Upcoming Events



DSO & Coast Jazz Orchestra Together! Two Nights, Two Programs

Fri & Sat, Feb 21 & 22, 7:30 pm

Two of Dartmouth's flagship student ensembles present the world premiere of a major new Taylor Ho Bynum creation that joins jazz and classical music—and Shakespeare.



Tue, Mar 31, 7:30 pm

Classical winds and strings, a jazz trio and a poet weave together the music of two innovative geniuses.



For tickets or more info, call the Box Office at 603.646.2422 or visit hop.dartmouth.edu. Share your experiences! #HopkinsCenter

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Hopkins Center for the Arts

presents

Kronos Quartet with Terry Riley and Gyan Riley

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

Brian H. Scott, Lighting Designer Brian Mohr, Sound Designer

Thu, Jan 23, 7:30 pm

Spaulding Auditorium • Dartmouth College • 2020

Funded in part by the Aires Family Fund for the Performing Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Program

Terry Riley & Gyan Riley

Works to be announced from the stage

Kronos Quartet

Terry Riley / Good Medicine from Salome Dances for Peace*
Terry Riley / One Earth, One People, One Love from Sun Rings*

Kronos Quartet, Terry Riley, & Gyan Riley

Gyan Riley / the first pancake *

- 1. Butter 'n' Syrup
- 2. Funky Texture and the Floury Lumps
- 3. Full Stack of Injera: The Savory Shuffle

with special guests Gyan Riley, guitar, and Terry Riley, piano

Terry Riley / The Cusp of Magic (first movement)* with special guest Gyan Riley, *guitar*

Program subject to change

*Written for Kronos

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facebook.com/kronosquartet
instagram.com/kronos_quartet
twitter.com/kronosquartet

The Kronos Quartet records for Nonesuch Records.

Connecting Artists to the Community

While at Dartmouth, members of the Kronos Quartet and Terry Riley visited numerous classes in the Music Department and participated in a pre-show conversation.

For more information about Hop Engagement and Community programs, call 603.646.2010 or visit hop.dartmouth.edu/faculty-staff or hop.dartmouth.edu/community.

Approx duration: 85 minutes

About the Artists

For over 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 1000 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 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 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 he 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 four-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's 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.

Gyan Riley "is a one-man American-music machine, amicably ranging across the fields of jazz, world music, and post-minimalism" (The New Yorker). Having won his first guitar in a raffle when he was 12 years old, he now focuses on his own compositions, improvisation and various collaborations. Riley has been commissioned by the Kronos Ouartet, New Music USA, the Carnegie Hall Corporation, the American Composers Forum and the New York Guitar Festival. He has performed with artists such as Zakir Hussain, Lou Reed, John Zorn, Bill Frisell, the Kronos Quartet, Lee Ranaldo (of Sonic Youth), Iva Bittova, Julian Lage, the Bang-On-A-Can All-Stars, Bryce Dessner, Nico Muhly, Glenn Kotche, the San Francisco Symphony and his father, the composer/pianist/vocalist Terry Riley. Terry and Gyan scored a new film by writer/director François Girard (The Red Violin) entitled Hochelaga, Terre des Âmes, that premiered at the 2017 Toronto Film Festival and was selected as Canada's pick for best foreign language film category at the 2018 Oscars. Riley has four solo CD titles and many collaborative recordings. His fourth solo album, Sprig. was released in March on the National Sawdust Tracks label. He currently resides in New York City and actively tours worldwide.