

# Lincoln Center Festival 2007

July 10–July 29

Date: June 14, 2007

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***Book of Longing*** (New York Premiere)  
A New Concert Work by Philip Glass  
Based on the Poetry of Leonard Cohen

Music: Philip Glass

Lyrics and Images: Leonard Cohen

Music Direction: Michael Riesman

Staging: Susan Marshall

Set: Christine Jones

Costumes: Kasia Walicka Maimone

Lighting: Scott Zielinski

With: Will Erat, Timothy Fain, Philip Glass, Tara Hugo, Daniel Keeling, Eleonore Oppenheim,  
Dominique Plaisant, Michael Riesman, Mick Rossi, Kate St. John, Andrew Sterman, Wendy Sutter

Recorded Voice: Leonard Cohen

Two performances:

Saturday, July 14 and Sunday, July 15 at 8 p.m.

Running time: 1 hour, 10 minutes; no intermission

**Rose Theater**, Frederick P. Rose Hall, 60<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway

Tickets: \$25, 35, 45, 55, 75

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**Pre-Performance Symposium: *Book of Longing***

Composer Philip Glass in conversation with Elliott Forrest, Peabody Award–winning broadcaster and producer.

July 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Stanley H. Kaplan Penthouse, Lincoln Center's Rose Building, 165 West 65<sup>th</sup> Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor

No tickets required. FREE

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*Lincoln Center Festival 2007* will present the New York premiere of ***Book of Longing***, a new concert work by Philip Glass based on Leonard Cohen's recently released poetry collection of the same name. Glass' rich, warm and melodic score will be performed by an ensemble of singers and musicians drawn from indie rock, classical, and new-music circles and will include Glass on the

keyboard. The music director is Michael Riesman and the stage director is award-winning choreographer Susan Marshall, who staged Glass's *Les Enfants Terribles*. The set designer is Christine Jones. Costumes are by Kasia Walicka Maimone and the lighting is by Scott Zielinski. Two performances of *Book of Longing* will be given at the Rose Theater, located in Frederick P. Rose Hall.

Though well-known as a songwriter and singer, and author of such era-defining songs as "Suzanne," "Bird on a Wire," and "Everybody Knows," Leonard Cohen has also published several collections of poems, prose, and lyrics. His *Book of Longing*, published in 2006, contains 167 poems, essays, short comic pieces, and drawings, many written in India and at Mt. Baldy, California's Zen monastery. Glass's score will be performed by an ensemble of six musicians including electronic keyboards, flute/bass clarinet, hand percussion, violin, cello, upright bass, and oboe/English horn. In addition, four vocalists will sing lyrics from Cohen's poetry as a quartet and in changing combinations. Leonard Cohen's distinctive voice, heard on recording, will read selections of the poems, underscored by the musical ensemble.

Designer Christine Jones will incorporate some of Cohen's drawings into the scenic design of *Book of Longing*. Jones designed *The Silver River*, which was given its New York premiere at *Lincoln Center Festival* 2000, and is currently represented on Broadway by *Spring Awakening*.

"I have found Cohen's work intensely beautiful, personal, and inspiring," Philip Glass has said of Leonard Cohen. "Six years in the making, our stars are finally aligned. For me, this is both a departure from my past work and a fulfillment of an artistic dream."

In addition to work on a world-wide scale, composer Philip Glass has a long association with *Lincoln Center Festival*. In 2001, the *Festival* presented the New York premiere of his opera *White Raven*, directed and designed by Robert Wilson. Also in 2001, *Lincoln Center Festival* presented a *Philip Glass Celebration*, with concerts featuring *Music in Twelve Parts*, performed by the Philip Glass Ensemble; a program of choral and chamber works including one U.S. premiere; and a world-premiere program of short films by five distinguished directors, all with music by Glass, performed live by the Philip Glass Ensemble.

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Born in Baltimore, Maryland, **Philip Glass** is a graduate of the University of Chicago and the Juilliard School. In the early 1960s, Glass spent two years of intensive study in Paris with Nadia Boulanger and while there, earned money by transcribing Ravi Shankar's Indian music into Western notation. Upon his return to New York, he applied these Eastern techniques to his own music. By 1974, Glass had a number of significant and innovative projects, creating a large collection of new music for his performing group, The Philip Glass Ensemble, and for the Mabou Mines Theater Company, which he co-founded. This period culminated in *Music in Twelve Parts*, followed by the landmark opera, *Einstein on the Beach*, created with Robert Wilson in 1976. Since *Einstein*, Glass has expanded his repertoire to include music for opera, dance, theater, chamber ensemble, orchestra, and film. His score for Martin Scorsese's *Kundun* received an Academy Award nomination, while his score for Peter Weir's *The Truman Show* won him a Golden Globe. His film score for Stephen Daldry's *The Hours* received Golden Globe, Grammy, and Academy Award nominations, and won a BAFTA in Film Music from the British Academy of Film and

Television Arts. Original scores for the critically-acclaimed films *The Illusionist* and *Notes on a Scandal* (for which he received an Oscar nomination) were released last year.

