



## PARK AVENUE ARMORY ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF ITS 2014 SEASON

### Season to Feature an Unprecedented Range of Groundbreaking Commissions, Premieres, and Presentations Including:

- **Kenneth Branagh** and **Alex Kingston** making their New York stage debuts in *Macbeth*, directed by Branagh and **Rob Ashford**;
- The world premiere of the Armory's sixth major visual art commission, a collaboration between artist **Douglas Gordon** and pianist **Hélène Grimaud** that transcends art forms and transforms the Armory's Wade Thompson Drill Hall with a spectacular water and music installation;
- *The xx*, the indie British pop band, in a series of intimate concert experiences that explore the boundaries of, and challenge the relationship between, artist, audience, and environment;
- *The Passenger*, **Mieczyslaw Weinberg's** epic opera recounting the effects of the Holocaust, directed by **David Pountney** and co-presented with Lincoln Center Festival;
- Bach's choral masterpiece, *St. Matthew Passion*, co-presented with Lincoln Center's White Light Festival, with **Simon Rattle** and the **Berliner Philharmoniker**, directed by **Peter Sellars**;
- The second season of the Armory's intimate recital series in the newly reopened Board of Officers Room, featuring pianist **Igor Levit**, the **FLUX Quartet**, cellist **István Várdai**, and soprano **Anna Lucia Richter**;
- **Under Construction**, also in the period rooms, the ongoing series of intimate evenings with the Armory's artists-in-residence performing works in progress.

**New York, NY** - December 12, 2013 - Park Avenue Armory announced today its 2014 season, an unprecedented mix of presentations and commissions ranging from Kenneth Branagh's highly-anticipated New York stage debut in an immersive and visceral staging of *Macbeth*, to the London-based trio *The xx* in a performance that alters the interaction and relationship of the audience with the band; to a visual art commission by artist Douglas Gordon and classical pianist Hélène Grimaud that will transform the drill hall into a water-filled environment; to Peter Sellars's staging of *St. Matthew Passion* which fuses the audience, the orchestra, and soloists into one dramatic, unified assembly.

Known for programs that break new ground for artists and audiences alike, Park Avenue Armory is dedicated to giving artists the freedom to push the envelope with their work and to providing exceptional, thought-provoking, and immersive experiences for audiences. Park Avenue Armory's massive Wade

Thompson Drill Hall and dynamically revitalized historic period rooms catalyze new kinds of work that extend far beyond what can be achieved in traditional theaters, concert halls, and museum galleries.

“With every presentation, each of our artists transforms the drill hall and period rooms into totally new worlds, providing audiences with a transporting experience that defies expectations,” stated **Rebecca Robertson**, president and executive producer of Park Avenue Armory. “Our 2014 season pushes the boundaries of what our spaces can achieve—and how connected our audiences and artists can become—further than ever before.”

“We remain passionately committed to supporting our artists in developing their art forms in the extraordinary spaces of the Armory,” commented Artistic Director Alex Poots. “The arts do so much more than entertain. They can inspire us, offer a place for reflection, and generate new ideas.”

The Armory’s 2014 season begins in March and continues through the beginning of January 2015. The season will also include the continuation of the *Under Construction* series, in which Armory artists-in-residence present works in progress. Park Avenue Armory artists-in-residence, who are provided with dedicated space in the building’s historic period rooms within which they can research, create, and develop new works across a diverse array of disciplines, will be announced in the coming months.

Citi is the Armory’s 2014 season sponsor.

## PARK AVENUE ARMORY 2014 SEASON

### **The xx**

March 19 - 29, 2014

Romy Madley Croft, guitar and vocals  
Oliver Sim, bass and vocals  
Jamie Smith, drums and synthesizers  
Originally Commissioned by Manchester International Festival

Wednesday, March 19 at 8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m. (Previews)

Thursday, March 20 at 8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m. (Opening)

Friday, March 21 at 8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 22 at 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., & 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 23 at 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., & 10:00 p.m.

Monday, March 24 at 8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 25 at 8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 26 at 8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 27 at 8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Friday, March 28 at 8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 29 at 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., & 10:00 p.m.

