



**Park Avenue Armory Adds Two Performances
for Karlheinz Stockhausen's
electronic masterpiece *OKTOPHONIE*,
presented in a lunar environment created by
Rirkrit Tiravanija**

**Due to Overwhelming Demand
Additional Performances Added, March 23 & 25**

New York, NY—February 28, 2013—Due to overwhelming initial demand stemming from the 2013 artistic season announcement, Park Avenue Armory announced today the addition of two performances of the New York premiere of Karlheinz Stockhausen's *OKTOPHONIE*. Part of Stockhausen's magnum opus "Licht" (or "Light") *OKTOPHONIE* is a trailblazing electronic music experience where the audience is surrounded by eight groups of loudspeakers, enveloping them in a sonic environment.

OKTOPHONIE, which will be performed by one of his original collaborators Kathinka Pasveer, exemplifies Stockhausen's work as a compositional pioneer who grappled with spatial music as he bent the rules and redefined the listening experience. Staging the work as the composer originally intended—in outer space—Rirkrit Tiravanija has been commissioned by the Armory to create a ritualized lunar experience, a floating seating installation within the Armory's soaring drill hall that heightens the listeners' octophonic experience and transports them to another realm. The audience will don white cloaks for the journey, carried along by the all-encompassing score, itself a meditation on the transformation from plunging darkness into blinding light.

The Armory's 2013 season will also include *WS*, a monumental installation by Paul McCarthy; *The Machine*, a play by one of Britain's fastest rising young playwrights, Matt Charman, that chronicles Garry Kasparov's 1997 chess game against IBM's Deep Blue super-computer, a contest that set man against machine; *Massive Attack V Adam Curtis*, a new kind of imaginative experience conceived by Adam Curtis and Robert Del Naja mixing music, film, politics, and moments of illusion, performed by Massive Attack and special guests; and Robert Wilson's powerful new staging of *The Life and Death of Marina Abramović*.

More information on Park Avenue Armory's 2013 artistic season may be found at www.armoryonpark.org.

Citi and Bloomberg are the Armory's 2013 season sponsors.

This production is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

OKTOPHONIE

By Karlheinz Stockhausen

Environment designed by Rirkrit Tiravanija

New York Premiere

Performance Schedule

Wednesday, March 20 at 8pm

Friday, March 22 at 8pm

Saturday, March 23 at 4pm* and 8pm

Sunday, March 24 at 8pm

Monday, March 25 at 8pm*

Tuesday, March 26 at 8pm

Wednesday, March 27 at 8pm

*Denotes newly added performance

Artist Talk

Saturday, March 23 at 6pm

Park Avenue Armory Artistic Director Alex Poots moderates a discussion with Kathinka Pasveer and Suzanne Stephens of the Stockhausen Foundation for Music, longtime collaborators of the composer.

Tickets

Tickets are \$40 / \$15 for the Artist Talk and are available at www.armoryonpark.org / (212) 933-5812 (M-F, 10am-6pm)

About Park Avenue Armory:

Part palace, part industrial shed, Park Avenue Armory fills a critical void in the cultural ecology of New York by enabling artists to create—and audiences to experience—unconventional work that cannot be mounted in traditional performance halls and museums. With its soaring 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall—reminiscent of 19th-century European train stations—and array of exuberant period rooms, the Armory offers a new platform for creativity across all art forms.

Since its first production in September 2007—Aaron Young's *Greeting Card*, a 9,216-square-foot "action" painting created by the burned-out tire marks of ten choreographed motorcycles—the Armory has organized a series of immersive performances, installations, and works of art that have drawn critical and popular attention working independently or with other cultural institutions. Among the highlights of its first five years are: Bernd Zimmermann's harrowing *Die Soldaten*, in which the audience moved "through the music"; the unprecedented six-week residency of the Royal Shakespeare Company, in their own theater rebuilt in the drill hall; a massive digital sound and video environment by Ryoji Ikeda; a sprawling, gauzy, multisensory labyrinth created by Ernesto Neto; the final performances of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company across three separate stages; and the New York Philharmonic performing Karlheinz Stockhausen's sonic masterpiece *Gruppen* with three orchestras surrounding the audience. The ongoing *Under Construction* series features intimate performances in the Armory's period rooms with artists presenting works in progress. The most recent project was *the event of a thread*, a site-specific installation by Ann Hamilton.

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