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## SHELDON'S MIZZOU NEW MUSIC COMMISSIONS GO VIRTUAL FOR 2021 SEASON

ST. LOUIS, MO – The Sheldon and the Mizzou New Music Initiative are pleased to announce that the 9<sup>th</sup> season of their partnership to introduce new music to the region will be available online for the first time ever. The new slate of commissions, available this spring on The Sheldon's YouTube channel, includes five distinct pieces written by students in the composition program at the University of Missouri's School of Music, beginning with *The Grace of Falling* by Santiago Beis, *Aubade with Ashen Clouds, Scarlet Sky* by Oswald Huynh and *Poem of the Phantom Queen* by Daniel Fitzpatrick to premiere online on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 8 p.m. Additional world premieres will be announced as the season continues into mid-June.

Since 2012, The Sheldon has worked with the Mizzou New Music Initiative at the University of Missouri to commission new works that premiere live on the long-running Sheldon Classics series at the Sheldon Concert Hall. With live performances slowly coming back, with reduced audiences, the digital presentations of these world premieres will introduce the composers and their works to a larger audience than ever before.

Performed variously by members of the world-renowned St. Louis Symphony, musicians from the St. Louis community, Mizzou faculty or fellow students, the commissions offer emerging composers the opportunity to premiere their works in a professional setting, and classical-music lovers the chance to experience some of today's most adventurous new music.

The Mizzou New Music Initiative brings together a diverse array of programs that positions the University of Missouri School of Music as a leading center for composition and new music. The Initiative is the direct result of the generous support of Dr. Jeanne and Mr. Rex Singuefield, and the Singuefield Charitable Foundation.