

Summer 2012  
For Immediate Release

**News from Other Minds**  
**\*Cage Film Festival\***  
**\*Trimpin in Grand Pianola Brigade\***  
**\*Major Nancarrow Centennial Celebration**  
**in Collaboration with Cal Performances\***



Revelatory  
New Music

Charles Amirkhanian, Executive and Artistic Director of San Francisco new music champion Other Minds, has news to report about the organization and its activities for Fall 2012. "I'm delighted to announce three very special events coming in September, October and November. We are celebrating two of the greatest composers the U.S. has produced, John Cage and Conlon Nancarrow, both of whom were born 100 years ago." The three Other Minds' commemorative events will come on Saturday, September 22; Saturday, October 27; and Friday through Sunday, November 2-4:

**Other Minds Film Festival: *John Cage & Friends***

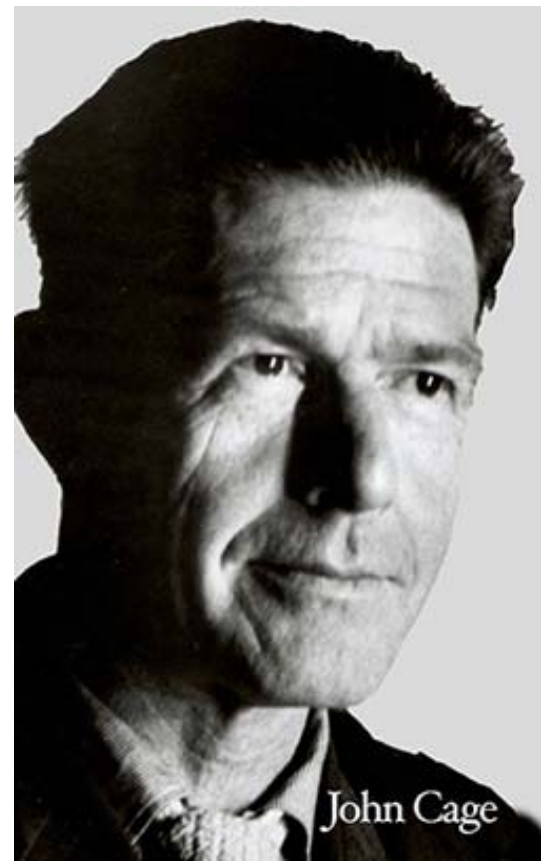
Curated by filmmaker Peter Esmonde  
Saturday, September 22 from 2pm - Midnight  
Roxie Theater  
3117 16th Street  
San Francisco, California 94103  
415-863-1087

Four screenings, each unique: 2:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:30pm, 9:30pm\*\*See full schedule below.

Tickets: \$10 for each screening; \$30 for all-day pass  
(available soon at [www.roxie.com](http://www.roxie.com))

VIP Passes: \$100, [available here](#).

The VIP Festival Pass includes:



John Cage

Priority seating and tickets to all four screenings (2:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:30pm, and 9:30pm)

- *18 Microtonal Ragas* by John Cage (Other Minds/CD 1010-2)
- Limited edition John Cage & Friends t-shirt\*
- Paella dinner (drinks not included) at a table with some of John Cage's former Bay Area friends! This event will be held between screenings, from 5:30-7:00pm, at the Picaro Tapas Restaurant directly across the street from the Roxie Theater.

\* Those who purchase VIP passes by September 5th (John Cage's 100th Birthday) will receive their Other Minds Film Festival t-shirt in time for this event. For passes purchased after September 5th, t-shirts will be mailed at conclusion of the Festival.

### ***Grand Pianola Brigade Event***

October 27, 2012 at 7:00pm

Piedmont Pianos

1728 San Pablo Avenue (@ 18th)

Oakland, California 94612

510-547-8188

Tickets: \$50 / [www.nancarrow100.eventbrite.com](http://www.nancarrow100.eventbrite.com)

Contact: 415-934-8134 / [michael@otherminds.org](mailto:michael@otherminds.org)

### ***Nancarrow at 100: A Centennial Celebration***

November 2-4, 2012

Bancroft Way

Berkeley, California 94720

Tickets: prices tba

Contact: 415-934-8134 / [michael@otherminds.org](mailto:michael@otherminds.org)

### ***John Cage & Friends***

Other Minds' tribute to groundbreaking composer/artist/essayist/diarist John Cage is an all-day film festival curated by filmmaker **Peter Esmonde** (*Trimpin: The Sound of Invention*). From 2pm to midnight, Other Minds occupies the Roxie Theater, presenting 4 unique film programs (10 films in all, see full schedule below) featuring rare archival footage of the iconoclastic master and his pioneering collaborators, including choreographer **Merce Cunningham**, artist **Robert Rauschenberg**, and musician/tech guru **David Tudor**. These films, seldom made available to the public, show Cage in performance, in discussions about his work, and in collaboration with friends and colleagues. *John Cage & Friends* represents a mind-blowing overview of radical art practice.

