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Claire Chase to Receive Honorary Doctorate at Cleveland Institute of Music Commencement

(Cleveland, OH – February 17, 2016) The Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM) will add Claire Chase, founder and co-artistic director of the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), to its illustrious list of Honorary Doctorates at its 91st Commencement Ceremony on May 14, 2016 in Kulas Hall. During the ceremony Chase will deliver the Commencement Address to the 2016 graduating class.

“Ms. Chase’s successful and multifaceted career is a shining example of the possibilities a degree in music can bring,” said CIM Interim President Gary Hanson. “Her leadership, dedication to new music and new audiences will be an inspiration to our graduates ready to embark on their own musical journeys.”

Chase has been heralded throughout the music community for her passion for and support of new and experimental music. She received her B.M. from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and in 2001 she founded ICE, where she currently serves as the co-artistic director and performer with the ensemble. Since its founding, ICE has premiered more than 650 works, making new music and audience engagement one of its hallmarks. ICE was recognized with the Trailblazer Award from the American Music Center in 2010 and the Ensemble of the Year Award in 2014 from Musical America Worldwide. In 2012 Chase was awarded a McArthur Fellowship for her work with ICE.

As a performer Chase has garnered praise by *The New York Times* as having “extravagant technique, broad stylistic range and penetrating musicality,” and was dubbed “the young star of the modern flute,” by *The New Yorker*. She has performed throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia and has released three solo albums, *Aliento* (2010), *Terrestre* (2012) and *Density* (2013).

The 2016 Commencement Ceremony will be streamed live online at cim.edu.

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ABOUT THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

Founded in 1920, the Cleveland Institute of Music is one of seven independent music conservatories in the country and is known for superior orchestral, chamber, composition, voice and opera music programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The vision for CIM is to be the center for the education of the complete musician of the 21st century. Our world-renowned faculty, which includes the principals of The Cleveland Orchestra, are eminent educators and practicing musicians who perform internationally with orchestras, ensembles, and opera companies. CIM’s Preparatory and Continuing Education Division offers an outlet for music creativity and exploration to more than 1,300 students of all ages. Annually, CIM students, faculty, alumni and guest artists present more than 300 music events for the Greater Cleveland community, many are free of charge.