5-10-2013

**Landfall**

Office of Arts + Cultural Programming

PEAK Performances at Montclair State University

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Part of the Theatre and Performance Studies Commons
Music

Laurie Anderson

Music

Program Notes

These are stories with tempos. Threaded through the stories in Landfall is an account of Hurricane Sandy, which blew through New York just as I was finishing the score. I’ve always been fascinated by the complex relationship of words and music, whether in song lyrics, super titles, or voice-over. In Landfall instruments initiate language through our new text software, erst. In addition, the conflict between spoken and written text fractures the stories as well as creates an eye/ear polyphonic structure.

The blend of electronic and acoustic strings is the dominant sound of Landfall. Much of the music in this work is generated from the harmonies and delays of unique software designed for the solo viola and reinterpreted for the quartet. In addition, there were elements of the optigan, a keyboard that uses information stored on optical discs.

—Laurie Anderson

I have hoped that Laurie Anderson would write for Kronos since first encountering her work 30 years ago. She is a master musician who has always inhabited those secret places where technology has personality, where “real time” is questioned, and where all the elements of performance meet and combine into music. Her process is an account of Hurricane Sandy, which blew through New York Island and its dominantsound of Hurricane Sandy, which blew through New York Island. Laurie Anderson is currently artist-in-residence at Center for the Arts in Troy, New York. Laurie Anderson lives in New York City.

Kronos Quartet

Kronos Quartet (Performers/Arrangements), from San Francisco, has pursued a singular artistic vision for nearly 40 years, combining a spirit of fearless exploration with a commitment to expanding the range and context of the string quartet. In the process, the Grammy-winning Kronos has become one of the most celebrated and influential ensembles of our time, performing thousands of concerts worldwide, releasing more than 45 recordings of extraordinary breadth, and commissioning more than 750 new works and arrangements for string quartet. In 2011 Kronos became the only recipient of both the Polar Music Prize and the Avery Fisher Prize, two of the most prestigious awards given to musicians.

Integral to Kronos’s work is a series of long-running, in-depth collaborations with many of the world’s foremost composers, including Americans Terry Riley, Philip Glass, and Steve Reich; Azerbaijani Franghiz Ali-Zadeh; Poland’s Henryk Gorecki; and Argentina’s Osvaldo Golijov. Additional collaborators from around the world have included Chinesepipa virtuoso Wu Man, legendary Broadway “playback singer” Asha Bhosle, Inuit throat singer Tanya Tagaq, Mexican rockers Café Tacuba, famed Azeri vocal group Nevin, and American singer-songwriter Tom Waits.

A nonprofit organization, the Kronos Quartet/Kronos Performing Arts Foundation is committed to mentoring emerging musicians and composers and to performing, creating, and recording new works. The quartet devotes five months of each year to touring, appearing in the world’s most prestigious concert halls, clubs, and festivals. Kronos quartet is peculiarly prolific on recordings, with a discography on Nonesuch Records including Pieces of Africa (1992), a showcase of African-born composers that simultaneously topped Billboard’s Classical and World Music lists; Nuevo (2002), a Grammy- and Latin Grammy-nominated celebration of Mexican culture; the 2003 Grammy winner, Alban Berg’s Lyric Suite; and Floodplain (2009), spotlighting music from regions of the world ravaged by conflict.

Lubo Borisov (First Programming) is a bricoleur working with digital, electronic, and organic media. In his works, he explores the interplay between art, science, and technology. His multimedia installations, performances, and digital video paintings have been featured internationally, including at the New Interfaces for Musical Expression, International Computer Music Conference, and SIGGRAPH conferences; the Lincoln Center Festival; and the Kennedy Center, Washington, DC. He received baccalaureate degrees in mathematics and physics from the California Institute of Technology and a doctorate in physics from Columbia, where he also studied electro-acoustic music at the Columbia University Computer Music Center. He headed a master’s degree in interactive telecommunications from New York University’s Tisch School, where he was a Global Fellow in the performing arts. He has taught at Harvestworks, the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and is currently an associate professor at Pratt Institute’s department of digital arts, Brooklyn.

Robert Currie (Drumating) is a 2002–2004 artist-in-residence and working in New York City. He is currently managing and mentoring performing arts. Laurie Anderson has recently designed an installation project at New Amsterdam Theatre Armony entitled the event of a thread As a member of SITI Company he has designed lighting for Café Véronique,督导Women (After Euphile), and American Rock of the World. Anderson’s installation work opened in São Paulo, Brazil, and later traveled to Rio de Janeiro.