British Indie band *The xx* plays a series of intimate performances, inviting the 45-member audience into a unique interaction with the band and their music and challenging the relationship between artist, audience, and environment.

## **About The xx**

The xx exist in a time and space of their own making. In 2009 the south London trio's debut album *xx*—quietly made at night over the course of two years—bled steadily into the public consciousness to become shorthand for newly refined ideas of teenage desire and anxiety. Articulated with maturity beyond their years, its hallmarks were restraint and ambiguity. In the age of the over-share, *xx* was pop with its privacy settings on max. Three years later, Romy Madley Croft, Oliver Sim, and Jamie Smith released a new album, *Coexist*, with a new perspective. The trio has won several awards, including the UK's prestigious Mercury Music Prize, and has earned fans and the admiration of critics on tours of America, Japan, Australia, and mainland Europe. Their music has been used extensively on television and in media such as *24/7*, *Person of Interest*, and NBC's coverage of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. The band has cited several artists as influences, including Jimi Hendrix, The Slits, Siouxsie and the Banshees, Joy Division, Yazoo, Eurythmics, New Order, The Cure, Cocorosie, Electrelane, Cocteau Twins, Aaliyah, and The Kills.

*The Armory thanks Burberry for their support in this production of The xx.*

*Public support has been provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the NYC Council.*

## ***Macbeth***

May 31 – June 22, 2014

By William Shakespeare

Directors: Rob Ashford and Kenneth Branagh

Cast: Kenneth Branagh, Alex Kingston

Set and Costume Designer: Christopher Oram

Composer: Patrick Doyle

Lighting Designer: Neil Austin

Sound Designer: Christopher Shutt

Casting Director: Anne McNulty, CDG

Associate Designer: Lee Newby

Commissioned and produced by Park Avenue Armory and Manchester International Festival

Previews:

Saturday, May 31 at 8:00 p.m.

Monday, June 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 3 at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Performances:

Thursday, June 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Friday, June 6 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 7 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 8 at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, June 13 at 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, June 14 at 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, June 15 at 2:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, June 17 at 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, June 18 at 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday, June 19 at 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, June 20 at 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, June 21 at 8:00 p.m.  
Sunday, June 22 at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets start at \$19 for all performances

Shakespeare's classic tale of ambition and treachery gets a thrilling new life in the U.S. premiere of the electrifying production by Rob Ashford and Kenneth Branagh, following its acclaimed sold-out run at the Manchester International Festival in England. Kenneth Branagh, in his first Shakespeare performance in more than a decade, is joined by Alex Kingston, in their highly-anticipated New York stage debuts, as the once great leader and his adored wife, who incites him to sell his soul in the quest for greater power.

Utilizing the Armory's unique space and military history, this audacious staging brings to life one of Shakespeare's most powerful tragedies in an intensely physical, fast-paced production that places the audience directly on the sidelines of battle. Blood, sweat, and the elements of nature can be directly felt as the action unfurls across a traverse stage, with heaven beckoning at one end and hell looming at the other.

Additional casting will be announced in the coming months.

In addition to the public performances, the Armory will present a special matinee performance of *Macbeth* for New York City public middle and high school students partnering with the Armory's education programs. Prior to attending the student matinee, all participating classes will receive in-school preparatory workshops facilitated by Armory Teaching Artists. Participation in this program is provided at no cost to the schools.

### **About Kenneth Branagh**

Branagh has long been lauded as one of the great Shakespearean interpreters. His skills as a writer, director, and actor have garnered international acclaim across the disciplines of stage, film, and television, and he has been nominated in five different categories for an Academy Award®. Branagh last performed Shakespeare when he played Richard III at the Sheffield Crucible in 2002. His stage performances as Edmund at the National Theatre and Ivanov for the Donmar played to great acclaim. In 2011, Branagh completed a sold-out run of the hit comedy *The Painkiller* at the Lyric Theatre in his native Belfast. In 2013 he received a Knighthood for his services to drama and to the community in N. Ireland.

