

Williams College Department of Music



MIDWEEKMUSIC

Terry Riley (b. 1935)

In C

Terry Riley's *In C* is an aleatoric ensemble piece, comprising 53 composed melodic patterns, to be played in sequence by an ensemble of performers of any size, playing on any combination of instruments, including vocalists using any vowel or consonant sounds. Although the tempo is determined, there is no fixed meter, and performers may decide for themselves how many times to repeat each pattern before moving on to the next. As a result, the patterns will overlap with one another in unpredictable ways, falling in and out of phase with one another. Consequently, every performance of *In C* is a unique, unreproducible event.

In his instructions for performance, Riley writes:

“One of the joys of *In C* is the interaction of the players in polyrhythmic combinations that spontaneously arise between patterns. Some quite fantastic shapes will arise and disintegrate as the group moves through the piece when it is properly played.”

The work, which received its premier on November 4th, 1964, at San Francisco's Tape Music Center, was a reaction to the rigidly controlled, serial-compositional style that dominated academic musical circles at the time, sparking an upsurge in minimalist and indeterminate musical experimentation in the years and decades that followed. Part of the work's success arose from the freedom it gave the players—classical musicians that had been used to having completely determined roles in a work—to improvise, to make decisions in response to the ensemble. Riley specifically encourages the musicians to pause every now and then to listen to the ensemble, to become aware of the piece as it emerges, and to react accordingly as they rejoin to become a part of the evolving texture.

Wednesday, October 1, 2014
12:15 p.m.

Chapin Hall
Williamstown, Massachusetts

Please turn off cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.

About *MIDWEEKMUSIC*

This popular lunchtime series takes place at 12:15pm on most Wednesdays. Though we do not actually serve lunch, we do encourage everyone to bring along something to eat while they enjoy the music. *MIDWEEKMUSIC* gives Williams music students and faculty a flexible venue that encourages performers of all experience levels to share what they are learning in lessons or class. Pieces that might not otherwise fit into other contexts also get a hearing, and you shouldn't be surprised if there is an occasional impromptu discussion. This forum is more informal than many of our concerts. Since you are too on your lunch break, we understand that you may not be able to stay for the entire performance. We do ask that you only enter or exit during applause. *Bon appétit!*

Upcoming Concerts

Wed Oct 1	8:00pm	Faculty Recital: Ronald Feldman, cello NEW DATE!	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Thu Oct 2	8:00pm	Helen Sung, jazz piano - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Mon Oct 6	4:15pm	Master Class with Pablo Aslan	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Mon Oct 6	8:00pm	Pablo Aslan Quintet – Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri Oct 10	8:00pm	Williams Chamber Players	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Wed Oct 15	4:15pm	Class of 1960 Lecture with Prof. Wayne Marshall	Bernhard, room 30
Fri Oct 17	7:15pm	Berkshire Symphony pre-concert talk	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri Oct 17	8:00pm	Berkshire Symphony	Chapin Hall
Sat Oct 18	1:00pm	Composition Reading with Ensemble Dal Niente	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Sat Oct 18	8:00pm	Ensemble Dal Niente - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Tue Oct 21	8:00pm	Ensemble East - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Wed Oct 22	12:15pm	MIDWEEKMUSIC	Chapin Hall, stage
Fri Oct 24	8:00pm	Zambezi Marimba Band - Family Days Concert	Chapin Hall
Sat Oct 25	8:00pm	Faculty Recital with Erin Nafziger, soprano	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Wed Oct 29	12:15pm	MIDWEEKMUSIC	Chapin Hall, stage
Thu Oct 30	8:00pm	Jeffrey Swann, piano - Visiting Artist Series	Chapin Hall
Fri Oct 31	4:15pm	Piano Master Class with Jeffrey Swann	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Wed Nov 5	12:15pm	MIDWEEKMUSIC in the Chapel	Thompson Memorial Chapel
Wed Nov 5	8:00pm	Dover Quartet - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Thu Nov 6	2:30pm	Composition Reading with Dover Quartet	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri Nov 7	8:00pm	Williams Concert Choir & Williams Chamber Choir	Thompson Memorial Chapel
Wed Nov 12	12:15pm	MIDWEEKMUSIC	Chapin Hall, stage
Fri Nov 14	8:00pm	Williams Jazz Ensemble	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Sat Nov 15	8:00pm	Williams Percussion Ensemble	Chapin Hall
Wed Nov 19	8:00pm	Les Délices: Myths & Allegories - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Thu Nov 20	4:15pm	Baroque Instrumental Performance Practice Workshop	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Thu Nov 20	4:15pm	Baroque Vocal Performance Master Class	Chapin Hall
Thu Nov 20	7:30pm	Baroque Dance Class with Les Delices	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri Nov 21	7:15pm	Berkshire Symphony pre-concert talk	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri Nov 21	8:00pm	Berkshire Symphony	Chapin Hall
Fri Nov 21	8:00pm	The Fall All Dance Dept Concert & Kusika/Zambezi	'62 Center
Sat Nov 22	7:00pm	Williams Gospel Choir	Chapin Hall
Sat Nov 22	8:00pm	The Fall All Dance Dept Concert & Kusika/Zambezi	'62 Center
Sun Nov 23	3:00pm	String Chamber Music Studio Recital	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall

Calendar: music.williams.edu/calendar

Newsletter signup: <http://www.patronmail.com/pmailweb/PatronSetup?oid=1968>

Facebook fan page: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Williams-College-Department-of-Music/25432101818>

All events are free and open to the public. (Possible exception: events in '62 Center Call '62 Box Office: 413-597-2425)