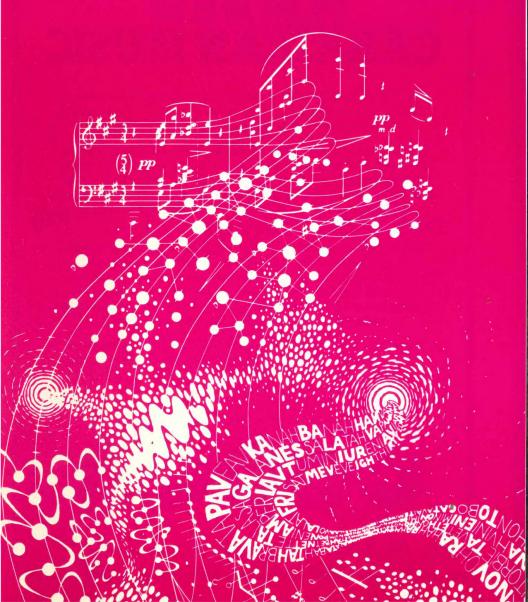
# **NECO MUSIC**CONCERTS

1979-80



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## NECO MUSIC CONCERTS

ROBERT AITKEN artistic director

presents

the Philip Glass Ensemble

> Walter Hall March 29, 1980 at 8:30 pm

### **PROGRAMME**

FIRST DANCE from Einstein on the Beach (Act II, Scene I)

DANCE No.3 from Dance

### Intermission

DANCE No.5 from Dance

THE SPACESHIP from Einstein on the Beach (Act IV, Scene III)

(subject to change without notice)

The Philip Glass Ensemble is managed by Performing Artservices Inc., 463 West Street, New York, N.Y. 10014, U.S.A.

### NOTES

"Dance No.3" and "Dance No.5" are part of Dance, a three-way collaboration between dancer/choreographer Lucinda Childs, visual artist Sol LeWitt, and myself. Dance was cast in five parts which alternate between ensemble and solo sections choreographed by Miss Childs. "Dance No.2" and "Dance No.4" are for solo electric organ, while Dances Nos. 1, 3 and 5 are for the Ensemble. Dance was premiered and toured extensively in Europe in the fall of 1979, and was presented at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in November of 1979.

The opera Einstein on the Beach, written in collaboration with director/designer Robert Wilson, was composed in 1975. After an extended rehearsal period in New York City, it was premiered at the Avignon Festival, July 1976. A European tour was followed by the only American performance, at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, November 1976.

- Philip Glass

### THE PHILIP GLASS ENSEMBLE

Philip Glass \* electric organ

Jon Gibson \* flute, soprano saxophone

Iris Hiskey \* voice

Jack Kripl \* flute, piccolo, soprano saxophone

Kurt Munkacsi \* mixer

Richard Peck \* flute, alto saxophone

Michael Riesman \* keyboards, bass synthesizer

### Philip Glass ~

In the fall of 1968, Philip Glass formed the Ensemble (amplified keyboards, voices, and winds) by which his work is known. Participating as composer and performer, Glass and the Ensemble have made eight European tours and have performed widely in the Canada and the United States.

Philip Glass has performed in over 200 concerts (solo and with his Ensemble) in the United States and Europe since 1968. A graduate of the Juilliard School of Music, Mr. Glass has been the recipient of many awards including a Ford Foundation Composer-in-Residence Grant and a Fulbright Grant, which took him to Paris to study with the famous Nadia Boulanger. Mr. Glass also travelled throughout Central Asia and India, where he pursued his interest in non-western music.

In 1971, Glass founded Chatham Square Productions, organized to record his own music and that of other members of the Ensemble. Philip Glass's music is distinguished by a repetitive structure, modular-form style of composition specifically designed for the resources of the Ensemble, and he is best known for the works of extended duration in that style (e.g. the four hour Music in 12 Parts).

Mr. Glass received a special OBIE award in 1976 for his compositions for the experimental theatre company, Mabou Mines, and in the same year, he received a second OBIE award for the music of Einstein on the Beach. His commissions include the film North Star: Mark DiSuvero; Another Look at Harmony, Part IV for the 1977 Holland Festival (which was performed the following year at Carnegie Hall together with excerpts from Einstein on the Beach with the Gregg Smith Singers); an organ work commissioned by the Doelen Hall, Rotterdam, for the 10th anniversary of the Doelen organ; and an opera, Satyagraha, commissioned by the City of Rotterdam for premier production by the Netherlands Opera in September, 1980.

### Jon Gibson ~

Composer, performer and visual artist Jon Gibson was born in Los Angeles where his early creative involvements included work in jazz and improvisation as well as the visual arts. In the early 1960's, while earning a degree in music at San Francisco State University, he was musically active in the Bay Area with Steve Reich, Terry Riley, John Handy and Larry Austin. He went to New York in 1966 and worked with many composers including La Monte Young, Christian Wolff, Frederic Rzewski and Philip Glass, with whom he has performed steadily since 1968.