### **About Rob Ashford**

Rob Ashford has directed and choreographed productions on both sides of the Atlantic, from collaborations with the Donmar Warehouse and National Theatre to major Broadway productions. Ashford has a string of nominations and awards to his name which include: an Olivier Award for *Anna Christie*, with nominations for *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Parade* (Donmar Warehouse), and a Tony Award® for *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, with nominations for productions including *Evita* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. He also won an Emmy Award® for his choreography at the 81st Academy Awards.

## **About Alex Kingston**

Kingston has won critical acclaim for her numerous television roles including Dr. Elizabeth Corday in *ER* and River Song in *Doctor Who*. A former member of the Royal Shakespeare Company, performing in *Much Ado About Nothing*, *King Lear*, and *Love's Labours Lost* amongst others, Kingston was recently seen on the London stage in the sold out *Luise Miller* at the Donmar Warehouse. In 2006 she played Nurse Ratched in the West End production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, starring Christian Slater. Recent feature film credits include *Sweetland* opposite Alan Cummings and *Alpha Dog*, starring Justin Timberlake.

*Support for this production has been provided by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and by Susan and Elihu Rose.*

*Public support has been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts.*

## ***The Passenger***

July 10 - 13, 2014

An opera by Mieczyslaw Weinberg

Libretto by Aleksandr Medvedev

After the novel by Zofia Posmyz

Translated by David Fanning and David Pountney

Performed in English, with translation from the original languages by David Fanning and David Pountney

### Cast:

Liese: Michelle Breedt

Walter: Joseph Kaiser

Marta: Melody Moore

Tadeusz: Morgan Smith

Katya: Kelly Kaduce

Bronka: Kathryn Day

Houston Grand Opera Orchestra and Chorus

### Creative team:

Conductor: Patrick Summers

Director: David Pountney

Set Designer: Johan Engels

Costume Designer: Marie-Jeanne Lecca

Lighting Designer: Fabrice Kebour

Fight Director: Leraldo Anzaldúa

Associate Director: Rob Kearley

Chorus Master: Richard Bado

Thursday, July 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 13 at 7:30 p.m.

The New York premiere of *The Passenger* will feature a scenic design that takes advantage of the Armory's 55,000-square-foot drill hall, juxtaposing scenes of the 1950s journey of a German couple aboard a transatlantic ocean liner alternately with those of Auschwitz prisoners below the deck, including flashbacks to the railway tracks, ovens, and barracks of the camp. This staging is a rare performance of the Polish-Jewish composer Mieczyslaw Weinberg's magnum opus, set to a libretto by Alexander Medvedev and based on a Polish radio play by Auschwitz survivor Zofia Posmysz.

Nightly prelude concerts of Weinberg's chamber music will be performed by the ARC Ensemble at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Officers Room. Free to ticket holders of that evening's performance.

Co-presented by Park Avenue Armory and Lincoln Center Festival.

*The Passenger* is a co-production of Bregenz Festspiele, Austria; Teatr Wielki, Warsaw; English National Opera, London; and Teatro Real, Madrid.

*Houston Grand Opera's performances of The Passenger in New York are generously supported by Bill and Sara Morgan and Amanda and Morris Gelb.*

### ***St. Matthew Passion***

October 7 - 8, 2014

By Johann Sebastian Bach

Peter Sellars, Director

Berliner Philharmoniker

Simon Rattle, Music Director

Berlin Rundfunk Choir

Simon Halsey, Director

Mark Padmore, tenor

Eric Owens, baritone

Magdalena Kožená, mezzo-soprano

Camilla Tilling, soprano

Topi Lehtipuu, tenor

Christian Gerhaher, baritone

Co-presented by Park Avenue Armory and Lincoln Center's White Light Festival

Tuesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Modeled after the unique configuration of the Berlin Philharmonie, where the audience surrounds the performers, Peter Sellars's arresting production, which he terms a 'ritualization,' is part of an eight-day residency in October 2014 for the Berliner Philharmoniker in New York. While the *St. Matthew Passion* chronicles the suffering of Jesus, it illuminates the complex and intense emotions his suffering arouses in all of us. Presented by the Berliner Philharmoniker at the 2010 Salzburg Easter Festival with performances in Berlin later that year, it was recently revived as part of the celebrated hall's 50th anniversary celebration in Berlin.

