CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS — PROGRAM NOTES

Friday, May 7, 2010, 8pm Saturday, May 8, 2010, 8pm Zellerbach Hall

Delusion

by Laurie Anderson

with Special Guest Musicians

Colin Stetson & Doug Wieselman

Production Credits

Laurie Anderson Music Text & Visual Design

Colin Stetson Special Guest Musician
Doug Wieselman Special Guest Musician

Amy Khoshbin Video Design & Live Mix
Rus Snelling Production & Lighting
Dave Cook Front-of-House Audio

Maryse Alberti Video Director of Photography

Toshiaki Ozawa Additional Video
Bob Currie Story Team
Rande Brown Story Team

Shane Koss Audio Rig Design Konrad Kaczmarek Audio Software Design

Ned Steinberger Violin Design
Brad Hampton Tour Management

World Premiere February 17, 2010, Cultural Olympiad,

Vancouver, British Columbia

Delusion was commissioned by Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad, Vancouver, and barbicanbite10, London.

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Additional production support and residency provided by the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

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Delusion is a meditation on life and language. Conceived as a series of short mystery plays, Delusion jump-cuts between the everyday and the mythic. Combining violin, electronic puppetry, music and visuals, Delusion tells its story in the colorful and poetic language that has become Laurie Anderson's trademark.

"The electronically altered voice I have used for many years, the one that turns my voice into a male voice, has been gradually evolving from a stock voice of authority into a more nuanced one," says Ms. Anderson. "I have written *Delusion* as a conversation between that voice and my own."

The stories in *Delusion* come from many worlds—technical, scientific, personal and mythic—and from various states of consciousness, dream and meditation. The stories range from the mystic origins of the Russian space program to theories of time and speed, ancestors, control, silence and animals.

At the heart of *Delusion* is the belief that words and stories can create and decreate the world.

Delusion features some of the music heard on Ms. Anderson's recording, *Homeland*, which will be issued by Nonesuch Records in summer 2010.

CAL PERFORMANCES CAL PERFORMANCES

ABOUT THE ARTISTS — ABOUT THE ARTISTS

AURIE ANDERSON (voice, violin) is one of LAmerica's most renowned and daring creative pioneers. She is best known for her multimedia presentations and innovative use of technology. As a writer, director, visual artist and vocalist, she has created groundbreaking works that span the worlds of art, theater and experimental music. Her recording career, launched by O Superman in 1981, includes the soundtrack to her feature film, Home of the Brave, and Life on a String (2001). Ms. Anderson's live shows range from simple spoken word to elaborate multimedia stage performances, such as Songs and Stories for Moby Dick (1999). She has published seven books, and her visual work has been presented in major museums around the world.

In 2002, Ms. Anderson was appointed the first artist-in-residence of NASA, which culminated in her 2004 touring solo performance The End of the Moon. Recent projects include a series of audiovisual installations and a high-definition film, Hidden Inside Mountains, created for World Expo 2005 in Aichi, Japan. In 2007, she received the prestigious Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize for her outstanding contribution to the arts. In 2008, she completed a two-year worldwide tour of her latest performance piece, Homeland. Her Nonesuch recording, Homeland, will be released in summer 2010 and spans the music of Homeland and her newest solo performance, Delusion. This work debuted at the Vancouver Cultural Olympiad in early 2010 and is touring internationally. Ms. Anderson lives in New York City.

Maryse Alberti (video director of photography) was born and raised in the south of France and is a multi-award-winning cinematographer. With an eye for thought-provoking and challenging subject matter, she has had a succession of lauded political documentaries including Enron, the Smartest Guys in the Room, nominated for an Academy Award, and Taxi to the Dark Side, which won an Oscar for best documentary (both directed by Alex Gibney). She won two Sundance cinematography awards for H2 Worker and Crumb. Her wide-ranging body of work includes collaborations with Todd Haynes on Poison and Velvet Goldmine, for which she won an Independent Spirit Award for best cinematography,

and with Todd Solondz on his hard-hitting drama, *Happiness*. She won her second Spirit Award for the critically acclaimed movie *The Wrestler*, directed by Darren Aronofsky. In the last few years, she has worked with artist Pierre Huygue and Ms. Anderson. She lives in New York City with her husband and son.

