WINNIPEG NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL

Alexander Mickelthwate
WNMF Artistic Director

Matthew Patton
WNMF Curator

Harry Stafylakis
WNMF Director & WSO Composer-in-Residence

Philip Glass appears at WNMF 2018 with the support of Michael Nesbitt

JANUARY 27 – FEBRUARY 2 2018
Welcome to my last Winnipeg New Music Festival. I am very excited. It will be a blast!

This year, we will bring you the most famous minimalist composer worldwide, the most beautiful Icelandic soundscapes, the most iconic Canadian visual artist and the most energetic new talent you can think of.

Let’s start with minimalism. We are very excited that the most famous representative of this art form accepted our invitation to Winnipeg: Philip Glass. We will give the Canadian premiere of his 11th Symphony. He will perform live his Piano Etudes and the New York-based JACK Quartet will give the world premiere of his String Quartet No. 8.

Internationally-acclaimed iconic visual artist Michael Snow, who befriended Philip Glass in the ’60s, will receive the world premiere of his first-ever orchestra piece. And they will have a chance to meet each other again after all those years.

The festival has a very special and unique relationship to Iceland. This year we will have several connections. We are going to open the festival with a piece by Björk. We will give the world premiere of a major new work for orchestra and choir by Hilmar Örn Hilmarsson, the man who helped put Sigur Rós on the map. We partner with Jazz Winnipeg for the world premiere of “Dawson City: Frozen Time,” the critically acclaimed film by Bill Morrison with live score by Sigur Rós’ Alex Somers.
Harry Stafylakis, Ellen Taaffe Zwilich and Samy Moussa will hypnotize us with massive orchestral works. Karen Sunabacka and Cassandra Miller will transfix us with their absolutely individual view of the world. The JACK Quartet will give the Canadian premiere of Georg Friedrich Haas’ String Quartet No. 9, a 45–minute work performed in complete darkness.

On top of this, we have the second incarnation of our WNMF Composers Institute, a workshop space where everything is allowed, and we will hear the results.

There you have it. It will be historic! Literally. You might want to consider taking the week off.

See you soon,

Alexander Mickelthwate, 
WNMF Artistic Director

“It was a very small room...it was really bloody loud. It was a dense, strong sound, and that really impressed me, the physicality of that sound. There was not an attempt to draw your attention by standard musical devices. It was just, here is the sound. Live in it. I thought, Oh God, this is it! This is the future of rock music.”

—Brian Eno on a 1969 Philip Glass Ensemble concert at London’s Royal Academy of Art
TICKET INFORMATION

**TICKETS**
- Regular: $25 – $40
- Student: $12 – $25

**FESTIVAL PASSES**
- Regular: $99
- Student: $49

Tickets available at the WSO Box Office.

**WSO Box Office**
204 949 3999
wso.ca | wnmf.ca

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**Presenting sponsor**

*VOLVO WINNIPEG*

**Philip Glass** appears at WNMF 2018
with the support of **Michael Nesbitt**

**Generously sponsored by**

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We gratefully acknowledge our funders & partners
WNMF1
PHILIP GLASS
SYMPHONIC
Saturday, January 27 | 7:30pm
Centennial Concert Hall

“America’s greatest living composer.”
—The Telegraph on Philip Glass

Philip Glass, Steve Reich, Richard Serra, and Michael Snow changed everything in the arts in New York in the late ’60s with a revolutionary new aesthetic. At this historic evening, Philip Glass and Michael Snow, who both began recording their music on the same artist-run record label, will present new works in person. Glass will present the Canadian premiere of his Symphony No. 11, co-commissioned by the Bruckner Orchester Linz, Istanbul Music Festival, and the Queensland Symphony Orchestra in honour of Glass’ 80th birthday in 2017. Snow, one of the world’s foremost living artists and a central figure in North American art in the latter half of the twentieth century, working with Festival Curator Matthew Patton, will present his first-ever piece for orchestra. Local choir Horizon joins the orchestra in the world premiere of A Parable for End Times by WSO Composer-in-Residence and Festival Director Harry Stafylakis, a setting of an apocalyptic text by Winnipeg-raised author Steven Erikson.
WORKS