*The Berliner Philharmoniker residency in New York City is made possible by a leadership gift from the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation, and Marina Kellen French.*

***tears become...***

***streams become...***

December 9, 2014 – January 4, 2015

Commissioned by Park Avenue Armory  
Douglas Gordon, Artist  
Hélène Grimaud, Piano

Installation:

December 9 through January 4

Tuesday-Wednesday: noon until 6:00 p.m.

Thursday: noon until 8:00 p.m.

Friday-Saturday: noon until 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

December 24 and 31: noon until 4:00p.m.

Closed on December 25

Performances:

Tuesday, December 9 at 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 10 at 8:00 p.m.

Friday, December 12 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 13 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 16 at 8:00p.m.

Wednesday, December 17 at 8:00 p.m.

Friday, December 19 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 20 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.

The themes of water and reflection will be explored in this collaboration between artist Douglas Gordon and pianist Hélène Grimaud that transcends art forms, and is the annual visual art commission by Park Avenue Armory. Gordon, who is known for his meditations on memory and use of repetition, will transform the drill hall in a visually arresting response to the theme of water and the architectural assets of the Armory's vast space. The installation will be activated in the evenings through Grimaud's shimmering performances of water-themed music by Debussy, Ravel, Liszt, Schubert, and others. Visual elements in the drill hall will evolve and respond as music fills and floats across the space, inviting the audience to experience an immersive and delicate counterpoint of sight and sound.

Gordon's installation will be open to the public during the day.

*With support of the National Endowment for the Arts and the British Council.*

### **About Douglas Gordon**

Douglas Gordon was born in Glasgow in 1966. After receiving a B.A. at the Glasgow School of Art, he undertook a post-graduate program at the Slade School of Art in London.

Gordon has had major solo exhibitions at Tate Liverpool; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; The Hayward Gallery, London; and Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven. In 2005, he curated *The Vanity of Allegory*, an exhibition at the Deutsche Guggenheim, Berlin and released the film *Zidane: A 21st Century Portrait*. Further solo exhibitions include *Superhumanatural* at the National Gallery of Scotland; *Between Darkness and Light* at the Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg; and *Timeline* at MoMA, New York. Recent solo exhibitions took place at the Lambert Collection and the Palais des Papes, Avignon; DOX, Prague; Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zürich; DVIR Gallery, Tel Aviv; and *Art and the Sublime* at the TATE Britain, London; Gagosian Gallery, London; Yvon Lambert, Paris; MMK, Frankfurt; and MOCA, Los Angeles. His work *Henry Rebel* was shown at the 43 Basel Art Unlimited, Basel. Solo shows in 2012 included the Akademie der Deutschen Künste, Berlin and Gagosian Gallery, New York. In 2013 Douglas Gordon had solo exhibitions at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv and Blain Southern, Berlin, as well as a show with Galerie Eva Presenhuber in Zürich and Museum Folkwang, Essen.

His film works have been invited to the Festival de Cannes, Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), Venice Film Festival, and Edinburgh International Film Festival among many others.

Gordon was the 1996 recipient of the Turner Prize and the Kunstpreis Niedersachsen, Kunstverein Hannover, Hannover. In 1997 he was awarded the Premio 2000 at the 47. Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte, La Biennale di Venezia, Venice and received the DAAD Stipend in Berlin. In 1998 he was presented with the Hugo Boss Prize at the Guggenheim Museum in SoHo, New York as well as with the Central Kunstpreis, Kölnischer Kunstverein, Cologne and the Lord Provost's Award, Glasgow City Council, Glasgow. Most recently in May 2008 he won the Roswitha Haftmann Prize awarded by the Kunsthaus Zürich and he was the recipient of the Käthe-Kollwitz Prize 2012 awarded by the Akademie der Künste, Berlin. In 2008 Gordon was Juror at the 65th International Venice Film Festival, La Biennale di Venezia, Venice and in 2012 he was the Jury president of CinemaXXI at the 7th Rome Film Festival, Festival Internazionale del Film di Roma, Rome. Gordon lives and works in Berlin and Glasgow.

