major, K. 465

#### 2006

January 19-24

#### **Premiere Performances**

With the *Colorado Chamber Players*Featuring Quartet in C Major, K. 465 and Quintet in Eb Major, K. 614
Denver, CO

January 22 University Park United Methodist Church, Denver, CO

> January 21 Mizel Arts Center, Denver, CO

January 20 Longmont Senior Center, Longmont, CO

#### **Abridged Versions for Young Audiences**

January 24
Tennyson Knolls Elementary School, Arvada, CO
Broomfield High School, Broomfield, CO

January 23 Virginia Court Elementary School, Aurora, CO Sunset Ridge Elementary School, Westminster, CO

January 19 Stanley British Primary School, Denver, CO

## Recent performances of

OCFANOPHONY

For narrator and octet or narrator and orchestra

Text and Poems by KATE LIGHT Music by BRUCE ADOLPHE

JUNEAU JAZZ AND CLASSICS Juneau, AK (2007)

LOUISVILLE ORCHESTRA Louisville, KY (2007)

INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY Interlochen, MI (2006)

CHAMBER MUSIC NORTHWEST Portland, OR (2005)

COLORADO CHAMBER PLAYERS Denver, Aurora, Broomfield, and Parker, CO (2005)

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER FAMILY CONCERTS NYC (2005)

NORTH JERSEY PHILHARMONIC Hackensack, NJ (2005)

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY NYC (2004)

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER NYC (2004)

LOS ANGELES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA Glendale, CA (2004)

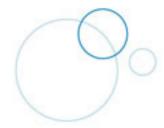
ARIZONA MUSEUM FOR YOUTH Mesa, AZ (2004)

LA JOLLA MUSIC SOCIETY La Jolla, CA (2004)

RYE-MAMARONECK MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS Mamaroneck, NY (2004)

CAPE COD CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL West Barnstable, MA (2003)

WORLD PREMIERE: SUMMERFEST LA JOLLA La Jolla, CA (2003)



FOR AN OCEAN OF POETRY AND MUSIC, program Oceanophony into your concert season! For more information about programming and narration, contact Kate at kate@katelight.com.



## THE BILADIE

One of America's Great Newspapers

TOLEDO, OHIO MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2008

UPDATES AT toledoblade.com

#### REVIEW

### Creative verse melds with Mozart

By SALLY VALLONGO

BLADE STAFF WRITER

An original program of music and verse about two brilliant, talented men — Albert Einstein and Wolfgang Mozart — performed yesterday by New York poet Kate Light and Toledo's Zin String Quartet had its own touch of brilliance.

This second program in Chamber Music Toledo's inaugural season tempered winter drizzle outside with glowing creativity and sparkling performance inside the Maumee Indoor Theater. (All that and popcorn, too, if you wished.)

"Einstein's Mozart: Two Geniuses," with text by Light and music by Mozart, was as much about innovation and invention as the two men it celebrated.

Who'd have thought deconstructing songs could be so stimulating?

Instead of poetry set to music, it was poetry juxtaposed with movements of Mozart's 1783 d minor quartet K. 421, and, after intermission, the 1790 opus in F Major, K. 590.

Both pieces were performed with charm, wit, and great en-

semble sensitivity by violinists Merwin Siu and David Dyer, violist Cheryl Trace, and cellist Renee Goubeaux.

Especially in the second half, after the audience was asked to hold all applause, the flow between words and music emerged in all its imaginativeness. While Light's text was not written with a particular Mozart quartet in mind, the two seemed a particularly felicitous match. Both works reminded of how deceptively simple the composer's music can seem, until one is drawn into its internal workings.

Much the same could be said of Light's poetry and her performance. A polished and convincing reading emphasized the complex internal and external rhyme schemes and her fluid rhythms.

So musical was Light's delivery that it almost belied the depth of her subject matter.

After all, how many poets, today or ever, choose to write about the complex particle theory of light or something as mind-bending as relativity?

In a time when self-absorption

is the norm for versifiers at all levels, Light's willingness — no, her bravery — in wrestling complex scientific ideas into elegant couplets, and then infusing gentle humor into the topic stands as a landmark of artistic synthesis.

The Maumee theater stage, set as a live hall, offered a pleasant backdrop for the performance. Its excellent acoustics enhanced the Zin Quartet's playing, making the most of subtle dynamic changes and delicate articulation in each movement.

An audience of about 75 gave the performers a standing ovation. Seen among the crowd were several local poets.

How wonderful it would be to have a recording of this work – something Light said hasn't happened since she created it in 2006 on commission by the Colorado Chamber Players. Creating such a work, perhaps with an appropriate graphic component, would seem like a marvelous grant project.