Björk *Family* (2015) for strings **CANADIAN PREMIERE**

Michael Snow (Can) *Prophecy* (2018) for orchestra

**WORLD PREMIERE** (Commissioned by the WSO)

Harry Stafylakis (Can) *A Parable for End Times* (2018) for choir & orchestra

(Commissioned by the WSO) **WORLD PREMIERE**

Philip Glass *Symphony No. 11* (2017) **CANADIAN PREMIERE**

ARTISTS

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra

Alexander Mickelthwate, *conductor*

Horizon, Johanna Hildebrand, *director*

PRE-CONCERT PANEL

*The Historical Future: Philip Glass and Michael Snow*

6:45PM | Piano Nobile

Philip Glass, *composer*

Michael Snow, *composer*

Matthew Patton, *host*

Alexander Mickelthwate, *host*

POST-CONCERT LOUNGE

Piano Nobile

Tony Neustadter, *DJ*

POST-CONCERT Q&A

Piano Nobile

Philip Glass, *composer*

Michael Snow, *composer*

Harry Stafylakis, *composer*

Matthew Patton, *host*

Alexander Mickelthwate, *host*

*Presented with the support of Michael Nesbitt*
PHILIP GLASS LIVE
THE COMPLETE PIANO ETUDES

Sunday, January 28 | 7:30pm
Centennial Concert Hall

“Seeing the work of two decades compressed into an evening [of Piano Etudes] was immensely satisfying as America’s greatest living composer stakes his claim for immortality.”
– The Guardian

Philip Glass conceived *The Complete Piano Etudes* as a set of twenty works for solo piano in order to expand his piano technique. In the 1990s, Glass composed sixteen of the etudes with each taking a unique approach to the instrument. After a decade, the final four piano etudes were commissioned in celebration of Glass's 75th birthday and premiered in Perth, Australia in 2013. Glass and international guest pianists Vicky Chow (USA/Canada), Jenny Lin (USA), Jónas Sen (Iceland), and Madeline Hildebrand (Winnipeg) will perform *The Complete Piano Etudes* in an evening of master piano works for the 21st century.
WORKS

ARTISTS
Philip Glass, piano
Vicky Chow, piano
Madeline Hildebrand, piano
Jenny Lin, piano
Jónas Sen, piano

PRE-CONCERT PANEL
*The Future Past: Philip Glass*
6:45PM | Piano Nobile
Jenny Lin, piano
Vicky Chow, piano
Jónas Sen, piano
Madeline Hildebrand, piano
Matthew Patton, host

POST-CONCERT LOUNGE
Piano Nobile
Tony Neustaedter, DJ

POST-CONCERT Q&A
Piano Nobile
Jenny Lin, piano
Vicky Chow, piano
Jónas Sen, piano
Madeline Hildebrand, piano
Matthew Patton, host

Presented with the support of
Michael Nesbitt

Presented with the support of
Grant & Eleanor MacDougall

Produced by Pomegranate Arts
In an eclectic concert exploring identity, politics, and spirituality, local choirs Polycoro and Camerata Nova take the stage to present excerpts from Philip Glass’ iconoclastic operas *Einstein on the Beach* and *Akhnaten* alongside choral works by celebrated Canadian and international composers. Academy Award® nominee Jóhann Jóhannsson (Iceland), influenced by Glass, will present the live performance world premiere of *Orphic Hymn* from his latest Deutsche Grammophon release. Intimate music by Arvo Pärt (Estonia), Andrew Balfour (Winnipeg), and Jocelyn Morlock (Vancouver) contrast with two ebullient works by Vivian Fung (USA/Canada), a new politically-charged work by former WSO Composer-in-Residence T. Patrick Carrabré (Brandon), and Ted Hearne’s (USA) musical exploration of identity, ethnicity and culture in *Letter to My Father*. 