### **About Hélène Grimaud**

She could be called a Renaissance woman for our times. Hélène Grimaud is not just a deeply passionate and committed musical artist whose pianistic accomplishments play a central role in her life. She is a woman with multiple talents that extend far beyond the instrument she plays with such poetic expression and peerless technical control. The French artist has established herself as a committed wildlife conservationist, a compassionate human rights activist, and as a writer. Grimaud was born in Aix-en-Provence where she began her piano studies at the conservatory with Jacqueline Courtin and subsequently under Pierre Barbizet in Marseille. She was accepted into the Paris Conservatoire at just 13 and won first prize in piano performance a mere three years later. She continued to study with György Sándor and Leon Fleisher until, in 1987, she gave her well-received debut recital in Tokyo. The same year the renowned conductor Daniel Barenboim invited her to perform with the Orchestre de Paris.

Between her debut in 1995 with the Berliner Philharmoniker under Claudio Abbado and her first performance with the New York Philharmonic under Kurt Masur in 1999—just two of many acclaimed musical milestones—Grimaud made a wholly different kind of debut: in upper New York State she established the Wolf Conservation Center. Her love for the endangered species was sparked by a chance encounter with a wolf in northern Florida which led to her determination to open an environmental



education center. She is also a member of the organization Musicians for Human Rights, a worldwide network of musicians and people working in the field of music to promote a culture of human rights and social change.

Despite her divided dedication to these multiple passions, it is through Grimaud's thoughtful and tenderly expressive music-making that she most deeply touches the emotions of audiences. Fortunately, they have been able to enjoy her concerts due to her extensive touring programme with major orchestras around the world. In 2013, she performed in the UK, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Russia, the USA, Brazil, China, and Japan. Amongst others, she played with the Czech Philharmonic, Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo, the Philharmonia, St Petersburg Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Russian National Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Grimaud is also an ardent and committed chamber musician who performs frequently at the most prestigious festivals and cultural events with a wide range of musical collaborators that has included Sol Gabetta, Thomas Quasthoff, Rolando Villazón, Jan Vogler, Truls Mørk, Clemens Hagen, and the Capuçon brothers.

Hélène Grimaud is undoubtedly a multi-faceted artist. Her deep dedication to her musical career, both in performances and recordings, is reflected and reciprocally amplified by the scope and depth of her environmental and literary pursuits.

## RECITAL SERIES

The 2014 season will also include the continuation of the Armory's recital series, which will feature performances by many artists rarely heard in New York. Presented in the Armory's exquisitely renovated Board of Officers Room, audiences will experience chamber music as it was originally intended: in a glorious salon setting, close enough to the artists to feel as though they are part of the performance.

### **Igor Levit, piano**

Wednesday, March 12 at 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 13 at 8:00 p.m.

#### ***All Beethoven Program***

Piano Sonata No. 30 in E Major, Op. 109

Piano Sonata No. 31 in A-flat Major, Op. 110

Piano Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111

### **FLUX Quartet**

Saturday, April 26 at 3:00 p.m.

Morton Feldman's epic Second String Quartet

### **István Várdai, cello**

Wednesday, May 21 at 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 22 at 8:00 p.m.

#### ***Bach Unaccompanied Cello Suites***

Suite No. 1 in G Major

Suite No. 5 in C Minor

Suite No. 6 in D Major

**Anna Lucia Richter, soprano**

Thursday, October 2 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 4 at 8:00 p.m.

Monday, October 6 at 8:00 p.m.

***All Hugo Wolf Program*****About Igor Levit**

The 2013-14 season marks Igor Levit's debuts with the Konzerthausorchester Berlin, with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, and the Royal Flemish Philharmonic Antwerpen. He returns to London's Barbican Hall performing Beethoven's Tripelkonzert with the BBC Symphony Orchestra joined by Maxim Vengerov and Antonio Meneses. Together with the Düsseldorfer Symphoniker Igor Levit will perform Tchaikovsky's piano concerto at the Musikverein Vienna. An active solo recitalist, he will perform at the Berlin Philharmonie, Cologne Philharmonie, Munich's Prinzregententheater, Frankfurts's Alte Oper Frankfurt, London's Queen Elizabeth Hall, Milan's Conservatorio Sala Verdi, and Zurich's famed Tonhalle. In spring 2014 Igor Levit returns to Ludwigsburger Sommerfestspiele, the Schumann Fest Düsseldorf, as well as to the Festival Heidelberger Frühling where he serves as Artistic Director for the Chamber Music Academy. In summer 2014 he is Artist in Residence at the Kissinger Sommer as well as at the Festival Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. The latter comprises his debut with the Deutsches-Symphonie-Orchester Berlin under the baton of Tugan Sokhiev and projects with Kremerata Baltica and the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen. At the Schubertiade Igor Levit continues his Beethoven Sonata cycle which began in autumn 2013 to great critical acclaim.

