



THE  
**SHELDON**  
Arts Without Borders

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2021

**SHELDON, MIZZOU NEW MUSIC INITIATIVE 2021 PREMIERES CONCLUDE  
WITH THREE NEW PIECES PREMIERING ONLINE AUGUST 11**

ST. LOUIS, MO – The Sheldon and the Mizzou New Music Initiative wrap up their 2021 virtual season with the premiere of three new commissions on August 11, 2021 at 8 p.m. on [The Sheldon's YouTube channel](#). These pieces are part of the 9<sup>th</sup> season of a partnership to introduce new music to the region. The premieres include *Dança Brasileira No. 1* by University of Missouri Master's student Luis Hermano Bezerra (Fortaleza, Brazil), and *God of Doors* and *Nocturne for violin and piano* by recent composition alums Ben Dawson (Atlanta, GA) and Ben Rouder (Columbia, MO) respectively. All pieces were recorded at the Sheldon Concert Hall in St. Louis.

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 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 Siquiefeld, and the Siquiefeld Charitable Foundation.

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