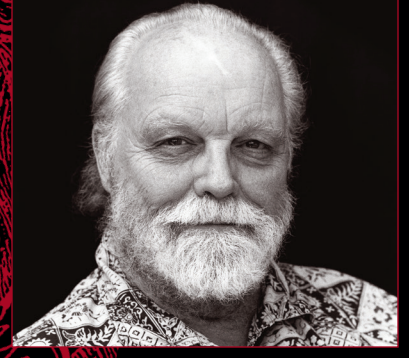


PRESS RELEASE

OTHER MINDS FESTIVAL 22



JUST 100: HOMAGE TO LOU HARRISON

OTHER MINDS PRESS CONTACTS

Charles Amirkhanian
Executive and Artistic Director
415.934.8134 ext 4
charles@otherminds.org

Randall Wong
Administrative Director
415.934.8134 ext 1
randall@otherminds.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE • DECEMBER 9, 2016

OTHER MINDS ANNOUNCES ITS 22ND FESTIVAL OF NEW MUSIC, "JUST 100: HOMAGE TO LOU HARRISON"

100+ MUSICIANS TO BE LED BY CONDUCTORS DENNIS RUSSELL DAVIES AND NICOLE PAIEMENT
AT MISSION DOLORES BASILICA IN SAN FRANCISCO

PACIFIC RIM CENTENNIALS

Saturday, February 18, 2017 - 7:30pm
Mission Dolores Basilica
3321 16th St. (at Dolores)
San Francisco, CA

FILM PRESENTATION

Sunday, February 19, 2017 - 4:15pm
in association with the Pacific Film Archive
Barbara Osher Theater, BAM/PFA
2155 Center St.
Berkeley, CA

LOU HARRISON GAMELAN MASTERPIECES

Saturday, May 20, 2017 - 7:30pm
Mission Dolores Basilica
3321 16th St. (at Dolores)
San Francisco, CA

Birthdays are an occasion to celebrate, especially a 100th! Other Minds is presenting a Lou Harrison Centennial Celebration, February 18 and May 20 at the Mission Dolores Basilica, San Francisco, and February 19 at the Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley. The wide-ranging repertoire will span his entire career with music ranging from intimate chamber music to choral and orchestral works.

We will also be celebrating another centennial, Korean composer Isang Yun. A victim of political intrigue, Yun was kidnapped and imprisoned, a pawn in the conflict between South and North Korea. Hauntingly beautiful, Yun's music fuses traditional Korean music with European modernism.

Guest artists will include conductors Dennis Russell Davies and Nicole Paiement, violinists Shalini Vijayan and Yumi Hwang-Williams, pianist Maki Namekawa, cellist Emil Miland, harpist Meredith Clark, organist Jerome Lenk, the American Gamelan played by William Winant Percussion Group, and Resound and Mission Dolores Choirs.

LOU HARRISON was born in Portland, Oregon, on May 14, 1917. Lou Harrison's eclectic musical style was born from rich cultural influences: Baroque, pre-Baroque, and Renaissance period music, Native American and Asian music, twelve-tone composition, historic or "just" tunings and, most notably, the gamelan music of Java and Bali. Perhaps more than any other 20th century composer, Lou had the widest ranging "wandering ear." His studies included composition with Henry Cowell and Arnold Schoenberg. From 1945 to 1948, Harrison wrote for the New York Herald Tribune under chief music critic, Virgil Thomson. He was introduced to Charles Ives and helped reconstruct that elder composer's *Symphony No. 3*. When he conducted the world premiere on April 5, 1946, with the NY Little Symphony, the work was awarded the following year's Pulitzer Prize.

Harrison's oeuvre was remarkably large and varied including chamber, choral and orchestral works, gamelan, dance, and opera, often employing world, folk instruments, and newly invented instruments built from items from auto shops and junkyards. In 1967 he met his life partner William Colvig who helped him invent instruments replicating the Indonesian gamelan but with his own just intonation tunings. Some of his major works are *La Koro Sutro* for chorus and gamelan, the *Suite for Violin and American Gamelan*, *Pacifika Rondo* (for orchestra of western and oriental instruments), his operas *Rapunzel* and *Young Caesar* (a puppet opera on gay themes), as well as four symphonies and numerous concerti. A true renaissance man, Lou was also an accomplished dancer, artist, poet, calligrapher, esperantist and an important advocate for gay causes and pacifism.

Among the many institutions where Harrison taught or was in residence included Reed College, Portland, Black Mountain College in North Carolina, the University of Hawaii, Stanford University, Mills College, and San Jose State University. The recipient of innumerable grants and awards, he received two Guggenheim fellowships and Rockefeller and Fulbright awards.

By 1953 he was back in California, taking up residence in rural Aptos, near Santa Cruz, and creating a series of works embracing Pacific Rim influences. In 1963 he, along with Victor Jowers, Robert Hughes and Gerhard Samuel began a small summer festival that evolved in the long-running Cabrillo Music Festival of Contemporary Music.