### ***Grand Pianola Brigade Event***

On 27 October Other Minds hosts a centennial celebration honoring the great American composer **Conlon Nancarrow** (1912-1997) on what would have been his 100th birthday. West Coast sound sculptor **Trimpin** has committed all of Nancarrow's piano rolls to MIDI files, a monumental contribution to music history. This event will feature a live performance of Nancarrow's Study No. 40b performed, courtesy of the MIDI files, on two grand pianos by Trimpin. The pianola virtuoso **Rex Lawson** will demonstrate the capabilities of the pianola with the **American premiere** of *Un Tour au Large* (1926) by poetic realist filmmaker **Jean Grémillon**.



Conlon Nancarrow

## *Nancarrow at 100: A Centennial Celebration*

Other Minds presents a three-day centennial celebration of the life and work of Conlon Nancarrow. These events will be produced by Cal Performances, the UC Berkeley Art Museum and the Pacific Film Archive (BAM/PFA) in collaboration with Other Minds.

**Highlights:** A new sound sculpture by MacArthur fellow **Trimpin**, commissioned by Other Minds in collaboration with the UC Berkeley Art Museum and the Pacific Film Archive. This new work, an installation re-animating a wall of percussion instruments from

Nancarrow's original Mexican studio, will be unveiled during a reception at the Berkeley Art Museum during the first night of the festival. Nancarrow's String Quartets Nos. 1 and 3 will be performed by the **Calder Quartet** alongside Paul Usher's string quartet arrangement of Nancarrow's Study No. 33. Transcriptions of Nancarrow's studies will be played by the **Bugallo-Williams Piano Duo**, percussionist **Chris Froh** will perform the American premiere of Dominic Murcott's drum arrangement of Nancarrow's *Piece for Tape*, **Rex Lawson** will demonstrate the charms of the long-forgotten pianola, and he will join Trimpin in performances of selected studies for player piano. *Nancarrow at 100* will also feature two documentary screenings at the Pacific Film Archive on the life and work of Conlon Nancarrow, curated by **Peter Esmonde** and **Steve Seid**. Other special guests include archaeologist **Yoko Sugiura-Nancarrow** (the composer's widow); engineer **Mako Nancarrow** (the composer's son); composer **Kyle Gann** (author of *The Music of Conlon Nancarrow*); musicologist **Dr. Felix Meyer** (Director of the Sacher Foundation, in whose collection Nancarrow's music and scores reside); composer **Dominic Murcott** (U.K.); composer **Peter Garland** (the first publisher of Nancarrow's *Studies for Player Piano*), and numerous others.

Other Minds' three-day celebration of Conlon Nancarrow and his music is supported in part by the **Grand Pianola Brigade**, a host committee of major donors including San Francisco gallery owner **Rena Bransten**, pianist **Garrick Ohlsson**, conductor **Dennis Russell Davies**, and composer **Lukas Ligeti**, among many others listed at <http://www.otherminds.org/shtml/Nancarrow100.shtml>. *Nancarrow at 100: A Centennial Celebration* is presented in collaboration with **Cal Performances**, the **Berkeley Art Museum** and the **Pacific Film Archive**.

**Other Minds**, a not-for-profit organization devoted to supporting new music, was founded in 1992 by composer Charles Amirkhanian and art curator/film producer Jim Newman. In addition to presenting concerts, mounting its annual festival, recording at least one CD per year and sponsoring film screenings, Other Minds maintains and expands [radiOM.org](http://www.radiOM.org), an online archive of interviews with many of the greatest musical minds of the 20th and 21st centuries ([www.radiOM.org](http://www.radiOM.org)) Other Minds is dedicated to the encouragement and propagation of new music in all its forms by fostering cross-cultural exchange, creative dialogue, and the exploration of musical/cultural horizons seldom touched upon by mainstream music institutions.

For more information about Other Minds, call 415-934-8134 and visit [www.otherminds.org](http://www.otherminds.org),  
and [www.kathryningmedia.com](http://www.kathryningmedia.com).

For details of *John Cage & Friends* and *Nancarrow at 100*, see below.

**Other Minds Film Festival**  
***JOHN CAGE & FRIENDS***  
a centenary celebration on film

at San Francisco's Roxie Cinema  
September 22, 2012

2pm

**PROGRAM ONE: CAGE SPEAKS!**

91 minutes

**I'VE GOT A SECRET**

(1960, 10 minutes)

Prime time meets the musical avant-garde when John Cage performs *Water Walk* on this popular tv game show - and accidentally foments a labor dispute.

