Carnegie Hall has appointed Pulitzer Prize–winning composer Steve Reich to hold the 2016–2017 Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair. Reich is acclaimed for his visionary style where rhythmic pulse, novel use of repetition, and ingenious contrapuntal explorations come together in new and daring ways. But his music cannot be pigeonholed; early on, he had a fascination with non-Western musical traditions, including Indonesian gamelan, African drumming, and Hebrew cantillation. Although he began his career as an avant-garde iconoclast, he has become one of the most respected composers of our time.

A highlight of Reich’s residency is a celebration of his 80th birthday, which includes a special concert performance of his and Beryl Korot’s groundbreaking video opera *Three Tales* and the world premiere of Reich’s *Pulse*, a work co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall as part of its 125 Commissions Project to be performed by International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) conducted by David Robertson. Other performances of his music during the season include Kronos Quartet performing the Triple Quartet from 1998, and American Composers Orchestra in the 1981 work *Tehillim*, Reich’s first major work in which he explores his Jewish heritage.

Reich also curates *Three Generations*—four concerts that explore how the language of composition changed from the mid–20th century to the present day by pivoting from serial atonal music toward a new more harmonic and rhythmic style led by Reich and such composers as Terry Riley, Philip Glass, and Arvo Pärt. The four concerts trace the development of a new music, from the pioneering generation of Reich and his peers to composers associated with the Bang on a Can collective and on to younger innovators such as Nico Muhly and Bryce Dessner. Featured performers in the series include Ensemble Signal, Bang on a Can All-Stars, JACK Quartet, and more.

Raised in New York (where he was born) and California, Steve Reich studied composition with Hall Overton, William Bergsma and Vincent Persichetti at The Juilliard School, and Luciano Berio and Darius Milhaud at Mills College. In 1966, he founded his own ensemble of three musicians, which rapidly grew to 18 members or more. Since 1971, Steve Reich and Musicians have frequently toured the world and have the distinction of performing to sold-out houses at venues as diverse as Carnegie Hall and The Bottom Line. In 1994, Reich was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters, followed by the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts in 1995. He was awarded the Commandeur de l’ordre des Arts et Lettres in 1999, with four additional honors in 2000 from Columbia University, Dartmouth College, University of California at Berkeley, and the California Institute of the Arts. In 2007, Reich was awarded the Polar Music Prize by the Royal Swedish Academy of Music. In 2009, he won his first-ever Pulitzer Prize for Double Sextet (2007). In 2014, Reich was awarded the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement in Music from the Venice Biennale.
Tuesday, November 1 at 8 PM | Stern/Perelman

Steve Reich 80th Birthday
Three Tales—Beryl Korot Video

David Robertson, Conductor
ICE | Sō Percussion | Synergy Vocals

ALL—STEVE REICH PROGRAM
Quartet
Pulse (World Premiere, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall)
Three Tales (Video by Beryl Korot)

Sponsored by DeWitt Stern Group, Inc.

Saturday, February 11 at 7:30 PM | Zankel

Kronos Quartet

Fodé Lassana Diabaté, Balafon

Program to include
STEVE REICH Triple Quartet
FODÉ LASSANA DIABATÉ Sunjata’s Time (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall)
RHANNON GIDDENS New Work (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall)
TANYA TAGAQ New Work (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall)
GARTH KNOX Satellites (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall)

Friday, March 24 at 7:30 PM | Zankel

American Composers Orchestra

George Manahan, Music Director and Conductor

ORCHESTRA UNDERGROUND: PAST FORWARD
DAVID HERTZBERG Symphony (World Premiere)
TREVOR WESTON Flying Fish (World Premiere, commissioned by Carnegie Hall)
STEVE REICH Tehillim

Wednesday, April 19 at 7:30 PM | Zankel

Three Generations: Bryce Dessner and Nico Muhly

Pekka Kuusisto, Violin | Nadia Sirotta, Viola
Nicolas Altstaedt, Cello | Lisa Kaplan, Piano
Nico Muhly, Piano | Chris Thompson, Percussion

BRYCE DESSNER Work for Solo Cello (NY Premiere); New Work for Violin and Cello (World Premiere, commissioned by Carnegie Hall); New Work for Violin, Viola, and Cello (World Premiere, commissioned by Carnegie Hall)
NICO MUHLY No Uncertain Terms (World Premiere, commissioned by Carnegie Hall)
Discussion with Steve Reich, Bryce Dessner, and Nico Muhly

Three Generations
Changing the Direction of Concert Music
Curated by Steve Reich

Thursday, March 30 at 7:30 PM | Zankel

Three Generations: John Adams and Terry Riley

Ensemble Signal | Brad Lubman, Conductor

JOHN ADAMS Shaker Loops
TERRY RILEY In C (original version)
Discussion with Steve Reich and John Adams

Thursday, April 6 at 7:30 PM | Zankel

Three Generations: Arvo Pärt, Philip Glass, and Steve Reich

Elizabeth Lim-Dutton, Violin | Todd Reynolds, Violin
Lois Martin, Viola | Jeanne Le Blanc, Cello
Michael Brown, Piano

ARVO PÄRT Für Alina; Fratres
PHILIP GLASS String Quartet No. 5
STEVE REICH Different Trains
Discussion with Steve Reich and Nadia Sirota, host of Q2 Music’s Meet the Composer podcast

Wednesday, April 26 at 7:30 PM | Zankel

Three Generations: David Lang, Julia Wolfe, and Michael Gordon

Bang on a Can All-Stars | JACK Quartet

DAVID LANG cheating, lying, stealing
JULIA WOLFE Lick; Early That Summer
MICHAEL GORDON Yo Shakespeare
Discussion with Steve Reich, David Lang, Julia Wolfe, and Michael Gordon

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