Thursday, February 13, 2020, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

An Evening with Kronos Quartet

KRONOS QUARTET
David Harrington, violin
John Sherba, violin
Hank Dutt, viola
Paul Wiancko, cello*

PROGRAM

Terry Riley
Solo Piano Set

Panel Conversation
with David Harrington, Terry Riley, Wu Man, panelists,
and Sam Green, panel moderator

INTERMISSION

A Thousand Thoughts:
A Live Documentary with the Kronos Quartet
Written and Directed by Sam Green & Joe Bini

Brian H. Scott, lighting design
Brian Mohr, sound design

A Thousand Thoughts was commissioned by the Arts Center at NYU Abu Dhabi,
Barbican, Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA, Exploratorium, Christos V. Konstantakopoulos,
Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, MASS MoCA,
Melbourne Festival, Wexner Center for the Arts at the Ohio State University
through its Wexner Center Artist Residency Award program.

Additional support was received from the DrumStick Fund, Genuine Article Pictures,
JustFilms/Ford Foundation, Lear Family Foundation, Andrea Lunsford, the National Endowment
for the Arts, Sundance Documentary Dilm Program with support from Open Society Foundation,
Gottfried and Janet Tittiger, and Kenneth and Elizabeth Whitney.

This film was supported by Sundance Catalyst.

* Paul Wiancko is Kronos’ guest cellist during Sunny Yang’s maternity leave.

Cal Performances’ 2019–20 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.
Musical Selections

Philip Glass  
String Quartet No. 2 (Company)*  
  Movement II

Terry Riley  
Requiem for Adam (excerpt)*

George Crumb  
Selections from Black Angels  
  10. God-music  
    1. Threnody I: Night of the Electric Insects (excerpt)

Ryan Brown  
Pinched*

John Adams  
“Judah to Ocean”  
from John’s Book of Alleged Dances*

Tanya Tagaq (arr. Jacob Garchik)  
Sivunittinni (excerpt)**

Ken Benshoof  
Traveling Music*  
  1. Gentle, easy

Fodé Lassana Diabaté (arr. Jacob Garchik)  
Sunjata’s Time**  
  5. Bara kala ta

Terry Riley  
The Wheel*

David Harrington  
“Drone” from Dirty Wars*

Café Tacvba (arr. Osvaldo Golijov)  
12/12 (excerpt)*

Philip Glass  
String Quartet No. 3 (Mishima Quartet)  
  Blood Oath

Aleksandra Vrebalov  
The Sea Ranch Songs*
  7. Chapel, Rainbows

Laurie Anderson (arr. Jacob Garchik)  
Flow†

John Zorn  
“Meditation (The Blue of Noon)”  
from The Dead Man*

Pérotin (arr. Kronos Quartet)  
Viderunt Omnes (excerpt)†

Clint Mansell (arr. David Lang)  
Selections from Requiem for a Dream†  
  Lux Aeterna  
  Ghosts of a Future Lost

John Oswald  
Spectre (excerpt)*

Wu Man  
Two Chinese Paintings**  
  II. Silk and Bamboo (inspired by Huanlege)

Ervin T. Rouse (arr. Danny Clay)  
Orange Blossom Special (excerpt)†

* Written for Kronos  
** Written for Kronos and composed for Fifty for the Future: The Kronos Learning Repertoire  
† Arranged for Kronos
For more on *A Thousand Thoughts*, please see Rebecca Solnit’s essay beginning on p. 8.

**Kronos Quartet**

For more than 45 years, San Francisco’s Kronos Quartet—David Harrington (violin), John Sherba (violin), Hank Dutt (viola), and Sunny Yang (cello)—has combined a spirit of fearless exploration with a commitment to continually reimagine the string quartet experience. In the process, Kronos has become one of the world’s most celebrated and influential ensembles, performing thousands of concerts, releasing more than 60 recordings, collaborating with an eclectic mix of composers and performers, and commissioning over 1,000 works and arrangements for string quartet. The group has won over 40 awards, including two Grammys, the prestigious Polar Music and Avery Fisher Prizes, and the Edison Klassiek Oeuvreprijs. The nonprofit Kronos Performing Arts Association manages all aspects of Kronos’ work, including the commissioning of new works, concert tours and home season performances, education programs, and the annual Kronos Festival. In 2015, Kronos launched 50 for the Future: The Kronos Learning Repertoire, an education and legacy project that is commissioning—and distributing online for free—50 new works for string quartet composed by 25 women and 25 men.

**Terry Riley**

Terry Riley (b. 1935) first came to prominence in 1964 when he subverted the world of tightly organized atonal composition then in fashion. With the groundbreaking *In C*—a work built upon steady pulse throughout; short, simple repeated melodic motives; and static harmonies—Riley achieved an elegant and non-nostalgic return to tonality. In demonstrating the hypnotic allure of complex musical patterns made of basic means, he produced the seminal work of Minimalism.