**NEW MUSIC: SOUNDS AND VOICES FROM THE AVANT-GARDE**

Blackwood Productions (1971, 51 minutes)

Made for German tv, this rare and revealing look at New York's musical avant-garde was only recently released in the U.S. With extensive footage of John Cage, David Tudor, Morton Subotnick, Gordon Mumma, Earle Brown, Fluxus artists Ben Patterson and Joe Jones . . . and youngsters Steve Reich and Philip Glass.

**ASPECTS OF A NEW CONSCIOUSNESS, DIALOGUE III**

Stephen Chodorov/Camera Three (1969, 30 minutes)

In this rarely screened interview, Cage clearly and patiently explains his processes and artistic strategies, and comments on some of his more important pieces.

4pm

**PROGRAM TWO: CAGE MEDIA MIX**

80 minutes total

In 1966, a group of innovative NY artists - including Cage, Robert Rauschenberg, and David Tudor - collaborated with scientists from Bell Labs on a series of wildly innovative tech

performance pieces. These **Experiments in Art and Technology (E.A.T.)** are legendary, groundbreaking examples of performance and installation art.

### JOHN CAGE: VARIATIONS VII

Billy Klüver, Julie Martin, Barbro Schultz Lundestam  
(1966; edited 2008 40 minutes)

Cage's *Variations VII* signals a radical use of electronics and telephony, juxtaposing realtime sounds as diverse as downtown traffic, ongoing live performances, and Terry Riley's turtle tank!

### ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG: OPEN SPACE

(1966; edited 2007 20 minutes)

A fascinating precursor of installation art, *Open Space* begins with a tennis game, played with rackets outfitted with contact mics and FM transmitters. Each ball hit triggers a loud bell and switches off one of the court lights - leading eventually to music in the dark. This startling piece also uses infrared television cameras, amplified audio, and large-screen projection. With Frank Stella, Simone Forti, Robert Rauschenberg.

### DAVID TUDOR: BANDONEON ! (factorial)

(1966; edited 2009 20 minutes)

Working with Bell Labs technicians, Cage's collaborator David Tudor uses a wired accordion to trigger a complex system of audio and visual signals. Shifting sound across multiple speakers, activating lights and video images, Tudor's *Bandoneon!* becomes an enormous living, breathing installation.

5:30pm - 7:15pm

break for drinks, hors d'oeuvres

7:30pm

### PROGRAM THREE: CAGE IN CONTEXT

74 minutes total

### COMPOSITION IN BLUE

Oskar Fischinger (1935, 4 minutes)

A stunning short animation by Oskar Fischinger, whose remarks to his assistant John Cage - "Everything in the world has its own spirit, and this spirit becomes audible by setting it into vibration" - greatly influenced the young man's thought.

### I'VE GOT A SECRET

(1960, 10 minutes)

Prime time meets the musical avant-garde when John Cage performs "Water Walk" on this popular tv game show - and accidentally foments a labor dispute.

### JOHN CAGE: I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY AND I AM SAYING IT

Alan Miller / Vivian Perlis (1990, 60 minutes)

An hour-long introduction to Cage and his work, highlighting lively excerpts from his pieces for prepared piano, percussion, conch shells, bird calls, etc. With art-world luminaries Marcel Duchamp, Merce Cunningham, Robert Rauschenberg, David Tudor, Laurie Anderson, Nam June Paik, Charlotte Moorman, Margaret Leng Tan, et al.

9:30pm

**PROGRAM FOUR: CAGE & CUNNINGHAM**

98 minutes total

**ALLEGRETTO**

Oskar Fischinger (1936, 3 minutes)

A stunning color animation by Oskar Fischinger, who was a seminal early influence on Cage - and a prescient pioneer of abstract film.

**CAGE/CUNNINGHAM**

Elliot Caplan (1991, 95 minutes)

Choreography by Merce Cunningham; music by Cage.

This feature traces the groundbreaking collaborations of choreographer Merce Cunningham and his partner John Cage. Featuring rare and candid footage from the Cage and Cunningham archives, this is a sensitive portrait of two men whose iconoclastic thinking revolutionized contemporary music and performance.

Film schedule subject to change without notice.

