



**MASSEY
HALL**

Soundstreams and Massey Hall announce artists to take the stage with Steve Reich on April 14

Thursday, February 11 // Toronto – Soundstreams and Massey Hall today announced the artists from across North America who will take the stage with Pulitzer Prize-winning composer **Steve Reich** on April 14, 2016 at Massey Hall. **Steve Reich at 80** is a celebration of the “father of minimalism’s” 80th-birthday, where he will be joined by artists from Canada and the US to undertake three signature compositions representing significant signposts in his prolific career.

[VIDEO: a message from Steve Reich on coming to Toronto for this concert](#)

This concert brings together the three original members of the **Steve Reich Ensemble: Steve Reich, Russell Hartenberger, and Bob Becker**. Formed in 1966 to perform Reich’s compositions, the ensemble quickly grew to 18 members or more and has toured nationally and internationally. *Steve Reich at 80* will kick off with a rare onstage appearance by Reich, performing his playful **Clapping Music** (1972) with Toronto-based percussionist Hartenberger.

Female voice is central to **Tehillim** (the Hebrew word for “psalms”), the 1981 piece that marked a break from the elliptic quality of Reich’s earlier work through its melodic extrapolations of four Psalms. The first piece to reflect his Jewish heritage, he has remarked that “*Tehillim* may be heard as traditional and new at the same time.” Canadian sopranos **Lesley Bouza, Michelle DeBoer** and **Carla Huhtanen**, and GRAMMY-nominated alto **Laura Pudwell** are highlighted in this four part orchestral setting of Psalms 19:2-5, 34:13-15, 18:26-27, and 150:4-6. This piece will be conducted by **Leslie Dala**.

The evening will conclude with the mammoth 14-part **Music for 18 Musicians** (1976), Reich’s first large ensemble piece. Hailed as “one of the handful of late-twentieth century works that can rightly claim to have altered the course of Western music” (*The New York Times*), this trance-inducing masterwork of maximal minimalism consolidated and expanded upon his prior experiments with looping, phasing, and African rhythms. Featured artists include JUNO-nominated violinist and producer **Jesse Zubot** (Tanya Tagaq’s *Animism*, Dan Mangan), “musical revolutionary” (*The Vancouver Sun*) clarinetist **Lori Freedman**, acclaimed jazz pianist **Tania Gill**, and contemporary pianist **Gregory Oh** (Toca Loca, The Lollipop People).

No Steve Reich concert would be complete without a formidable percussion section. In addition to Russell Hartenberger and Bob Becker, *Steve Reich at 80* will feature the talents of **Garry Kvistad** (NEXUS Percussion), **Haruka Fujii** (Yo-Yo Ma’s Silk Road Ensemble), **Ryan Scott** (Continuum Contemporary Music), and **Michelle Colton** (Oregon Percussion). Fittingly, Hartenberger, Becker, and Kvistad are three of the 18 musicians to win a GRAMMY Award for the landmark 1998 Nonesuch recording of *Music for 18 Musicians*.

“We are thrilled to bring Steve Reich back to Toronto for the third time in a decade,” says Lawrence Cherney, Soundstreams Artistic Director. “Arguably the world’s most influential living composer, we cannot wait to hear the extraordinary ensembles we have brought together for this event, many of whom he has worked with personally over his career. And for the first time ever, his two masterworks *Music for 18 Musicians* and *Tehillim* will be performed in one concert, a monumental pairing!”

“I had the great pleasure of working with Steve on a retrospective of his music in 1999 during my time at the Lincoln Center Festival,” says Chris Lorway, Director of Programming and Marketing for The Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall. “It’s an honour to have him at Massey Hall to celebrate this milestone with some of our favourite musicians.”



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This event has been financially assisted by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund, a program of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, administered by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund Corporation.

ABOUT STEVE REICH AT 80

April 14, 2016 at 8:00 pm

Massey Hall, 178 Victoria Street

Presented by Soundstreams and The Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall

Featuring:

Leslie Dala, conductor (Tehillim)

Lesley Bouza, voice

Michelle DeBoer, voice

Carla Huhtanen, voice

Laura Pudwell, voice

Anthony Thompson, clarinet/bass clarinet

Lori Freedman, clarinet/bass clarinet

Tristan Durie, piccolo

Leslie Newman, flute

Lief Mosbaugh, English horn

Jesse Zubot, violin

Douglas Perry, viola

David Hetherington, cello

Simon Docking, piano

Gregory Oh, piano

Tania Gill, piano

Steve Reich, percussion

Ryan Scott, percussion

Russell Hartenberger, percussion

Garry Kvistad, percussion

Bob Becker, percussion

Michelle Colton, percussion

Haruka Fujii, percussion

Tickets range from \$22 to \$67.50 and are available by phone at **416-872-4255** or in person at the **Roy Thomson Hall Box Office**, 60 Simcoe Street. Full details and tickets are available at masseyhall.com

RELATED EVENTS

Ear Candy: Electric Counterpoint (*note: Steve Reich will not be present at this event)

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

Tickets \$15-\$20, soundstreams.ca

Salon 21: Clapping Music (*note: Steve Reich will not be present at this event)

April 8, at 7:00 pm, The Gardiner Museum

Free – PWYC reserved seats available, soundstreams.ca

Soundstreams' 2016 Gala (featuring Steve Reich)

April 11, at 6:30 pm, Integral House

Tickets \$175-\$250, soundstreams.ca



**MASSEY
HALL**

Steve Reich and Michael Snow in conversation with Sook Yin Lee

April 12, at 7:00 pm, Toronto Reference Library, Bram & Bluma Appel Salon

Free - on sale March 15, torontopubliclibrary.ca

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

ABOUT THE CORPORATION OF ROY THOMSON AND MASSEY HALL

The Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall is a not-for-profit charitable organization operating two of Canada's premier concert halls. Showcasing the world's greatest performers in all disciplines, the two halls are also prominent venues for diverse activities in the business and entertainment district of downtown Toronto. Managed by a professional management team with a volunteer Board of Governors, the Corporation's mission is to provide a world-renowned environment to showcase international artists and entertainment; to provide public space for the cultural and corporate communities of the Greater Toronto Area; to support the development of Canadian talent; to increase and enhance its worldwide profile as a leader in the arts community through its professionalism and programming.

masseyhall.com roythomson.com

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