

BROOKFIELD
PLACE

OCTOBER 15 & 16
7:30PM
WINTER GARDEN

New Sounds Live

Curated by WNYC's
John Schaefer

Ensemble Signal
performs the music of
Steve Reich



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How I Get It Done

Thursday, October 24 | 6:30pm

Brookfield Place | Winter Garden

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NEW YORK

PRESENTED BY

**BROOKFIELD
PLACE**

ARTS BROOKFIELD PRESENTS

NEW SOUNDS LIVE

Ensemble Signal Performs the Music of Steve Reich

Curated by WNYC's John Schaefer

October 15 & 16, 2019 | 7:30pm

Winter Garden at Brookfield Place

A NOTE FROM ENSEMBLE SIGNAL

"For countless numbers of people during the past 45 years or so, Steve Reich has been a very important composer, musical thinker, and source of inspiration. He has certainly touched my life in a profound way, as well as the lives of the musicians of Ensemble Signal. I have found that one can have many sources of inspiration in one's life, many different people and mentors, different pieces of music, but it's another thing when a single person and his music continually provide inspiration, fascination, and joy. Like all great music, you can return to Reich's greatest pieces time and time again, always making new discoveries and having new perceptions. The musicians of Ensemble Signal and I are very fortunate and thankful to have had—and to continue to have—many wonderful musical experiences with Steve Reich and his music. Most importantly, we are always thrilled to be able to share these experiences with our audiences."

- Brad Lubman, Co-Artistic Director & Music Director, Ensemble Signal

OCTOBER 15

Pre-Concert conversation between John Schaefer
and Steve Reich

Music for 18 Musicians (1974-76)

Ensemble Signal

Brad Lubman, Music Director
Paul Coleman, Sound Director
Courtney Orlando, Violin
Lauren Radnofsky, Cello
Ken Thomson, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet
Adrián Sandí, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet
David Friend, Piano 1
Oliver Hagen, Piano 2
Ning Yu, Piano 3
Lisa Moore, Piano 4
Matt Evans, Vibraphone, Piano
Carson Moody, Marimba 1
Bill Solomon, Marimba 2
Amy Garapic, Marimba 3
Brad Lubman, Marimba
Clara Warnaar, Xylophone 1
Nick Tolle, Xylophone 2, Marimba
Adam Maalouf, Maracas
Sarah Brailey, Voice 1
Martha Cluver, Voice 2
Mellissa Hughes, Voice 3
Kirsten Sollek, Voice 4

* FOR NOTES BY STEVE REICH ON TONIGHT'S
PROGRAM, PLEASE VISIT:

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OCTOBER 16

My Name Is (1967)
Piano Phase (1967)
Four Organs (1970)
New York Counterpoint (1985)

Ensemble Signal

Paul Coleman, Sound Design for *My Name Is* & Sound Director
Lauren Radnofsky, Audience Recording, *My Name Is*
Oliver Hagen & David Friend, Pianos
Amy Garapic, Organ 1
Carson Moody, Organ 2
Matt Evans, Organ 3
David Friend, Organ 4
Adam Maalouf, Maracas
Ken Thomson, Live Clarinet and prerecorded Clarinets

* FOR NOTES BY STEVE REICH ON TONIGHT'S
PROGRAM, PLEASE VISIT:

[BFPLNY.com/event/new-sounds-live](https://bfplny.com/event/new-sounds-live)

ENSEMBLE SIGNAL CREDITS

Lauren Radnofsky, Co-Artistic Director & Executive Director
Brad Lubman, Co-Artistic Director & Music Director
Erin Lensing, Project Management
Peter Kalal, Project Management

A NOTE FROM JOHN SCHAEFER

I've loved Steve Reich's 1976 masterpiece *Music For 18 Musicians* since the first recording of it came out in the late 70s. It is a BIG deal – both in terms of how influential it's been over the past 40+ years and just in terms of its sheer size and the daunting nature of playing it live. First of all, the choreography of moving 18 bodies around on a stage is frightening, which is why it's usually performed not with 18 but with 20 or so musicians. Even with that, though, presenting this piece in a live setting is a huge logistical challenge. We've been doing these New Sounds Live events at Brookfield Place for over 20 years, and only now have the pieces fallen in place to finally make it happen here. Even better, we've been able to get Ensemble Signal to play a second evening of Reich's works, spanning almost twenty years and including his early landmark piece *Four Organs*.