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**Nancarrow at 100: A Centennial Celebration Schedule**

**October 27 & November 2-4, 2012**

Saturday, October 27 (Nancarrow's 100th Birthday)

**Piedmont Pianos / Oakland** (Tickets: \$50)

**7:00pm** Rex Lawson performs *Un Tour au Large* (1926) by Jean Grémillon (silent film score); Trimpin performs Nancarrow's *Selected Player Piano Studies* plus *Study No. 40 for Two Pianos*; Excerpts from *Conlon Nancarrow: Virtuoso of the Player Piano* (2012, U.S., 56 mins) by James Greeson

Friday, November 2

**UC Berkeley Art Museum** (Free)

**5:00pm-7:00pm** Opening reception of Trimpin's *Nancarrow Percussion Orchestra*

**Pacific Film Archive** (Ticket prices tba)

**7:00pm** Films about Conlon Nancarrow

Alban Wesley: *Nancarrow's Study No. 2 and No. 18* (2008, Netherlands, 7 mins)

James Greeson: *Conlon Nancarrow: Virtuoso of the Player Piano* (2012, U.S., 56 mins)

Saturday, November 3

**Hertz Hall** (Free)

**Discover Nancarrow No. 1**

**11:00am-12:30pm** Panel: *The Expanding Universe of Conlon Nancarrow*

This panel session will begin with a performance of *Study No. 25* and conclude with *Study No. 12*.

Yoko Sugiura-Nancarrow - Archaeologist, widow of the composer

Felix Meyer - Director of the Sacher Stiftung, housing the Nancarrow archives

Kyle Gann - Composer and author of *The Music of Conlon Nancarrow*

Peter Garland - Composer and original publisher of Nancarrow's Studies

Trimpin - Composer and sound sculptor

Charles Amirkhanian - moderator

**Hertz Hall** (Ticket prices tba)

**2:00pm-4:00pm** Trimpin performs selections on the player piano (45 mins)

Conlon Nancarrow: *Player Piano Studies Nos. 11, 5, 6, 26, 37, and 41c*

Rex Lawson performs selections on the Pianola (45 mins)

Conlon Nancarrow: *Study No. 21 (Canon X)*

Percy Grainger: *Molly on the Shore*

Percy Grainger: *Shepherd's Hey*

Sergei Rachmaninoff: *Prelude, Op. 23 No. 6*

Rex Lawson: *Un Tour au Large* (1926) by Jean Grémillon (silent film score)

**Hertz Hall** (Ticket prices tba)

**8:00pm** Calder String Quartet

Conlon Nancarrow: *String Quartet No. 1*

TBA: Composition for String Quartet

Conlon Nancarrow: *String Quartet No. 3*

Conlon Nancarrow: *Player Piano Study No. 33* arranged for string quartet by Paul Usher

**Sunday, November 4**

**Hertz Hall** (Free)

**Discover Nancarrow No. 2**

**12:00pm-2:30pm** Panel: *Eyeballs Out: How Performers Learned to "Play" Nancarrow*

Dominic Murcott and percussionist Chris Froh discuss and play *Piece for Tape*, arr. Murcott (30 mins)

Helena Bugallo and Amy Williams, piano duo (30 mins)

Kyle Gann - Composer and author of *The Music of Conlon Nancarrow* (30 mins)

Trimpin - Performance of Nancarrow's *Study No. 3a* and other selected studies (45 mins)

**Pacific Film Archive** (Ticket prices tba)

**4:00pm** Films about Conlon Nancarrow

Alban Wesley: *Nancarrow Study No. 3C* (2008, Netherlands, 3 mins)

Uli Aimüller: *Musik für Tausend Finger - Music for 1000 Fingers* (1993, Germany, 45 mins)

Tal Rosner & Sophie Clements: *Nancarrow Study No. 7* (2007, U.K., 7 mins)

**Hertz Hall** (Ticket prices tba)

**7:00pm** Rex Lawson, Chris Froh & Bugallo Williams Piano Duo Concert

Conlon Nancarrow: *Piece for Tape* (2 mins)

Conlon Nancarrow: *Piece for Tape* arranged for percussion by Dominic Murcott with Chris Froh (2 mins)

Igor Stravinsky: *Le sacre du printemps* (Stravinsky's original 1923 piano rolls) performed on pianola by Rex Lawson (35 mins)

Bugallo Williams Piano Duo (45 mins)

*Study No. 3B* (arr. Amy Williams)

*Study No. 4* (arr. Erik Oña)

*Study No. 18* (arr. Erik Oña)

*Study No. 9* (arr. Helena Bugallo)

*Study No. 44* (arr. Helena Bugallo)

*Nine Early Pieces*

*Sonatina for Piano* (arr. Yvar Mikhashoff)

*Study No. 20* (arr. Helena Bugallo)

*Study No. 15* (arr. Yvar Mikhashoff)

For more information about Other Minds, call 415-934-8134 and visit [www.otherminds.org](http://www.otherminds.org).

Photographs courtesy Other Minds. All programs subject to change without notice.

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