Born in Nizhni Nowgorod in 1987, Igor Levit at age eight moved with his family to Germany where he completed his piano studies at Hannover Academy of Music, Theatre, and Media in 2009 with the highest academic and performance scores in the history of the institute. Mr. Levit has studied under the tutelage of Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, Matti Raekallio, Bernd Goetze, Lajos Rovatkay, and Hans Leygraf. As the youngest participant in the 2005 Arthur Rubinstein Competition in Tel Aviv, Igor Levit won the Silver Prize, the Prize for Best Performer of Chamber Music, the "Audience Favorite" Prize, and the Prize for Best Performer of Contemporary Music. Previously, he had won the First Prize of the International Hamamtsu Piano Academy Competition in Japan. Since 2003 Igor Levit has been a scholarship student at Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes as well as at Deutsche Stiftung Musikleben. Igor Levit makes his home in Hannover.

**About FLUX Quartet**

Considered the ultimate masters of Morton Feldman's 6-hour String Quartet from 1983. David Patrick Stearns (Philadelphia Inquirer) proclaimed, "this piece oozes a rarefied, spiritual air... The FLUX Quartet made all the difference...The players displayed an astounding ear for sound that made each gradation of timbre palpable." Alex Ross (New Yorker) described FLUX's live performance as "a disorienting, transfixing experience that repeatedly approached and touched the sublime." They have performed at Carnegie's Zankel Hall, the Kennedy Center, Walker Art Center, in Mexico at the Chihuahua International Arts Festival, and in Ireland at the Samuel Beckett Centenary Festival, the Kitchen in NYC, Bowerbird in Philadelphia, EMPAC, and have been heard on NPR's All Things Considered, WNYC's New Sounds and Soundcheck, and WFMU's Stochastic Hit Parade. Last summer they made their debut at Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. Their recordings include a new Feldman CD up and coming from MODE Records, and other composer compilations on the Tzadik, Innova, Cantaloupe, and Cold Blue Music labels. New dates include Bendigo International Festival of Exploratory Music in Australia, the Park Avenue Armory, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Le Jolla Summerfest, Calgary Pro Musica with Evan Ziporyn, and more.

FLUX Quartet moves between the great works of Gyorgy Ligeti, Giacinto Scelsi, John Zorn, and Iannis Xenakis to avant jazz greats such as Henry Threadgill, Oliver Lake, and Roscoe Mitchell. They have championed works by avant balloonist Judy Dunaway, Mathew Welch, and have also done significant work in dance, including collaborations with choreographers Shen Wei, Christopher Wheeldon, and Pam Tanowitz. FLUX actively pursues commissions, with recent grants from the American Composers Forum, USArtists International, Aaron Copland Fund, and the Meet-The-Composer Foundation. The group also explores new voices from its numerous college residencies throughout the US, including Wesleyan, Dartmouth, Williams, Princeton, Rice, and the College of William and Mary. The spirit to expand stylistic boundaries is a trademark of the FLUX Quartet. Greatly influenced by the all-embracing philosophy of the Fluxus movement, violinist Tom Chiu founded FLUX with a similar aesthetic approach, in search of a living art for all people with an "anything-goes, do-it-yourself" spirit. To that end, FLUX has always been committed to projects of unique vision that defy aesthetic categorization, such as the monumental work by Feldman.