**JOCelyn MORLOCK**

**JÓHANN JÓHANNSSON**
WORKS

Philip Glass *Knee Play 1*, from *Einstein on the Beach* (1976)
Vivian Fung (Can) *Sanci Kuni* (2010) **CANADIAN PREMIERE**
Andrew Balfour (Can) *Selkirk Avenue* (2015)
Jocelyn Morlock (Can) *Absalon fili mi* (2009)
Philip Glass *The Coronation of Akhnaten* (excerpt) and *The Window of Appearances*, from *Akhnaten* (1983)
Jóhann Jóhannsson *Orphic Hymn* (2016) **WORLD PREMIERE**
T. Patrick Carrabré (Can) *Just Society* (2017) **WORLD PREMIERE**
Arvo Pärt *Nunc Dimittis* (2001)
Vivian Fung (Can) *Kecak Attack!* (2008) **CANADIAN PREMIERE**

ARTISTS

Polycoro Chamber Choir, *John Wiens, director*
Camerata Nova, *Mel Braun, director*
Cary Denby, *piano/organ*
T. Patrick Carrabré, *electronics*

PRE-CONCERT PANEL

*Music, Politics, and the Personal*

**6:45PM | Westminster United Church**
T. Patrick Carrabré, *composer*
Andrew Balfour, *composer*
Harry Stafylakis, *host*

*Presented with the support of*
Sandi & Ron Mielitz

*Presented with the support of*
Michael Nesbitt
WNMF4
ORCHESTRAL VOICES
OF THE FUTURE
Tuesday, January 30 | 7:30pm
Centennial Concert Hall

Have you ever wondered what it’s like for a composer to hear their work live for the very first time? Or what it’s like for the composer to hear the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra to perform it and receive immediate feedback? This evening will be devoted to the performance of the winning work of the 2018 Canadian Music Centre Prairie Region Emerging Composer Competition and the six participants of the week–long WNMF Composers Institute. As they hear their work they will receive suggestions on their music from mentor composers Samy Moussa, Karen Sunabacka and WSO Composer-in-Residence Harry Stafylakis. Audience members are invited to participate in a Q&A session with all of the composers after the performance.
WORKS

Luis Ramirez (Can) Chido (2017) CMC Prairie Region Emerging Composer Competition Winning Work WORLD PREMIERE
Leslie Opatril (Can) Whisky Jack (2017) WORLD PREMIERE
Austin Leung (Can) Prelude (2017) WORLD PREMIERE
Steven Webb (Can) Monuments (2017) WORLD PREMIERE
Kristen Wachniak (Can) Disjunction (2017) WORLD PREMIERE
Roydon Tse (Can) Black Waltz (2016) WORLD PREMIERE

ARTISTS

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
Alexander Mickelthwate, conductor
Julian Pellicano, conductor

PRE-CONCERT PANEL

Where Do Ideas Come From?
6:45PM | Piano Nobile
Samy Moussa, composer
Karen Sunabacka, composer
Harry Stafylakis, composer

POST-CONCERT Q+A

Piano Nobile
Samy Moussa, composer
Karen Sunabacka, composer
Harry Stafylakis, composer
WNMFCI Composers

POST-CONCERT LOUNGE

Piano Nobile
Tony Neustaedter, DJ
"I am going to say this as emphatically as I possibly can. This album contains some of the most beautiful music I have ever had the mortal pleasure of hearing... Forget about what you thought beauty was about. [This music will] cut into your heart like a scalpel."
—Opus on Hilmar Örn Hilmarsson’s Academy Award®-nominated Children of Nature score

"[Zwilich] has written a striking, sumptuous and somber work that reaffirms her high standing among American composers... This is an immediately affecting work that may find wide popularity – succinct, mostly tonal, and ‘romantic’ in its directness of expression."
—Tim Page, New York Newsday, on Symphony No. 3

Hilmar Örn Hilmarsson has worked with Björk and members of Sigur Rós, won the European Film Composer of the Year Award and was nominated for the 2017 Harpa Lifetime Achievement Award. Ellen Taaffe Zwilich (USA) is the first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize in Music, has been nominated for four Grammy Awards, and was designated Musical America’s Composer of the Year in 1999. Karen Sunabacka’s #DryColdConversations draws inspiration from Manitobans’ impressions of winter, collected by the composer through conversations on Facebook, with refugees, Métis relatives and friends.
WORKS

