



Online Press Kit

Press Release

[Let the World In: Prints
by Robert Rauschenberg
from the National Gallery
of Art and Related
Collections](#)

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**WORLD PREMIERE ANNOUNCED FOR *SANCTUARY*
AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
ON NOVEMBER 18, 2007; PRESENTED IN
CELEBRATION OF RAUSCHENBERG EXHIBITION**

Washington, D.C. — The complete and expanded percussion piece *Sanctuary*, by Pulitzer Prize winning composer Roger Reynolds, will make its world premiere in the National Gallery of Art's East Building Auditorium and ground-floor atrium on Sunday, November 18, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. *Sanctuary* will be presented in conjunction with the exhibition *Let the World In: Prints by Robert Rauschenberg from the National Gallery of Art and Related Collections*, which is on view at the National Gallery of Art from October 28, 2007, through March 30, 2008.

Just as Rauschenberg challenged fixed assumptions regarding the nature of art through his experimentation and collaborations, Reynolds in *Sanctuary* reframes percussion performance as a tool for extending sonic color and distributing sounds in a multi-channel space. His work is informed by theater, dance, video, and perceptual psychology.

Performed by "red fish blue fish," the resident percussion ensemble at the University of California, San Diego, *Sanctuary* contains three movements and features four percussionists, assisted by real-time computer processing written specifically for the composition. Using the inherent theatricality of playing percussion, the performance also incorporates gesture, movement, and lighting to create an experience that is both aural and visual. The percussionists act as members of a quartet, combining each player's contribution into the larger piece in a call-and-response pattern.

Limited seating at the event will be first come, first seated, beginning

at 6:00 p.m. The East Building entrance remains open for concertgoers until 6:30 pm. No late entry or reentry is allowed after 6:30 pm. The East Building is located at 4th Street and Constitution Avenue NW on the National Mall.

Sponsorship

The National Gallery of Art is collaborating with the Contemporary Music Forum and the National Endowment for the Arts to make possible the creation and performance of *Sanctuary*, which is presented with support from the Randy Hostetler Living Room Fund of Washington, DC.

About the Composer

Roger Reynolds studied music and science at the University of Michigan. His compositions incorporate both aspects of his education, as they are not only musical but highly technological. Consistently on the cutting edge of music technology, Reynolds was among the first to embrace quadraphonic sound in his *VOICESPACE* series in the 1970s, and his 1998 *Watershed* was the first DVD to feature music specifically written for Dolby Digital 5.1 sound.

In 1988 Reynolds won the prestigious Pulitzer Prize for *Whispers Out of Time*, a response to a John Ashbery poem. Today he is the Distinguished Professor of Composition in the music department at the University of California, San Diego.

General Information

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden, located on the National Mall between 3rd and 9th Streets and Constitution Avenue NW are open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Gallery is closed on December 25 and January 1. For information call (202) 737-4215 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176, or visit the Gallery's Web site at www.nga.gov.

Visitors will be asked to present all carried items for inspection upon

entering. Checkrooms are free of charge and located at each entrance. Luggage and other oversized bags must be presented at the 4th Street entrances to the East or West Building to permit x-ray screening and must be deposited in the checkrooms at those entrances. For the safety of the works of art and visitors, nothing may be carried into the Gallery on a visitor's back. Any bag or other items that cannot be carried reasonably and safely in some other manner must be left in the checkrooms. Items larger than 17 x 26 inches cannot be accepted by the Gallery or its checkrooms.

For additional press information please call or send inquiries to:

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