### **About István Várdai**

István Várdai, the 28 year old Hungarian cellist was honored with several prestigious international prizes: in 2008 he won the 63rd Geneva International Music Competition, and additional special prizes as well including: Audience Prize, "Pierre Fournier" Prize, "Coup de Coeur Breguet" Prize. He took third place at the International Tchaikovsky Music Competition, Moscow in 2007. In 2006 he was awarded with the special prize of the Emanuel Feuermann Cello Competition at the Kronberg Academy and received first prize at the 13th International Brahms Competition in Austria. He was winner of the David Popper International Music Competition three times, in 2000, 2003, and 2004. Since his debut concert in 1997 in The Hague he has performed in New York, London, Paris, Prague, Vienna, Frankfurt, Munich, Geneva, Dublin, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Florence, Tokyo, Kobe, and Beijing with great success. He has played with world-famous musicians and orchestras: Ádám Fischer, Zoltán Kocsis, Howard Griffiths, Simon Gaudenz, Gilbert Varga, St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra, Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra, Geneva Chamber Orchestra, Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra, and Irish Chamber Orchestra. He has been invited to Santander Festival, the Gergiev Festival in St. Petersburg, the Pablo Casals Festival in El Vendrell (Spain), the Festival of Radio France in Montpellier, the Bellerive Festival (Switzerland), the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, the Schwetzingen Festival and the Budapest Spring Festival. In 2010 he made his debut, among others, in Carnegie Hall and the Wiener Konzerthaus and performed with Gidon Kremer, András Schiff, and Yuri Bashmet in the frame of "Chamber Music Connects the World 2010" at Kronberg Academy. In 2011 his engagements included performances with the Suisse Romande Orchestra.

### **About Anna Lucia Richter**

Anna Lucia Richter descends from a family of professional musicians. Since the age of nine she received singing lessons from her mother Regina Dohmen and became a member of the Girls' Choir of the Cologne cathedral. From 2004 to 2008 she received regular lessons with Prof. Kurt Widmer, Basel. Following her early studies with Mrs. Prof. Klesie Kelly-Moog at the Cologne Music Academy she continued her studies in Cologne and finished her advanced study period in the summer of 2013. The artist won prizes at the National Song Contest in Berlin (2nd prize, junior category 2008), the Luitpold Prize at the Kissinger Summer Festival 2011, and the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Prize in 2011. In 2012 she won the International Robert-Schumann Contest in Zwickau. Despite her young age, Richter has had engagements with Cologne's Gürzenich Orchestra, with the hr Symphony Orchestra, the MDR Symphony Orchestra, the Düsseldorf Symphonic Orchestra, and also with the WDR Radio Orchestra under the baton of Markus Stenz, Paavo and Kristjan Järvi, Marin Alsop, Helmut Froschauer, and

Christoph Altstaedt she sang works of Bach (*St. Johns Passion* and *St. Matthew's Passion*), Händel (*Messias*), Brahms (*Ein Deutsches Requiem*), Mozart (*C-Minor Mass*), Grieg (*Peer Gynt*) and Mahler (*Symphony N° 4* and *N° 8*). She is also an accomplished opera singer, having had roles in *Hänsel and Gretel (Sandmann/Taumann)*, *Le nozze di Figaro (Barbarina)* and *Don Giovanni (Zerlina)* at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf/Duisburg.

Anna Lucia Richter has had recital appearances at the Kissinger Summer Festival and at the Heidelberg Spring Festival. In 2012 she sang in a last-minute engagement at the Cologne Philharmonic Hall for Matthias Goerne. She was accompanied by Moritz Eggert, Michael Gees, Hartmut Höll, and Igor Levit. In spring 2014 she will give her debut with Gerold Huber and guest perform with him in Wigmore Hall and in Vicenza, accompanied by András Schiff. Apart from the standard repertoire the artist also enjoys including contemporary compositions into her song programmes: In 2011, for instance, the world premiere of Moritz Eggert's *Singet leise* and in 2012 the cycle *Ophelia Sings* by Wolfgang Rihm, which he specially composed for her.