Contact Sally Vallongo at: svallongo@theblade.com.

#### WHAT PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SAYING

... About Kate Light's Works for Narrator and Musicians

#### Einstein's Mozart: Two Geniuses

"Einstein's Mozart...was as much about invention and innovation as the two men it celebrated...So musical was Light's delivery that it almost belied the depth of her subject matter...a landmark of artistic synthesis."

Toledo Blade

"Einstein's Mozart may be viewed as a double portrait...'I thought here is a wonderful example of how music and science can be one together...a wonderful idea,' [Chairman of the Lehigh Music Department]
Paul Salerni says..."

The Morning Call, Allentown, PA

"Einstein's Mozart is an informed, insightful and heartfelt tribute to two giants of mankind."

Cho-Liang Lin, concert violinist and Music Director, SummerFest La Jolla

"Kate Light's work is characterized by its sly wit, range of subject matter, and metrical grace..."

Downtown Express, New York City

#### **Oceanophony**

"...delightful, whimsical, informative and funny. The words lent themselves so easily to music that they seem like beautiful musical notes--each one a droplet of sparkle."

Cho-Liang Lin, concert violinist and Music Director, SummerFest La Jolla

#### ... About her Volumes of Poetry

#### Gravity's Dream (Winner of the Donald Justice Award)

"Kate Light has been one of my favorite poets for years and years now. To my eye and ear, she operates as a full master, able to somehow communicate in three lines a depth of heartache and clarity that it might take a novelist three-hundred pages to convey. Her work gives me shivers."

Elizabeth Gilbert, author of Eat, Pray, Love

"[Light's] command of form, especially the sonnet, is remarkable for its force and resilience. That she sounds like no one else has been a given since her first book appeared a decade ago. It is indeed rare that a poet's heart has been worn on her sleeve so lightly as in this gravity-defying volume."

R.S. Gwynn

"Like a twenty-first century Edna St. Vincent Millay, Kate Light infuses the sonnet with romantic energy and a tensile, delicate, quick-witted rhythm. Light truly possesses the sonnet: it is a room of her own, a room with a view...and a curtain and a longing that lets her sonnets stand with all the great sonnets of desire from Wyatt forward."

Molly Peacock

"...to read her work is often to feel a pleasure of finding one's own experience--of love, confusion, discovery--named."

Crab Orchard Review

#### Open Slowly

- "It's hard to think of a poet so aptly named as Kate Light, except, of course, for Wordsworth. The step of her poems is light, and plenty of that luminous stuff is shed here."

  Billy Collins
- "Whether in the turning balance of a fine Shakespearean couplet or the swerve of an image past shock to insight, Kate Light's distinctive wit is the heart of this book, and it is a heart that pumps the bracing warmth of true emotion."

  Annie Finch
- "Like a jazz musician making a song completely his own, she syncopates the rhythm of poetic forms and wires them with the voltage of rhyme. Her artistry is such that her voice--conversational, quick, compelling-is instantly recognizable and her poems are utterly memorable."

  Suzanne Noguere
- "...Light's poems all have solid beating hearts...her voice is quite unlike anyone else's." Dark Horse (UK)
- "Light is back with another collection...with the same wondrous features of her first book...Light's combination of form, conversation, and idiom make her work alluringly contemporary..." *Harvard Review*
- "In her sonnets, Light can make you think of Edna St. Vincent Millay...Open Slowly is a book of pleasures, large and small."

  Hudson Review

#### The Laws of Falling Bodies (Winner of the Nicholas Roerich Prize)

- "Kate Light is at the center of one of the most compelling developments in contemporary American literature--the reinvention of the love poem. Sinuously musical and deeply expressive, her poems speak—as love does--to both the body and the mind, the soul and the senses."

  Dana Gioia
- "If you have been wondering what happened to enchantment in contemporary poetry, open up Kate Light's magical debut collection...These diaphanous poems seem more conjured than written! Light's love sonnets and poems about art and learning the art of living dare to beguile you with their truths and music.

  Unabashedly metaphysical, they speak to the utterly contemporary dilemmas of falling in and out of love.

  With her combination of wit and whimsy, Light proves herself to be among our finest new poets."

  Molly Peacock
- "...a great new love poet has finally appeared on the literary scene to offer some competition for cummings...Playful and musical, Light's poetry is the kind of poetry we need--that is, the kind that speaks to the heart with humor and insight..."

  \*\*Edge City Review\*\*
- "The sonnets are charming, captivating and a delight...They work like spells, and demand to be read again."

  \*\*Liberal Arts Magazine\*\*, Penn State University\*