Riley’s facility for complex pattern-making is the product of his virtuosity as a keyboard improviser. He quit formal composition following *In C* in order to concentrate on improvisation, and in the late 1960s and early 70s became known for weaving dazzlingly intricate skeins of music from improvisations on organ and synthesizer. At this time, Riley also devoted himself to studying North Indian vocal techniques under the legendary Pandit Pran Nath, and a new element entered his music: long-limbed melody. From his work in Indian music, moreover, he became interested in the subtle distinctions of tuning that would be hard to achieve with a traditional classical ensemble.

Riley began notating music again in 1979, when both he and the Kronos Quartet were on the faculty at Mills College in Oakland. By collaborating with Kronos, he discovered that his various musical passions could be integrated, not as pastiche, but as different sides of similar musical impulses that still maintained something of the oral performing traditions of India and jazz. Riley’s first quartets were inspired by his keyboard improvisations, but his knowledge of string quartets became more sophisticated through his work with Kronos, combining rigorous compositional ideas with a more performance-oriented approach.

This three-decade-long relationship has yielded 27 works for string quartet, including a concerto for string quartet, *The Sands*, which was the Salzburg Festival’s first-ever new-music commission; *Sun Rings*, a multimedia piece for choir, visuals, and space sounds, commissioned by NASA; and *The Cusp of Magic*, for string quartet and *pipa*. Kronos’ album *Cadenza on the Night Plain*, a collection of music by Riley, was selected by both *Time* and *Newsweek* as one of the 10 Best Classical Albums of the Year in 1988. The epic five-quartet cycle, *Salome Dances for Peace*, was selected as the #1 Classical Album of the Year by *USA Today* and was nominated for a Grammy in 1989.

**Wu Man**

Recognized as the world’s premier *pipa* virtuoso and a leading ambassador of Chinese music, Grammy Award–nominated musician Wu Man has carved out a career as a soloist, educator, and composer giving her lute-like
# Credits for *A Thousand Thoughts*

**Directed, written, and edited by**  
Sam Green, Joe Bini

**Music performed by**  
Kronos Quartet: David Harrington, John Sherba, Hank Dutt, Paul Wiancko

**Cinematography by**  
Kirsten Johnson

**Produced by**  
Janet Cowperthwaite, Sam Green

**Executive Producers**  
Josh Penn, Maida Lynn, Kenneth & Elizabeth Whitney

**Co-Producers**  
Thomas O. Kriegsmann, Brendan Doyle

**Lighting Designer, Performance**  
Brian H. Scott

**Sound Designer, Performance**  
Scott Fraser

**Produced in Association with**  
ArKtype, C41 Media, The Department of Motion Pictures, Genuine Article Pictures

**Motion Design**  
Work-Order

**Additional Cinematography**  
Yoni Brook  
Pete Sillen  
Raf Fellner  
Andrew Black  
David Kaplowitz

**Assistant Editor**  
Jonathan Rapoport

**Sound Mix**  
Rich Bologna

**Colorist**  
Ayumi Ashley

**Footage Research**  
Sierra Pettengill  
Rosemary Rotondi  
Anna Hudak

**Sound**  
Claudia Katanaygi  
Judy Karp  
Stephen Koszler  
Doug Dunderdale  
Paul Mendez

**Production Assistance**  
Sam Schnorr  
Mike Reid  
Chris Niesing  
Forrest Pound  
Tara Kutz  
Evan Neff  
Ariel Hahn  
Raf Fellner

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Peter Jazsi

*Paul Wiancko is Kronos’ guest cellist during Sunny Yang’s maternity leave.*
Sam Green
Sam Green is a New York–based documentary filmmaker. He received his master’s degree in journalism from the University of California, Berkeley, where he studied documentary filmmaking with the acclaimed filmmaker Marlon Riggs. Green’s most recent projects are the “live documentaries” *The Measure of All Things* (2014), *The Love Song of R. Buckminster Fuller with Yo La Tengo* (2012), and *Utopia in Four Movements* (2010). His performance work has screened at venues such as the Barbican, The Kitchen, TBA Festival, Fusebox Festival, Brighton Festival, and many others. Green’s 2004 feature-length film, the Academy Award-nominated documentary *The Weather Underground*, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, was broadcast on PBS, was included in the 2004 Whitney Biennial, and has screened widely around the world.

Wu Man
Wu Man is a Chinese pipa player and professor. For the Kronos Quartet/Kronos Performing Arts Association

Janet Cowperthwaite, managing director
Mason Dille, development manager
Dana Dizon, business operations manager
Sarah Donahue, production operations manager
Scott Fraser, senior sound designer
Sasha Hnatkovich, communications manager
Sara Langlands, community engagement and festival manager
Reshena Liao, creative projects manager
Nikolás McConnie-Saad, office manager
Brian Mohr, Sound Designer, technical manager
Kären Nagy, strategic initiatives director
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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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The Kronos Quartet records for Nonesuch Records.

SPECIAL THANKS
Christine Burgin
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Jonh Herschend
Caroline Libresco
Nikolás McConnie-Saad
Nion McEvoy
Rebecca Solnit
William Wegman

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