

UCSD's Lei Liang winner of Alpert/Ragdale Music Composition prize

UC San Diego composer [Lei Liang](#) is the 2012 recipient of the Herb Alpert Foundation's Alpert/Ragdale Music Composition prize. A partnership between the Alpert Foundation and CalArts, the award will enable Liang to work at the famed artist colony just north of Chicago.

Liang, who spent much of the last year in residence at the American Academy in Rome as a winner of the 2011 Rome Prize in composition, also just completed a two-week residency at the soundSCAPE new music festival in Maccagno, Italy in early July, and he is scheduled to visit Tokyo's Toho Gakuen School of Music in September and participate in UC Davis' "Worlds of Discovery and Loss: the Art of Migration" in early 2013.

In San Diego, his new chamber opera, "Cuatro Corridos," written for UC San Diego faculty Susan Narucki, Steven Schick, Aleck Karis and Pablo Gomez, is scheduled for a May, 2013 premiere.

Schick, who conducted Liang's "Verge" earlier this year in Conrad Prebys Concert Hall (and recorded the work for Liang's next CD), has also commissioned Liang to write a double bass concerto for the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, of which Schick is artistic director (he's also director of the La Jolla Symphony & Chorus).

In addition, Liang is working on a new piece for chamber orchestra, commissioned by Stephen Drury's Boston-based Callithumpian Consort. It will be part of a Liang "portrait" concert at Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in February, 2013.

Liang's work is published, and available in digital form, from Schott music:

eamdc.com/psny/composers/lei-liang/