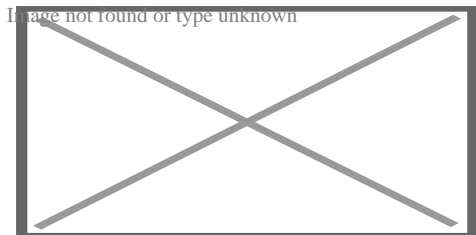




# Other Minds Festival: OM 1: Composer's Forum, Nov. 5, 1993



## Identifier

OMF.1993.11.05.1.c2

## Object Type

Digital Audio

## Musical Selections

eL/Aficionado, an opera [excerpt from the prologue] (1987) (4:01) / Robert Ashley -- [free improvisation, excerpt] (ca. 1993) (2:36) -- Variations, for string quartet and chorus [excerpt, text by Ludwig Wittgenstein] (1987) (3:06) / Barbara Monk Feldman -- Father Death Blues [excerpt from the musical theater work "Hydrogen Jukebox," text by Allen Ginsberg] (1990) (4:43) / Philip Glass -- The Color of Reality, for suona, tenor saxophone, flute, double bass, percussion, guzheng, and piano [excerpt from "Lily and Vincent Chin" movement] (1993) (1:35) / Jon Jang -- Study No. 3a, for player piano (3:17) / Conlon Nancarrow -- Atlas: Explorers Junctions, an opera [excerpt] (1991) (2:41) / Meredith Monk -- Rock-O-Rama, for solo kora (ca. 1993) (6:16) / Foday Musa Suso -- [demonstration of the Ringo, a percussion ensemble sound sculpture] (2:41) / Trimpin -- The Vermeer Room, for instrumental ensemble [excerpt] (1989) (2:12) / Julia Wolfe -- Monkey [excerpt] (ca. 1992) (1:53) / Jai Uttal

## Description

The first Other Minds Festival of New Music, held in 1993 at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco, included this Composer's Forum, in which almost all the composers featured in the Festival participated. Moderated by Charles Amirkhonian, the director of Other Minds, this panel discussion included Robert Ashley, Trimpin, Meredith Monk, Philip Glass, Julia Wolfe, Tom Buckner, Jon Jang, Jai Uttal, Barbara Monk Feldman, and Foday Musa Suso. Conlon Nancarrow was ill and could not attend.

Robert Ashley introduces an as of then unreleased recording of the prologue of his opera eL/Aficionado, which takes as its text a personal ad, giving it perhaps greater distribution than originally imagined by the anonymous

seeker of romance. Tom Buckner then talks about the reasons behind his recent move to New York City after a productive career as both vocalist, record producer, and concert producer in the Bay Area, before introducing an excerpt from a free improvisation he created with Tom Hamilton, Ratzon Harris, and Bruce Arnold. Barbara Monk Feldman discusses her fascination with instrumental color and time and how the visual arts influences her compositions, before playing an excerpt from her “Variations” for string quartet and chorus. Philip Glass then talks about his recent collaboration with Beat poet Allen Ginsberg, “Hydrogen Jukebox,” as well as his decision to be the publisher of all his own music, which he states is currently the only way a composer can make a good living. Jon Jang then plays an excerpt from “The Color of Reality” a work in five movements each commemorating an Asian immigrant story in America and which blend the sounds of traditional Chinese melodies and American jazz. Also heard is one of Conlon Nancarrow’s early boogie-woogie works for player piano the “Study No. 3a.”

The panel continues with Meredith Monk discussing her experience at the pre-concert gathering of all the featured composers at the Djerassi Resident Artists Program in Woodside, CA., before introducing an excerpt from her opera “Atlas” that highlights some of the hocketing techniques of her vocal ensemble. Foday Musa Suso talks about his Gambian heritage and how his direct relative invented the kora the 21 string instrument on which he displays his proficiency with recording of a recent composition. Trimpin then demonstrates Ringo a percussion sound sculpture which incorporates marimba and vibraphone bars, furniture legs and other objects that are struck by a computer controlled mallet. Julia Wolfe then presents an excerpt of her work for 16 instruments, “The Vermeer Room,” recorded live by the the Nouvel Ensemble moderne at one of Wolfe’s famous Bang On A Can concerts. The event ends with multi-instrumentalist and composer Jai Uttal talking about his study with the the Bauls, the wandering street musicians of Bengal.

#### People

Other Minds Festival (features)  
Koor Nieuwe Muziek (features)  
Philip Glass Ensemble (features)  
Nouvel Ensemble moderne (features)  
Pagan love orchestra (features)  
Amirkhanian, Charles (features)  
Ashley, Robert, 1930- (features)  
Buckner, Thomas, 1941- (features)  
Feldman, Barbara Monk, 1953- (features)  
Wittgenstein, Ludwig, 1889-1951 (features)  
Glass, Philip (features)  
Ginsberg, Allen, 1926-1997 (features)  
Jang, Jon (features)  
Nancarrow, Conlon, 1912-1997 (features)  
Monk, Meredith (features)  
Suso, Foday Musa (features)  
Trimpin, 1951- (features)  
Wolfe, Julia (features)  
Uttal, Jai (features)  
Hamilton, Tom, 1946- (features)  
Harris, Ratzon (features)  
Arnold, Bruce (Guitarist) (features)  
Futral, Elizabeth (features)  
Eaton, Michèle (features)  
Hart, Mary Ann (features)  
Fracker, Richard (features)

Purnhagen, Gregory (features)  
Watson, Nathaniel (features)  
Goldray, Martin (features)  
Liu, Qichao (features)  
Murray, David, 1955- (features)  
Newton, James (features)  
Chambers, Jeff (Double bassist) (features)  
Brown, Anthony L. (features)  
Zhang, Yan (Musician) (features)  
Hanchard, Dana (features)  
Easter, Allison (features)  
Bogdan, Thomas (features)  
Chen, Shizheng (features)  
Kalm, Stephen (features)  
Gonzalez, Ching (features)  
Vaillancourt, Lorraine, 1943- (features)

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