Karen Sunabacka (Can) #DryColdConversations (2017) for orchestra
(Commissioned by the WSO) WORLD PREMIERE

Ellen Taaffe Zwilich Symphony No. 3 (1992) CANADIAN PREMIERE

Hilmar Órn Hilmarsson 7 Friends (2017) for choir & orchestra
WORLD PREMIERE (Commissioned by the WSO)

ARTISTS

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
Alexander Mickelthwate, conductor
Prairie Voices, Geung Kroeker-Lee, director

PRE-CONCERT PANEL

Dark, Darker, Darkest
6:45PM | Piano Nobile
Hilmar Órn Hilmarsson, composer
Karen Sunabacka, composer
Matthew Patton, host
Alexander Mickelthwate, host

POST-CONCERT LOUNGE

Piano Nobile
Tony Neustaedter, DJ

POST-CONCERT Q&A

Piano Nobile
Hilmar Órn Hilmarsson, composer
Karen Sunabacka, composer
Matthew Patton, host
Alexander Mickelthwate, host

Presented with the support of
The University of Manitoba Icelandic Department, Arni Thorsteinson &
Susan Glass, and Peter Johnson
WNMF6
PHILIP GLASS
WORLD PREMIERE

Thursday, February 1 | 7:30pm
Centennial Concert Hall

“The JACK Quartet has received such praise for its involvement with new music that it's easy to take for granted how superbly accomplished these players are.”
- The New York Times

“There's something almost evangelical about the JACK Quartet. Such is the talent and focus of this young, New York-based string quartet that it has quickly established itself as an important proponent of contemporary music, and the ensemble's intense and audacious performances have been known to convert even the most conservative listeners.”
- The Financial Times

The JACK Quartet (NYC) is one of the world's leading string quartets specializing in music by living composers. In this special evening, WNMF teams up with JACK to present a cross-section of musical styles, featuring the world premiere of Philip Glass's String Quartet No. 8, co-commissioned by the WSO and Carnegie Hall. The program also features works for string quartet by Sabrina Schroeder (Canada/UK) and Brian Ferneyhough (UK/USA), and the Canadian premiere of Georg Friedrich Haas's (Austria/USA) stunningly hypnotic String Quartet No. 9, performed in total darkness.
WORKS

Sabrina Schroeder (Can) *Slip Trains* (2011)

Brian Ferneyhough *Dum Transisset* (2007)

Philip Glass *String Quartet No. 8* (2018) **WORLD PREMIERE**
  (Co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall and the WSO)

Georg Friedrich Haas *String Quartet No. 9* (2016) **CANADIAN PREMIERE**

ARTISTS

JACK Quartet:
- Christopher Otto, violin
- Austin Wulliman, violin
- John Pickford Richards, viola
- Jay Campbell, cello

PRE-CONCERT PANEL

*The Act of Creation*
6:45PM | Piano Nobile

JACK Quartet, musicians
Samy Moussa, composer
Harry Stafylakis, host
Matthew Patton, host
Alexander Mickelthwate, host

POST-CONCERT LOUNGE

Piano Nobile
Tony Neustaedter, DJ

POST-CONCERT Q&A

Piano Nobile
JACK Quartet:
- Christopher Otto, violin
- Austin Wulliman, violin
- John Pickford Richards, viola
- Jay Campbell, cello
- Harry Stafylakis, host

*Philip Glass*’s *String Quartet No. 8* is co-commissioned by the WSO and Carnegie Hall

Presented with the support of Michael Nesbitt
Montreal-born, Paris/Berlin–based composer and conductor Samy Moussa is a rising star on both sides of the Atlantic. He comes to WNMF for the Manitoba premiere of his recent Symphony No. 1, *Concordia*, composed to both celebrate the 375th anniversary of Montreal and – as Kent Nagano put it – to “imagine what a symphony in the 21st century might be.” The WSO has partnered with the Toronto Symphony to present the Manitoba premiere of WNMF alumna Cassandra Miller’s (Canada/UK) new work *Round*. The JACK Quartet joins the WSO to give the Canadian premiere of Pascal Dusapin’s (France) virtuosic *Hinterland* for string quartet and orchestra.
Cassandra Miller (Can) *Round* (2017) for orchestra
(Commissioned by the TSO, a collaboration with the WSO)
Pascal Dusapin *Quatuor Vi, Hinterland, hapax* (2009)
for string quartet & orchestra **CANADIAN PREMIERE**
Samy Moussa (Can) *Symphony No. 1, Concordia* (2017) for orchestra