As a composer, Mr. Gibson has explored a variety of compositional approaches, ranging from the highly intuitive and improvised <u>Visitations</u> to the highly structured <u>Melody IV</u>. His recent solo music represents a blending of these two extremes (e.g. <u>Equal</u> Distribution <u>Distribution I</u>). He has given many solo and ensemble comcerts of his music throughout North America and Europe and was recently commissioned to compose and perform the music for the Merce Cunningham dance entitled <u>Fractions</u>, for video and live performance.

He has also been active as a visual artist, translating some of his ideas on music and structure into drawings and other visual media. This work has appeared in a number of museum and gallery exhibitions, books, magazines and catalogues, and is at times incorporated into his live performances (e.g. The Great Outdoors, with Nancy Topf). A book of his drawings, entitled Melody III Book II was recently published by Printed Matter in New York, and two recordings of his music, entitled Visitations and Two Solo Pieces, appear on Chatham Square Records.

Jon Gibson is the recipient of grants from the Creative Artist Public Service Program (1974) and the National Endowment for the Arts (1975, 1977).

### Iris Hiskey ~

Iris Hiskey is a graduate of the Juilliard School of Music in New York and the University of Michigan. Her musical background includes performances of opera, contemporary, and early music as well as Indian and Javanese music. She has appeared with the Lake George Opera, the Bronx Opera, the Bel Canto Opera, the New York Vocal Quartet, the SEM Ensemble and with Peter Schickele.

A specialist in baroque, renaissance, and medieval music, Iris Hiskey is a co-founder of the Canterbury Consort and has performed extensively with the Schola Antiqua and the International Bach Society. Her recording credits include several albums of medieval music on the Nonesuch label and background vocals for Mike Oldfield and Judy Collins.

Iris Hiskey joined the Philip Glass Ensemble in 1976 during the European tour of Einstein on the Beach.

### Jack Kripl ~

Winner of the Geneva International Competition for Musical Performers, Jack Kripl holds Bachelor and Master degrees from the University of Michigan. A recipient of two Fulbright Scholarships to Paris, he was a resident performer at the Cite Internationale des Arts while under the tutelage of classical saxophonist Marcel Mule. He concurrently studied style and analysis with Nadia Boulanger. In preparation for the Geneva Competition, he was coached by Jean-Marie Londeix of Bordeaux.

In addition to his performances with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, he toured Switzerland, France and Germany as a soloist with the Collegium Musicum Basel. He has been on two different Cultural Exchange Programs for the States Department. The first tour included the Soviet Union, eastern Europe and the Middle East and the second included the Caribbean Islands, Central and South America.

Mr. Kripl has received a grant from the Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund for Music, Inc. He has taught at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Wayne State University and the Interlochen Arts Academy.

### Kurt Munkacsi ~

Kurt Munkacsi lives in New York City where he has worked with the Ensemble for the past eight years. Along with Philip Glass, he co-produced the North Star and Einstein on the Beach albums. Although he is finding himself increasingly in demand as a record producer, Kurt Munkacsi has also worked as a recording engineer for John Lennon, Brian Eno, Mike Oldfield, Don Cherry, Ornette Coleman and Anthony Braxton. In addition, Munkacsi and his partner Greg Shriver are co-owners of Stage & Studio Construction, a company which specializes in recording studio and sound system design. They are responsible for the design and construction of all the sound equipment used on this engagement.

### Richard E. Peck ~

Richard E. Peck, Jr., saxophonist, composer, painter, sculptor and video artist, arrived in New York City from Louisiana in August 1971. He toured with blues bands while in the South, then joined the Philip Glass Ensemble after his arrival in New York. He has recorded and performed with his own Richard Peck Group. His visual work has been shown at the P.S.l and the Holly Solomon Gallery in New York and at the Contemporary Art Center in New Orleans.

### Michael Riesman ~

Michael Riesman is a composer who has received a Fulbright Fellowship, a Tanglewood Fellowship, and commissions from the Ford Foundation and the Fromm Music Foundation. He has been Assistant Professor of Music at SUNY-Purchase, and Composer-in-Residence at the Marlboro Music Festival. A graduate of Mannes College of Music, Mr. Reisman obtained his Ph.D. at Harvard.

In addition to writing solo pieces, songs, chamber music, and orchestral works, Michael Riesman has been active as a composer for film and theatre. He has composed music for nine films, including work for the National Educational Television and the National Film Board of Canada. His most recent theatre projects have been collaborations with Cindy Lubar (Everyday Business) and Robert Wilson (Edison).

Mr. Riesman has given a number of solo performances, most notably as a guest on the New York Philharmonic's Prospective Encounters series, and on several occasions on radio station WBAI-FM in New York. He is also a conductor and has appeared with the Boston Symphony Chamber Players conducting his own work. He was the musical supervisor and choral director for the recording of Einstein on the Beach and has been a member of the Philip Glass Ensemble since 1974.

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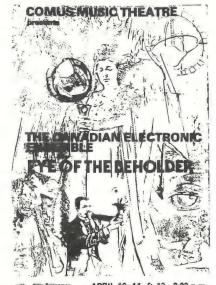
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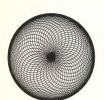
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