

## **Hack the Bells submission**

Composer: David Jason Snow

Work title: *Campane dell'inferno*

### **Artist bio**

The compositions of David Jason Snow have been performed in concert by the New Juilliard Ensemble, the Ensemble Intercontemporain, the American Brass Quintet, the Harvard Wind Ensemble, the Eastman Percussion Ensemble, and other artists throughout the United States, Europe, Asia and Africa. Snow has been the recipient of awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Maryland State Arts Council, the ASCAP Foundation, BMI, Musician magazine and Keyboard magazine, and has been an artist resident at Yaddo and the Millay Colony for the Arts. He holds degrees in music composition from the Eastman School of Music and Yale University where his principle teachers were Joseph Schwantner, Warren Benson, Samuel Adler, and Jacob Druckman.

### **Artist statement about *Campane dell'inferno***

The most thrilling experience of my visit to Vienna this past summer took place in St. Stephen's Square during a mad pealing of cathedral bells early on a Sunday morning. In the wide open space of the square, the effect of that thunderous onslaught was a wave of euphoria that inspired me to circumambulate the cathedral and bask in the swirling cacaphony from various auditory vantage points. *Campane dell'inferno* is an 8-channel surround sound electroacoustic work composed in homage to that experience, employing spatially distributed carrilon samples played in a sequence derived from a fractal algorithm.

The title of the work (which translates from Italian as *Hells Bells*) is not intended as a rebuff to the sacred purpose of the *Stephansdom* bells, but as a gently ironic reinterpretation of that purpose: as my experience in the square demonstrated, even infidels like myself are occasionally vouchsafed joyful and transcendent encounters with mystery.