## TICKETS

Single ticket prices for the 2014 season are as follows:

*The xx*

Tickets: \$55

*Macbeth*

Tickets start at \$19

*The Passenger*

Tickets start at \$45

*St. Matthew Passion*

Ticket information to be announced

*tears become ... streams become ...*

Tickets to performances with Hélène Grimaud start at \$45

Tickets to the installation (without performance): \$15

*Recital Series*

Levit

Tickets: \$35

FLUX

Tickets: \$40

Vardai

Tickets: \$25

Richter

Tickets: \$25

Single tickets for *The xx*, *Macbeth*, *tears become ... streams become ...* (both the installation and performances), and the recitals go on sale December 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Additional ticketing information for *The Passenger* and *St. Matthew Passion* will be announced at a later date.

To purchase tickets, visit [armoryonpark.org](http://armoryonpark.org) or call Park Avenue Armory Ticket Services at (212) 933-5812.

## SEASON SPONSORSHIP

Citi is the Armory's 2014 season sponsor.

Support for Park Avenue Armory's artistic season has been generously provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Booth Ferris Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, the Marc Haas Foundation, the Leon Levy Foundation, the May and Samuel Rudin Foundation, the Juliet Lea Hillman Simonds Foundation, and the Isak and Rose Weinman Foundation.

## 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. Among the highlights of its first six years are: Bernd Alois 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 event of a thread*, a site-specific installation by Ann Hamilton; the final performances of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company across three separate stages; the New York Philharmonic performing Karlheinz Stockhausen's sonic masterpiece *Gruppen* with three orchestras surrounding the audience; and *WS*, by Paul McCarthy, a monumental installation of fantasy, excess and dystopia.

Concurrent with the development of its artistic program, the Armory has undertaken an ongoing \$200-million revitalization of its historic building, named in 2000 among the "100 Most Endangered Historic Sites in the World" by the World Monuments Fund. Designed by architects Herzog & de Meuron, the multiyear project reinvigorates the Armory's original design while stabilizing, preserving, and renewing the building for future generations. Recent work includes the renovation and restoration of the Park Avenue and Lexington Avenue façades, including the addition of a new copper mansard roof and the revitalization of two historic Company period rooms on the second floor. During the 2013 season, the Armory reopened its Board of Officers Room, one of the most important historic rooms in America and one of the few remaining interiors designed by Herter Brothers, which has been revitalized and transformed into an intimate space for small-scale performances, recitals, and installations.

### **About Lincoln Center Festival White Light Festival**

Lincoln Center Festival White Light Festival are presentations of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (LCPA) which serves three primary roles: presenter of artistic programming, national leader in arts and education and community relations, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. A presenter of more than 3,000 free and ticketed events, performances, tours, and educational activities annually, LCPA offers 15 series, festivals, and programs including American Songbook, Avery Fisher Artist Program, Great Performers, Lincoln Center Books, Lincoln Center Dialogue, Lincoln Center Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Lincoln Center Vera List Art Project, Midsummer Night Swing, Martin E. Segal Awards, Meet the Artist, Mostly Mozart Festival, Target Free Thursdays, and the White Light Festival, as well as the Emmy Award-winning Live From Lincoln Center, which airs nationally on PBS. As manager of the Lincoln Center campus, LCPA provides support and services for the Lincoln Center complex and the 11 resident organizations. In addition, LCPA led a \$1.2 billion campus renovation, completed in October 2012. [LincolnCenterFestival.org](http://LincolnCenterFestival.org) and [WhiteLightFestival.org](http://WhiteLightFestival.org)

### **About Manchester International Festival**

Manchester International Festival is the world's first festival of original new work and special events and takes place biennially, in Manchester, UK. The Festival launched in 2007 as an artist-led, commissioning festival presenting new works from across the spectrum of performing arts, visual arts, and popular culture.

MIF leads the way for UK festivals in fundraising from private sponsors, having passed the £2 million mark for MIF13; this in addition to substantial public funding received from Manchester City Council, Salford City Council, and Arts Council England. Many sponsors are returning from previous festivals, including The Co-operative Group, PZ Cussons, Manchester Airports, NCP Manchester Ltd, DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester - Piccadilly and Bruntwood. The BBC, The Guardian, and Manchester Evening News are MIF's media partners.

Manchester International Festival 2013 ran from Thursday July 4 - Sunday July 21, 2013. Learn more at [www.mif.co.uk](http://www.mif.co.uk)

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**For more information or to request images, please contact Resnicow Schroeder Associates:**

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