

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Tania León will be a Mellon Distinguished Visiting Scholar at Wits School of Arts at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg (South Africa) from July 16-August 24, 2012**

**Violinist Airi Yoshioka gives the Swiss premiere of León's Abanico at the Festival de la Cité de Lausanne on July 12.**

**Tania León's work is included in Teoria, Critica e Music na Atualidade just published by the University Federal of Rio de Janeiro (June 2012)**

**Birgitta Tollan's documentary on León's life and work is broadcast on Stockholm-based Sveriges Radio**

--> For the summer of 2012, composer/conductor Tania León has been appointed Mellon Distinguished Scholar at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, and will be in residence at the Wits School of Arts from July 16 through August 24. The position was created to provide vital inspiration to faculty and students and the community at large regarding cutting-edge research in the arts, and to build new bridges between performing arts and other contemporary modes of composition such as music for drama theatre production and interactive media.

As part of her appointment, León will lead seminars on composition and interdisciplinary research, and participate in conversations on jazz composition and improvisation and choral music in the context of traditional and contemporary music. León will also conduct performance workshops with the Johannesburg Philharmonic Academy Youth Orchestra and give a public talk at the Wits School of Arts on August 21, 6-7 pm. The composer's appointment as visiting scholar also includes lectures in Durban, Cape Town, and Soweto. For more information, [click here](#).

--> Airi Yoshioka will give the Swiss premiere of León's Abanico for solo violin and interactive computer at the Festival de la Cité de Lausanne on Thursday, July 12. The concert will highlight her CD, *Stolen Gold* (Albany) also featuring León's Abanico. Other works by Karen Tanaka, Milica Paranosic, Anna Rubin, Linda Dusman, and Becca Schack. For more information, click [here](#).

--> This past June, Carmen Cecilia Piñero Gil's article, "Compositoras latinoamericanas contemporáneas: exilios, identidades y creación", which includes a discussion of Tania León's work, was included in Teoria, Critica e Music na Atualidade, published by the University Federal de Rio de Janeiro's School of Music.

--> Birgitta Tollan's documentary on León's life and work was broadcast on Stockholm-

based Sveriges Radio, as part of “Musikmagasinet”. Birgitta Tollan was commissioned by the radio station and came to New York to conduct the interview in person. To listen to the broadcast, [click here](#).

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**For more information on [Tania León](#).**

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