As a young composer, Steve Reich formed his own band, and when they played his music, he was onstage, mixing it up with the rest of the group. This may not sound all that remarkable, but for a "classical composer" (and imagine those words with capital C's please) in the 1970s, it was startling. After all, that's what pop musicians did. But that band, Steve Reich and Musicians, became a well-oiled machine, capable of playing the tricky musical figures that wove in and out of phase with each other. In fact, for a while, it seemed like they were the only ones who could play this music well. But as his influence spread, so did the performance practices that grew up around it. (I remember some years ago, Steve told a story about watching a couple of German percussionists playing a single marimba, one on either side of the instrument. When he remarked on it, they said, "we saw your group doing that and it looked like fun.") Now, Steve Reich and Musicians have ceded the stage to younger ensembles, and when it comes to Reich's *Music For 18 Musicians*, Steve himself has said that Brad Lubman and Ensemble Signal are the keepers of the flame. I am thrilled, and if I'm being honest, relieved that they are here – and that you're here to see it.

I have to thank Brad Lubman, Lauren Radnofsky, and Ensemble Signal, plus the unflappable crew here at Brookfield Place, for pulling this off.

- John Schaefer, WNYC

ABOUT STEVE REICH

Steve Reich has been called "America's greatest living composer" (*Village Voice*), "the most original musical thinker of our time" (*The New Yorker*), and "among the great composers of the century" (*The New York Times*). His music has influenced composers and mainstream musicians all over the world. *Music for 18 Musicians* and *Different Trains* have earned him two Grammy Awards, and in 2009, his *Double Sextet* won the Pulitzer Prize. Reich's documentary video opera works—*The Cave* and *Three Tales*, done in collaboration with video artist Beryl Korot—have been performed on four continents. His recent work *Quartet*, for percussionist Colin Currie, sold out two consecutive concerts at Queen Elizabeth Hall in London shortly after tens of thousands at the Glastonbury Festival heard Jonny Greenwood (of Radiohead) perform *Electric Counterpoint* followed by the London Sinfonietta performing his *Music for 18 Musicians*.

In 2012, Reich was awarded the Gold Medal in Music by the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He has additionally received the Praemium Imperiale in Tokyo, the Polar Music Prize in Stockholm, the BBVA Award in Madrid, and recently the Golden Lion at the Venice Biennale. He has been named Commandeur de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, and has been awarded honorary doctorates by the Royal College of Music in London, the Juilliard School, the Liszt Academy in Budapest, and the New England Conservatory of Music, among others. "There's just a handful of living composers who can legitimately claim to have altered the direction of musical history and Steve Reich is one of them," states *The Guardian*.

ABOUT ENSEMBLE SIGNAL

Ensemble Signal, described by *The New York Times* as "one of the most vital groups of its kind" and "a new-music ensemble that by this point practically guarantees quality performances," is a New York-based ensemble dedicated to offering the broadest possible audience access to a diverse range of contemporary works through performance, commissioning, recording, and education. Signal was founded by Co-Artistic/Executive Director Lauren Radnofsky and Co-Artistic Director/Conductor Brad Lubman.

Since its debut in 2008, Signal has performed over 300 concerts, given New York, world, or U.S. premieres of over 20 works, and co-produced 10 recordings. Signal has appeared at Lincoln Center Festival, Walt Disney Concert Hall, BIG EARS, Cal Performances, Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall, Works & Process at the Guggenheim, NPR's Tiny Desk, The Bang on a Can Marathon, Washington Performing Arts and the Library of Congress, and has worked closely with composers including Steve Reich,

Helmut Lachenmann, Michael Gordon, David Lang, Julia Wolfe, Oliver Knussen, Luca Francesconi, Hans Abrahamsen and Hilda Paredes. Their educational activities include community outreach programs in diverse settings as well as workshops with emerging composers.