Rande Brown (story team) is a noted writer and translator of texts on contemporary Japanese spirituality and culture. She co-authored the New York Times bestseller Geisha, A Life with Mineko Iwasaki (Atria, 2002). Ms. Brown is also president of East West Communications, a company that has been facilitating the presentation of Western performance and visual art in Asia since 1984. As a long-time student of Buddhist theory and practice, and as a trained interfaith chaplain, she has a particular interest in delusion, and is currently on the path to becoming a psychotherapist.

Dave Cook (front-of-house audio) is a native New Yorker who has been a sound engineer for many years and comes from a background in recording studios, theaters and concert settings. His work in the pop/rock world has landed him Gold and Platinum album credits with artists such as 10,000 maniacs, the B-52s (he engineered everyone's favorite backyard barbecue song, "The Love Shack") and others, including Nick Cave, Graham Parker, the Golden Palominos and Juliana Hatfield. He has engineered and mixed live broadcasts by David Bowie, Radiohead and Morphine, to name a few. Mr. Cook has also engineered sessions with jazz artists, such as Dave Holland, Kenny Washington, George Mraz, Jimmy Cobb and Warren Bernhardt. His live concert touring/mixing credits include Elvis Costello with the Charles Mingus Orchestra, Carly Simon, Nine Circles Chamber Theater, Maya Beiser, Ravi Shankar, Anoushka Shankar and Marc Cohn. Mr. Cook lives with his family in Saugerties, New York.

Bob Currie (*story team*) is an artist living and working in New York City and Ann Arbor, Michigan. He is currently collaborating with composers Kjartan Sveinsson and Ólöf Arnalds and writer Anne Carson on an evening-long choral

work rooted in a sonnet cycle about Iceland and swallows. The piece will be premiered in New York City in fall 2010.

Konrad Kaczmarek (audio software design) is a composer, musician and programmer working primarily in live audio processing and video performance. He received a B.A. in music from Yale University, a M.Mus. in electronic music composition from the University of London, Goldsmiths, and is currently working on his doctoral studies in composition at Princeton. He has held teaching positions at Yale University, New School University and Harvestworks Studio in New York. His own work has been performed at the Stanley Glasser Electronic Music Studio in London; the Sonorities Festival at Queens University in Belfast; the SoundBytes Festival in Halifax; Brooklyn College, The Tank and the Chelsea Art Museum in New York City; the Extensible Toy Piano Project at Clark University and University of Albany; and the Princeton Composer's Ensemble. He has been awarded residencies at the Atlantic Center for the Arts, the Banff Centre in Canada and STEIM in the Netherlands. Mr. Kaczmarek is also a jazz pianist, and he has received an outstanding soloist award from Jazz at Lincoln Center and the Stanton Wheeler Prize for jazz performance at Yale.

Shane Koss (audio rig design), born and raised in rural Maryland, twiddled and fiddled his way through Berklee, Los Angeles and London to find himself in New York City, where he now stays up way too late making strange noises and beating his computers into submission. The latter has helped him design studios and performance rigs both stateside and abroad.

Amy Khoshbin (video design and live mix) is a Brooklyn-based multimedia artist from Texas with a background in film, new media and music. Her videos, performances and wearable technologies have been exhibited at both national and international art/film festivals, galleries, museums and performance spaces. Among some of the artists Ms. Khoshbin has worked with are Laurie Anderson, Robert Wilson, Karen Finley, poets Anne Carson and Bob Currie, pianist Eleonor

Sandresky and Cory Arcangel. Semiotech, her ongoing collaboration with sound artist Michael Clemow, explores and creates performance technology for use in their musical performance group, And Um Yeah, and by others. She is currently a Resident Artist at New York University's Interactive Telecommunications Program.

Toshiaki Ozawa (*additional video*) first met Laurie Anderson by happenstance at a tiny bar in Shinjuku called Jetee. It was many years later when they met again and he got the chance to work with her; his image-making skills clearly surpass his ability for bar talk. He has been behind the camera on many music videos, documentaries, commercials and feature films in the past 20 years. He has collaborated with many artists, including Isaac Julien, Leandro Katz and Matthew Barney. His latest feature film, *Scar*, a horror movie shot in 3-D, enjoyed popular success in Russia and is slated for future release in the United States.