Lou Harrison passed away at 85 on February 2, 2003, leaving behind a vast legacy of musical and theatrical works, and an indelible influence on a younger generation of musicians.

ISANG YUN was born on September 17, 1917 near the southeastern seaport Tongyông, on the Korean peninsula under Japanese occupation. Yun took part in the resistance against Japan, and in 1943, he was imprisoned and tortured. After receiving the Seoul City Culture Award in 1955, he was able to study in Paris and Berlin from 1956 to 1959. In Berlin he studied with former Schoenberg-disciple Josef Rufer, learning how to compose "with twelve tones related only to one another". From Germany, Yun was able to establish contact with and was a part of the international avant-garde.

Isang Yun's work rests upon the flexible, vibrant tone of his native country's traditional music. Yet in the integration of dodecaphony and "developing variation" into his own "main-tone technique," Yun's music is also rooted in the European tradition. His composing manner blends eastern and western elements into a unique personal style.

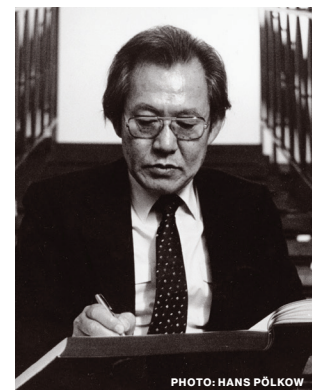


PHOTO: HANS PÖLKOW
Korean composer Isang Yun.

In 1967 Yun was abducted from Berlin to Seoul by the Korean secret police, and was tortured and charged with high treason. In a political show trial he was sentenced to life imprisonment in the first instance, but released in 1969 after international protests. In 1971 he became a German citizen.

Yun taught composition at the Hochschule der Künste Berlin from 1970 to 1985, and from 1974 on as full professor. His compositions number more than a hundred works, among them four operas and a number of instrumental concertos. In the 1980s he composed a series of five major, interrelated symphonies; during that period Yun strove to develop a new tone in his chamber works, characterized by the striving for harmony and peace. At the same time, reconciliation on the Korean peninsula was his political goal.

Isang Yun died on November 3, 1995, in Berlin, and was interred in a grave of honor by the City Senate. He was a member of the Hamburg and Berlin Academies of the Arts, the European Academy of the Arts and Sciences in Salzburg, an honorary member of the International Society of Contemporary Music. He also held an honorary doctorate from the University of Tübingen, and was the recipient of the Goethe Medal of the Goethe Institute in Munich and the Distinguished Service Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. [adapted from the International Isang Yung Society website]

His life story has been documented in a stunning new film for German television by Maria Stodtmeier. *Other Minds*, in collaboration with the Pacific Film Archive will screen its American premiere on May 19 in Berkeley.

Founded in 1992, **OTHER MINDS** is a leading proponent for new and experimental music in all its forms, bringing together artists and audiences of diverse traditions, generations and cultural backgrounds. By fostering cross-cultural exchange and creative dialogue, and by encouraging exploration of areas in new music seldom touched upon by mainstream music institutions, OM is committed to expanding and reshaping the definition of what constitutes "serious music." From festival concerts, film screenings, and the commissioning of new works, to producing and releasing CDs, to archival preservation of thousands of concerts and composer interviews (which OM distributes free on the internet), OM has become one of the world's major conservators of new music's ecology.

For this Centennial year, Other Minds is hosting a Lou Harrison web site: www.otherminds.org/lou100. On this page you will find not only listings of Centennial performances worldwide, but photos, links to biographies, audio concerts and interviews, discography, and more!

JUST 100: HOMAGE TO LOU HARRISON

CONCERT ONE

LOU HARRISON (1917-2003)

Sonata No. 3 for Piano (1938)

Dennis Russell Davies, piano

Grand Duo for Violin & Piano (1988, excerpts)

Yumi Hwang-Williams, violin

Dennis Russell Davies, piano

Canticle No. 3 (1941)

William Winant Percussion Group

Suite for Violin, Piano, and Small Orchestra (1951)

Yumi Hwang-Williams, violin

Maki Namekawa, piano

ISANG YUN (1927-1995)

Interludium A (1982)

Maki Namekawa, piano

Gasa, for Violin & Piano (1951)
Yumi Hwang-Williams, violin
Maki Namekawa, piano

TICKETS \$20/12
www.otherminds.org

FILM PRESENTATION

In association with the U. C. Berkeley University Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive

Sunday, February 19, 2017- 4:15 p.m.
Barbro Osher Theater, BAM/PFA
2155 Center St.
Berkeley, CA

Lou Harrison: Cherish, Concern, Consider. Dir. Eric Marin. 1987 (27 min.)

In Between – The Composer Isang Yun in North and South Korea. Dir. Maria Stodtmeier. 2015 (60 min.)
American premiere screening, with guest speakers Dennis Russell Davies and Charles Boone.