**ARTISTS**

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
Alexander Mickelthwate, conductor
JACK Quartet:
  - Christopher Otto, violin
  - Austin Wulliman, violin
  - John Pickford Richards, viola
  - Jay Campbell, cello

**PRE-CONCERT PANEL**

*Decolonizing Institutions*
6:45PM | Piano Nobile
Sotirios Kotoulas, presenter
Sarah Nesbitt, presenter
Jaimie Isaac, presenter
Julie Nagam, presenter
Samy Moussa, composer
Karen Sunabacka, composer
Matthew Patton, host

**POST-CONCERT Q&A**

Samy Moussa, composer
JACK Quartet, musicians
Harry Stafylakis, composer
Matthew Patton, host
Alexander Mickelthwate, host

**POST-CONCERT LOUNGE**

Piano Nobile
Tony Neustaedter, DJ

*The JACK Quartet appears at the WMNF with the support of Michael Nesbitt*
WNMF IN THE COMMUNITY

For the first time, WNMF is stepping out into the daylight for bite-sized performances during the lunch hour with a series of free, daily concerts.

**Electric Strings Quartet**
Friday, Jan 26 | 12:30 pm
University of Winnipeg | Riddell Hall

**Music for Spaces**
Leanne Zacharias, *director*
Saturday, Jan 27 | 12:00 pm
Canadian Museum for Human Rights

**U of M Percussion Ensemble**
Victoria Sparks, *director*
Sunday, Jan 28 | 12:00 pm
The Forks Market Food Hall

**CMU Vocal Ensemble**
Allison Pauls, *director*
Monday, Jan 29 | 12:00 pm
Union Station
New Raven Ensemble
Andrew Balfour, director
Tuesday, Jan 30 | 12:00 pm
Neeginan Centre

XIE
Gordon Fitzell, director
Wednesday, Jan 31 | 12:00 pm
UMSU University Centre

Brandon University New Music Ensemble
Megumi Masaki, director
Thursday, Feb 1 | 12:00 pm
Skywalk Concerts | Millennium Library

River East Collegiate Wind Ensemble
Jeff Kula, director
Friday, Feb 2 at 12:00 pm
Manitoba Hydro Place
ART & HAPPENINGS

PORTAL ZERO AT CENTENNIAL CONCERT HALL

Portal Zero is an architectural folly corresponding to the shape and spirit of place and event. The site specific installation acts as a self-referential metaphor for Architecture. Is it a form, a vessel, an instrument, a repository, a sanctum, a symbol, a listening booth? Yes, it is.

Storefront Manitoba is dedicated to advancing the awareness and appreciation of architecture, good design and the built environment. Storefront promotes critical discussion, exploration and celebration of urbanism and design culture. storefrontmb.ca

JAZZ WINNIPEG AND WNMF PRESENT
A VERY SPECIAL WORLD PREMIERE LIVE SCORE

DAWSON CITY: FROZEN TIME

Saturday, February 3
Doors 7:30pm | Concert + Screening 8:00pm
Knox United Church
$35 Advance | $40 Door | bit.ly/Dawson-City

Bill Morrison pieces together the bizarre, true history of a long-lost collection of 533 nitrate film prints from the early 1900s. Located just south of the Arctic Circle, Dawson City was the final stop for a distribution chain that sent prints and newsreels to the Yukon. The films were seldom returned. The Dawson City Collection was uncovered in 1978 when a bulldozer dug up a horde of film cans. Morrison draws on these permafrost-protected, rare silent films and newsreels, pairing them with archival footage, interviews, historical photographs, and an enigmatic score by Sigur Rós collaborator and composer Alex Somers.
A SKETCH OF PORTAL ZERO