Rus Snelling (production and lights) is an artist who has worked as a production, stage and tour manager, lighting and set designer, technical director, fire sculptor and performer with arts organizations and events ranging from intimate theatrical works to large-scale ceremonies throughout Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States. Credits include John Leguizamo Live (U.S. tour), Melbourne International Arts Festival, Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Melbourne Commonwealth Games Ceremonies, Sydney Olympic Games Ceremonies, New York's P.S. 122, The Fellas Live (U.S. tour), Lenny Henry Show and Danny Bhoy Live (Australia and New Zealand tours), and Ross Noble's Unrealtime and Sonic Waffle on London's West End.

Colin Stetson (special guest musician) was born and raised in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and earned a degree in music from his hometown school, the University of Michigan, in 1997. Six years in San Francisco followed, then four in Brooklyn. Over this time, he developed his unique solo voice on saxophones and clarinets, culminating in the release of the record *New History Warfare, Vol. 1*, in 2008. Mr. Stetson now resides in Montreal,

CAL PERFORMANCES CAL PERFORMANCES 23

Quebec, and performs regularly on saxophones, clarinets, cornet, French horn and flute. In addition to his work as a soloist, Mr. Stetson has brought his talents to the stage and studio with dozens of artists, including Tom Waits, Arcade Fire, TV on the Radio, Fiest, Bon Iver, Laurie Anderson, David Byrne, Jolie Holland, Sinead O'Connor, LCD Soundsystem, The National, Angélique Kidjo and Anthony Braxton. He is also a regular member of the bands Sway Machinery and Bell Orchestre.

Doug Wieselman (special guest musician) has worked as composer, arranger and musician with a variety of artists in different fields: in theater he has worked with director Robert Woodruff and the Flying Karamazov Brothers; in dance with Jerome Robbins and Paul Taylor; and as musician with Robin Holcomb, Wayne Horvitz, Laurie Anderson, Lou Reed, Anthony Coleman, Steven Bernstein, Butch Morris. Martha Wainwright, Yuka Honda, Antony and the Johnsons, and John Lurie and the Lounge Lizards, among many others. In 2005, he collaborated with Eyvind Kang, Bill Frisell and Hal Willner on Robert Wilson's In the Evening at Koi Pond for Expo in Nagoya, Japan. A CD of his soundtrack work, Dimly Lit, was released on John Zorn's Tzadik label. He coleads Kamikaze Ground Crew, which has recorded five albums, and leads his own ensemble, Trio S, with Jane Scarpantoni and Kenny Wollesen. For the last six years, he has composed for the Nick Jr. cartoon show The Backyardigans in association with Evan Lurie.

Founded in 1998 by Linda Brumbach, Pomegranate Arts (worldwide tour representation) is an independent production company dedicated to the development of international contemporary performing arts projects. Since its inception, Pomegranate Arts has conceived, produced or represented projects by Philip Glass, Laurie Anderson, London's Improbable Theatre, Sankai Juku, Dan Zanes and Goran Bregović. Special projects include Dracula: The Music and Film with Philip Glass and the Kronos Quartet; the music theater work Shockheaded Peter; Brazilian vocalist Virginia Rodrigues; Drama Desk Award-winning Charlie

Victor Romeo; Healing the Divide, A Concert for Peace and Reconciliation, presented by Philip Glass and Richard Gere; and Hal Willner's Came So Far for Beauty, An Evening of Leonard Cohen Songs. Recent projects include the first North American tour of Goran Bregović and the remounting of Lucinda Childs's 1979 classic. DANCE.

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From Princeton Atelier—Toni Morrison, Ellen Goellner, Perry Cook and Dan Trueman.

From Bergen Community College—Jessica Silver and Tom O'Neill.

Delusion was inspired by the work of Japanese filmmaker Yasujiro Ozu, the Old Trout Puppet Workshop's Famous Puppet Death Scenes, and David Eagleman's book, Sum: Forty Tales from the Afterlives.

Additional music production—Roma Baran, Pat Dillett and Mario McNulty.

Above all, special thanks, as always, to Lou Reed.

4 CAL PERFORMANCES