In 2011 her exhibition of all new work titled Early! Far, Nineteen Days in the Bands opened at the Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia. That same year she was awarded with the Pratt Institute’s Honorary Legends Award. In January of 2012 Anderson was the artist-in-residence at the High Performance Rodeo in Calgary, Alberta where she developed her latest solo performance, Dirtway! Her exhibition boot, curated by Vito Schnabel, opened in May 2012. She is currently artist-in-residence at Center for the Arts at Princeton University, and Performing Arts Center in Troy, New York. Laurie Anderson lives in New York City.

Kronos Quartet

Music

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Laurie Anderson

Music

Is a composer, musician, and performer whose music combines live audio-processing and improvisation, drawing from his diverse musical and technical background. His freelance work programming and performing have taken him to the Kunsthalle in Houston, Texas, to the New Zealand International Arts Festival; the Whitney Biennial Performance Series; the Next Wave Festival at Brooklyn Academy of Music; and in collaboration with Guggenheim: Bargemusic: The Stone; Joyce SoHo; and the 92nd Street Y. He received a BA in music from Yale and a MMus in electronic music composition from University of London, Goldsmiths, and is currently pursuing his doctoral degree in composition at Princeton.

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.

Brian H Scott (Lighting Design) is a 2002–2004 artist-in-residence and performing artist. Recently he designed lighting for Café Véronique,督导Women (After Euphile), and American Rock of the World. Anderson’s installation work opened in São Paulo, Brazil, and later traveled to Rio de Janeiro.

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Kronos Quartet

Music
Landfall by Laurie Anderson for the Kronos Quartet

Performers
Laurie Anderson
Kronos Quartet
David Harrington, violin
John Sherba, violin
Hank Dutt, viola
Jeffrey Zeigler, cello

Music and Text
Laurie Anderson
Erst Programming
Liubo Borrisov
Dramaturg
Robert Currie
Transcriptions
Jacob Garchik
Arrangements
Laurie Anderson, Kronos Quartet, and Jacob Garchik

Electronic and Software Design
Konrad Kaczmarek
Audio Rig Design
Shane Koss
Lighting Design
Brian H Scott

Audio Engineer
Brian Mohr
Production Director and Lighting Supervisor
Laurence Neff

Office of Arts & Cultural Programming
Executive Director
Jedediah Wheeler
Executive Producer
Jill Dombrowski
Associate Producer
Jessica Wasilewski
Production/Facility Manager
Ryan Graves
Cultural Engagement Director
Carrie Urbanic
Finance Manager
Marilynn Fogarty
Media and Marketing Specialist
Thomas P. Miller
Director of Audience Services
Robert Hermida
Technical Director
Scott Madsen
Audio Engineer
Andrew Luiling
Cultural Engagement Associate
Sarah Bishop-Stone
Lighting Supervisor
Ryan Osborn
Box Office Manager
Matthew S. Fox
House Manager
Maureen Grimaldi

Graphics
Patrick Flood/pfloodesign.com
Press
Ellen Jacobs Associates
Program Editor
Susan R. Case
Program Design
Jamie L. Grubman
Student Assassin
Ian Callahan
Production Run Crew
Amanda Janks
(Wardrobe Supervisor)

Montclair State’s Office of Arts & Cultural Programming (ACP) presents and produces leading artists of the world in dance, music, theater, and opera. Under its signature series Peak Performances, ACP has produced works such as:

- The Life of Cleopatra Hunter by Robert Wilson
- Barns Johnson Reagon, Tosha Reagon, and Jacqueline Woodson; Dog Days by David T. Little and Royce Vavrek
- Harry Partch’s Oedipus, and Ridge Theatre’s The Difficulty of Crossing a Field by David Lang

In addition, ACP has commissioned works by:
- Bill T. Jones, Kronos Quartet
- Jan Fabre
- Liz Leerman
- Wayne McGregor
- Laurie Anderson
- Romeo Castellucci
- Richard Alston
- Susan Marshall
- Fred Hersch
- David Gordon

ACP has produced works such as:

- Richard Alston, Susan Marshall, Fred Hersch, and David Gordon
- Reagon, Toshi Reagon, and Jacqueline Woodson; Dog Days by David T. Little and Royce Vavrek
- Harry Partch’s Oedipus, and Ridge Theatre’s The Difficulty of Crossing a Field by David Lang

This tour of Kronos Quartet is made possible by a grant from Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional project support was provided to the Kronos Performing Arts Association by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State.

Duration: 1 hour 10 minutes, no intermission.

In consideration of both audience and performers, please turn off all electronic devices. The taking of photographs or videos and the use of recording equipment are not permitted. No food or drink is permitted inside the theater.

For your convenience, parking vouchers are available for purchase in the theater lobby. To contact Parking Services, call 973-655-7580 or parking@mail.montclair.edu.

This program is printed on recycled paper. Please recycle.

To view our complete season and for more information, visit www.peakperfs.org.