TICKETS \$12/8/7
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

CONCERT TWO

LOU HARRISON GAMELAN MASTERPIECES
Nicole Paiement, Conductor

Saturday, May 20, 2017 – 7:30 p.m.
Mission Dolores Basilica
3321 16th St.
San Francisco, CA

Threnody for Oliver Daniel for harp(1990)
Suite for Cello & Harp (1948)
Meredith Clark, harp
Emil Miland, cello

Pedal Sonata for Organ (1987/1989)
Praises for Michael the Archangel (1946-47)
Jerome Lenk, organ

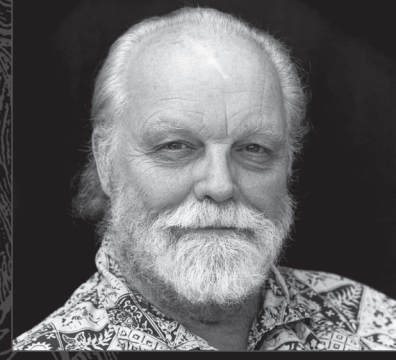
Suite for Violin & American Gamelan (1974, composed with Richard Dee)
Shalini Vijayan, violin
William Winant Percussion Group

La Koro Sutro (The Heart Sutra, 1972)
For large mixed chorus, organ, harp, and American Gamelan
The Mission Dolores Choir, Resound, Jerome Lenk, organ, Meredith Clark, harp, and the William Winant Percussion Group.

TICKETS \$20/12
www.otherminds.org

EVENT SCHEDULE

OTHER MINDS FESTIVAL 22



JUST 100: HOMAGE TO LOU HARRISON

CONCERT ONE

PACIFIC RIM CENTENNIALS **Dennis Russell Davies, Conductor**

Saturday · February 18, 2017 · 7:30pm
Mission Dolores Basilica
3321 16th St (at Dolores St)
San Francisco, CA

LOU HARRISON (1917-2003)

Sonata No. 3 for piano (1938)
D.R. Davies, piano

Grand Duo for Violin & Piano
(1988, excerpts)
Yumi Hwang-Williams, violin;
D.R. Davies, piano

Canticle No. 3 for Percussion (1941)
William Winant Percussion Group;
D.R. Davies, conductor

Suite for Violin, Piano and
Small Orchestra (1951)
Yumi Hwang-Williams, violin;
Maki Namekawa, piano;
Other Minds Ensemble
(flute, oboe, harp, celesta, tack piano,
tamtam, two celli, string bass);
D.R. Davies, conductor

ISANG YUN (1917-1995)

Interludium A (1982)
Maki Namekawa, piano

Gasa, for Violin & Piano (1963)
Yumi Hwang-Williams, violin;
D.R. Davies, piano

Dennis Russell Davies, visiting from Linz, Austria, conducts and plays rarely heard music by two legendary composers who integrate the influences of Europe and Asia.

TICKETS \$20/12
otherminds.org

FILM PRESENTATION

In association with **the Pacific Film Archive**

Sunday · February 19, 2017 · 4:15pm
Barbro Osher Theater, BAM/PFA
2155 Center Street (at Oxford)
Berkeley, CA

ERIC MARIN

"Lou Harrison: Cherish, Conserve,
Consider, Create" (1987) 27:00

MARIA STODTMEIER

"In Between – The Composer Isang Yun in
North and South Korea" (2015) 60:00
American premiere screening

*With guest speakers Dennis Russell Davies
and Charles Boone.*

TICKETS \$12/8/7
bampfa.berkeley.edu

See the Other Minds Harrison Centennial website for a calendar of celebrations around the world and extensive biographical references, recordings and memorabilia available via the Internet.

otherminds.org/lou100

Share your thoughts and reminiscences of Harrison on our Facebook page – Just 100: Lou Harrison Centennial

otherminds.org

CONCERT TWO

LOU HARRISON **GAMELAN MASTERPIECES** **Nicole Paiement, Conductor**

Saturday · May 20, 2017 · 7:30pm
Mission Dolores Basilica
3321 16th St (at Dolores St)
San Francisco, CA

LOU HARRISON (1917-2003)

Threnody for Oliver Daniel
(1990, harp solo)
Suite for Cello and Harp (1948)
Meredith Clark, harp;
Emil Miland, cello

Pedal Sonata for Organ (1987/1989)
Praises for Michael the Archangel (1946-7)
Jerome Lenk, organ

Suite for Violin and American Gamelan
(1974, composed with Richard Dee)
Shalini Vijayan, violin;
William Winant Percussion Group;
Nicole Paiement, conductor

La Koro Sutro (1972, The Heart Sutra)
for large mixed chorus, organ, harp and
American Gamelan
William Winant Percussion Group;
massed choruses of Mission
Dolores, Resound, etc.
Nicole Paiement, conductor

Conductor Nicole Paiement, who has recorded a generous selection of Harrison's music, returns to lead a chorus of 100 with gamelan in the Esperanto rendition of the fourth century Buddhist text, The Heart Sutra.

TICKETS \$20/12
otherminds.org