Steve Reich projects have been a special focus for Ensemble Signal over the past decade. Signal made its 2008 debut in New York City on The Bang on a Can Marathon in the Winter Garden at Brookfield Place, performing Reich's *Daniel Variations* at the stroke of midnight, with an introduction by Steve Reich. Since then, Signal has added to its repertoire over 20 works by Reich and has given over 150 performances of Reich's work. Throughout 2017-18, they performed the U.S. premieres of Reich's *Runner* at venues across the U.S. In the spring of 2019 Signal performed the world premiere of Reich's *Reich/Richter* for large ensemble, with artwork and film by Gerhard Richter and Corinna Belz for the inaugural season of New York's new multi-arts venue, The Shed. Their recording of Reich's *Music for 18 Musicians* on harmonia mundi received widespread critical acclaim including a Diapason d'or and appeared on the Billboard Classical Crossover Charts.

ABOUT BRAD LUBMAN

Brad Lubman, conductor/composer is founding Co-Artistic and Music Director of Ensemble Signal. Lubman is one of the foremost conductors of modern music and a leading figure in the field for over two decades. A frequent guest conductor of the world's most distinguished orchestras and new music ensembles, he has gained widespread recognition for his versatility, commanding technique, and insightful interpretations. His flexibility in a variety of settings has led him to conduct a broad range of repertoire from classical to contemporary works, and to direct projects including orchestra, opera, multimedia, and mixed ensemble. Lubman has led major orchestras including the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Danish National Symphony, NDR Symphony Orchestra Hamburg, DSO Berlin, SWR Sinfonieorchester, WDR Symphony Cologne, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Finnish Radio Symphony, and the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra. In addition, he has worked with some of the most important ensembles for contemporary music, including London Sinfonietta, Ensemble Modern, Klangforum Wien, musikFabrik and Steve Reich and Musicians. Lubman is the 2019 recipient of the Ditson Conductor's Award from Columbia University, honoring conductors for distinguished contributions to American music. His own compositions include *Tangents*, commissioned by the LA Philharmonic; in Spring 2020, Rudolf Buchbinder will premiere a new work for solo piano by Lubman at the Vienna Musikverein as part of a project including 11

contemporary composers each writing their own variations on Diabelli's theme – which Buchbinder will also record for Deutsche Gramophon and perform live on tour in 2020. Brad Lubman is on faculty at the Eastman School of Music and the Bang on a Can Summer Institute.

ABOUT PAUL COLEMAN

Equally at home in a variety of settings, Paul Coleman enjoys a multi-faceted career as a composer, sound engineer, and teacher of composition, electronic music, and theory. As the Sound Director for the New York-based Ensemble Signal, Paul has appeared running front of house sound for a wide variety of Signal's large-scale productions at venues including The Shed, Carnegie Hall, The Library of Congress, Alice Tully Hall, Walt Disney Concert Hall, Big Ears, Cal Performances, Lincoln Center's Appel Room, Ojai Music Festival, Bang on a Can Marathon, and the Guggenheim Museum (NY). Coleman has worked extensively on sound design and live sound for the music of Steve Reich with Ensemble Signal at venues across the U.S.; he has also done so internationally on Reich programs conducted by Brad Lubman, having appeared as guest engineer with The Singapore Symphony, as well as an upcoming appearance with The Hong Kong Philharmonic. Paul is currently on faculty at the State University of New York at Fredonia where he is Visiting Assistant Professor of Composition, Electronic Music, and Music Theory. He is also on faculty at the Eastman School of Music, teaching courses in composition and theory in the Community Music School.

ABOUT KEN THOMSON

Ken Thomson, composer, clarinetist, and saxophonist is a staple of New York City's contemporary music and jazz communities; he is widely regarded for his ability to blend a rich variety of influences and styles into his own musical language while maintaining a voice unmistakably his own. He has released three recordings combining the sounds of jazz and contemporary music to great acclaim: *Sextet* (2018) and *Slow/Fast* (2010, 2014). His two full-length CDs of his chamber compositions are with JACK Quartet (*Thaw*, 2013) and with cellist Ashley Bathgate and pianist Karl Larson (*Restless*, 2016). Thomson plays clarinet for the Bang on a Can All-Stars, is the musical director for the Asphalt Orchestra, and is on faculty at the Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival. He has performed and recorded with Ensemble Signal, Alarm Will Sound, International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), Novus NY and more. As a composer, he has been commissioned by the American Composers Orchestra, Bang on a Can, the True/False Film Festival, Doug Perkins, Mariel Roberts, and others. He is a Selmer Paris, Conn-Selmer and D'Addario Woodwinds Artist.

