



Soundstreams presents

ELECTRIC COUNTERPOINT

Part of the Ear Candy series

March 19, 2016 at 8:00 pm, The Theatre Centre

**Get up close and personal with minimalism's past and present:
three works by Steve Reich plus new works by five Toronto artists.**

Thursday, February 18 // Toronto – Soundstreams presents the second and final concert in our 2015/16 Ear Candy series dedicated to big ideas in small venues. ***Electric Counterpoint*** at **The Theatre Centre** on March 19 plays fast and loose with minimalism, the musical movement that has inspired artists from Radiohead to DJ Spooky. Taking flight from our 80th birthday concert for Pulitzer Prize-winning composer **Steve Reich** in April, this concert is an intimate journey through some of Reich's masterworks and current influences featuring local artists **Matt Smith, Brandon Valdivia, Germaine Liu, Dan Morphy, and SlowPitch Sound**.

"The first time I heard It's Gonna Rain was during a grade 9 music class," says Kyle Brenders, Ear Candy curator and Soundstreams Artistic Associate. "It was quite startling for a small town saxophone player but it unleashed a curiosity that sticks with me today. Each of the musicians on this show connects deeply to the pulse of minimalism, and we're going to have some MTV Unplugged-style fun to get you connected too."

A fitting start to the evening is the opportunity to experience Steve Reich's first major work, ***It's Gonna Rain***. Created by manipulating a recording of a Pentecostal preacher in San Francisco's Union Square, Reich says the piece's phasing came about by chance as he was fiddling with two identical tape loops that became out of sync with each other. Reich's seminal ***Electric Counterpoint*** has been recorded by such luminaries as Pat Metheny and Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood. Consisting of three movements, "Fast," "Slow," and "Fast," the piece is written for electric guitar and tape (the tape part, recorded by Metheny, consisting of two electric bass guitars and ten electric guitars). **Matt Smith**, long-time collaborator and current Owen Pallett band member, shares his take for this performance.

The exuberant ***Nagoya Marimbas***, called "four and a half minutes-worth of hyperactive—and melodically rich—rhythmic patterns" by *Gramophone*, has been recorded and played by some of the world's most famous marimbists. **Dan Morphy** (TorQ Percussion Quartet) and **Brandon Valdivia** (Above Top Secret) tackle this popular duet. Woven in and around the Reich pieces will be new minimalism-inspired electronic works by Ear Candy resident DJ **SlowPitch Sound**, percussionist **Germaine Liu** (Picastro), Matt Smith aka Prince Nifty, and Brandon Valdivia aka Mas Aya.

Staged in the intimate Incubator space of The Theatre Centre, Queen West's live arts hub, in collaboration with curator **Kyle Brenders** and lighting designer **Patrick Lavender** (*It Comes in Waves*, bluemouth inc and Necessary Angel Theatre Company), ***Electric Counterpoint*** gets you up close and personal with minimalism's past and present, absorbing the passion and physicality that makes this music great.

Ear Candy is supported by **NOW Magazine** and Sovereign State.

Electric Counterpoint

March 19, 2016 at 8:00 pm

The Theatre Centre Incubator, 1115 Queen St West



Featuring:

Germaine Liu, percussion

Dan Morphy, percussion

Matt Smith aka 'Prince Nifty,' guitar and electronics

SlowPitch Sound, DJ

Brandon Valdivia aka 'Mas Aya,' percussion and electronics

In collaboration with curator Kyle Brenders and lighting designer Patrick Lavender.

Repertoire:

Steve Reich, *Electric Counterpoint*

Steve Reich, *Nagoya Marimbas*

Steve Reich, *It's Gonna Rain*

New works by SlowPitch Sound, Mas Aya, Prince Nifty, and Germaine Liu

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, and are available at soundstreams.ca.

MORE FROM SOUNDSTREAMS

Soundstreams also offers a [Mainstage Concert Series](#), as well as [Salon 21](#), a free performance and discussion series at the Gardiner Museum.

ABOUT SOUNDSTREAMS

Led by Artistic Director Lawrence Cherney, Soundstreams showcases the work of Canadian and international composers with a focus on innovative thematic and experiential programming. In collaboration with the finest Canadian and international artists, Soundstreams presents two annual concert series in Toronto as well as national and international tours. Soundstreams also serves the larger community through our free Salon 21 series at The Gardiner Museum, composer training activities, SoundWave program for music lovers age 35 and under, and digital performance space, including concert recordings, SoundMakers website, and video content. soundstreams.ca

SOUNDSTREAMS SUPPORTERS

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