ABOUT DAVID FRIEND

David Friend is a core artist of Ensemble Signal and has been described as "[one] of the finest, busiest pianists active in New York's contemporary-classical scene" (*The New York Times*). He has performed with Signal since its early days in 2010. With Signal, he has performed the work of Steve Reich extensively, at venues including Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Walt Disney Concert Hall, and the Library of Congress, with performances including the world premiere of *Reich/Richter* and the U.S. Premiere of *Runner*. He appears on two Signal Reich recordings on harmonia mundi, performing Reich's *Music for 18 Musicians*, *Double Sextet* and *Radio Rewrite*. Friend has performed across the United States and abroad for festivals including Lincoln Center Festival, Prague Spring, and the Beijing Modern Music Festival, and he has recorded albums for the New Amsterdam, Cedille, Albany, Naxos, and Dacapo labels. He was featured on Third Coast Percussion's album of music by Steve Reich, which won the Grammy award for best chamber music performance in 2017. In addition to his work with Ensemble Signal, he performs frequently with a variety of other contemporary music groups such as the Bang on a Can All-Stars, Alarm Will Sound, and the American Composers Orchestra, and he is a founding member of TRANSIT New Music, Hotel Elefant, Grand Band Piano Sextet, and Bent Duo.

ABOUT OLIVER HAGEN

Grammy-winning pianist and conductor Oliver Hagen is currently on faculty at Juilliard Pre-College, Special Music School, and School for Strings in New York City. Hagen has performed with Ensemble Signal since its debut in 2008. Since then, he has appeared as a pianist in Signal performances at venues such as Carnegie's Zankel Hall, The Shed, Lincoln Center Festival, Library of Congress, Big Ears, and Walt Disney Concert Hall. He has performed over 140 Reich concerts with Signal including the world premiere of *Reich/Richter* and the U.S. Premiere of *Runner*. He has also conducted Signal in Isaac Mizrahi's *Peter & The Wolf* at The Guggenheim Museum (NY). Between 2010 and 2012, Hagen was the assistant conductor of the Ensemble Intercontemporain in Paris. While there, he worked with Pierre Boulez, Susanna Mälkki, and Matthias Pintscher, among others. Having had a strong association with the Lucerne Festival Academy, Hagen performed one of the solo piano parts in the 2009 performance of Pierre Boulez's at the KKL Lucerne, with Pierre Boulez conducting. He completed his Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with Brad Lubman for many years.

ABOUT ARTS BROOKFIELD

Arts Brookfield presents exciting, world-class cultural experiences to hundreds of thousands of people for free each year in both indoor and outdoor public spaces at Brookfield's premier office properties in New York, Los Angeles, Denver, Houston, Washington, D.C., London, Toronto, Perth, and Sydney. From concerts, theater and dance to film screenings and art exhibitions, Arts Brookfield brings public spaces to life through art. Visit ArtsBrookfield.com for a complete schedule of events.

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ABOUT BROOKFIELD PLACE

Brookfield Place (BFPL) New York is one of Brookfield's most iconic Place Making destinations that brings together modern office space, cultural experiences, curated dining and world-class shopping. One of New York City's most dynamic districts, Brookfield Place is a step away from the everyday and in step with the latest in global and local culture. The 14-acre, 5-building complex on the Hudson River in Lower Manhattan is home to some of the world's most innovative companies and one of New York's most celebrated experiential, culinary and shopping destinations. Brookfield animates its grand indoor and outdoor public spaces year-round through a mix of culture and events, bringing together a diverse array of New Yorkers and visitors. From waterfront cafes along the North Cove Marina to palm trees inside the famed Winter Garden, art installations to live music, Brookfield Place New York is a setting for discovery and inspiration, savoring and indulging, relaxing and socializing.

SATURDAY MORNING SHOW

**Saturdays
September 21 – December 14
10am – 12pm**

Bring the family down to Hudson Eats for weekly performances by musicians, magicians, storytellers, and more!



HALLOWEEN BASH

October 26, 12 – 3pm

Celebrate Halloween with an afternoon full of FANGtastic activities. SPOOKtacular costumes recommended!



CANSTRUCTION

November 7 – 21, 10am – 8pm

Playing with your food is encouraged in this unique design competition featuring sculptures made entirely from cans of food! All food is donated to City Harvest for those in need.