In 2004, Glass premiered *Orion*—a collaboration between Glass and six other international artists opening in Athens as part of the cultural celebration of the 2004 Olympics in Greece and his *Piano Concerto No. 2 (After Lewis and Clark)* with the Omaha Symphony Orchestra. Glass' latest symphonies, *Symphony No. 7* and *Symphony No. 8*, premiered in 2005 with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. and Bruckner Orchester Linz at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, respectively. 2005 also saw the premiere of *Waiting for the Barbarians*, an opera based on the book by J.M. Coetzee. Glass' orchestral tribute to Indian spiritual leader Sri Ramakrishna, *The Passion of Ramakrishna*, premiered in 2006 at Orange County Performing Arts Center. Glass maintains a full creative schedule throughout 2007. Several highly anticipated works will be unveiled this year, an opera about the end of the Civil War entitled *Appomattox* (October, San Francisco Opera) and *Book of Longing*. In April, the English National Opera, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Opera, will perform Glass' *Satyagraha* at their respective homes in London and New York. Glass continues to tour with The Philip Glass Ensemble in retrospective concerts and live with the films *Koyaanisqatsi*, *Powaqqatsi*, *La Belle et La Bête*, and *Dracula*. He is also planning to embark on a short tour performing his solo piano works.

**Leonard Cohen** began writing and recording his own folk-influenced songs in the 1960s, and since that time he has made 17 albums and his music, lyrics, and poetry have influenced many other singer-songwriters; more than a thousand renditions of his songs have been recorded by various artists. Among his best-known songs are "Suzanne" (initially a hit for Judy Collins), "Bird on the Wire," "Famous Blue Raincoat," "Hallelujah" (made immortal by Jeff Buckley's version), "First We Take Manhattan," and, more recently, "Everybody Knows" and "Waiting for the Miracle," "The Future," and "Anthem". Born in 1934 to a middle-class Jewish family in a suburb of Montreal, Canada, Cohen was inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame in 1991 and the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2006.

In addition to writing and performing his own songs, Cohen has written nearly a dozen books of poetry, beginning in 1956 with *Let Us Compare Mythologies*, published while he was an undergraduate at McGill University, as well as two novels and other collections of lyrics, prose, meditations, psalms, and artwork. Published in 2006 by Ecco, a division of HarperCollins, *Book of Longing* is Cohen's first publication since the 1993 *Stranger Music* and includes 167 previously unpublished poems, lyrics, prose, and ink drawings. *Book of Longing* was written on southern California's Mount Baldy (Cohen served for several years as a Zen Buddhist monk at the Mount Baldy Zen Center) and in Los Angeles, Montreal, and Mumbai, India, which Cohen visited regularly during the late 1990s. Of the collection, the *New York Times* wrote, "*Book of Longing* has exceptional range. It is clear yet steamy, cosmic yet private, both playful and profound."

Cohen is the subject of a 2006 documentary film, *Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man*, which includes live footage of a 2005 tribute concert held at the Sydney Opera House at which Nick Cave, Rufus Wainwright, Kate and Anna McGarrigle, Martha Wainwright, and Antony (of Antony and the Johnsons) performed covers of Cohen's songs, and recording artists from such groups as U2 offered laudatory comments.

**Michael Riesman** (Music Direction) is a composer, conductor, keyboardist, and record producer, and is the Music Director of the Philip Glass Ensemble. He has conducted many recordings of works by Glass, including *Einstein on the Beach*, *Glassworks*, *The Photographer*, *Songs From Liquid Days*, *Dance Pieces*, *Music in 12 Parts*, and *Passages*, and almost every Glass film soundtrack including *Koyaanisqatsi*, *Mishima*, *Powaqqatsi*, *The Thin Blue Line*, *Anima Mundi*, *A Brief History of Time*, *Candyman*, *Kundun*, *The Truman Show*, *Naqoyqatsi*, *The Fog of War*, *Secret Window*, *Taking Lives*, *Undertow*, *Roving Mars*, and *The Illusionist*. He was the pianist for the Academy-Award-nominated soundtrack for *The Hours*, and has also recorded a solo piano arrangement of that score. He has received two Grammy nominations as conductor, for *The Photographer* and for *Kundun*. He has conducted and performed on albums by Paul Simon (*Hearts and Bones*), Scott Johnson (*Patty Hearst*), Mike Oldfield (*Platinum*), Ray Manzarek (*Carmina Burana*), David Bowie (*BlackTie/White Noise*), and Gavin Bryars (*Jesus' Blood Never Failed Me Yet*). Mr. Riesman released an album, *Formal Abandon*, on the Rizzoli label, which originated from a commission by choreographer Lucinda Childs. His film scores include *Enormous Changes at the Last Minute*, *Pleasantville* (1976), and Christian Blackwood's *Signed: Lino Brocka*. Mr. Riesman studied at Mannes College of Music and Harvard University, where he received a Ph.D., and has taught at Harvard and SUNY-Purchase. He has been Composer in Residence at the Marlboro Music Festival and at the Tanglewood Festival, where he conducted performances of his own works.

**Susan Marshall** (Staging) has created over thirty dance works in collaboration with the dancers of Susan Marshall & Company, including *One and Only You*, *The Most Dangerous Room in the House*, *Spectators at an Event*, *Fields of View*, *Arms*, *Interior with Seven Figures*, and *Kiss*. Marshall's collaboration with the dancers of Susan Marshall & Company has been the main influence on the development of her choreographic process and work. Marshall has also created dances for the Lyon Opera Ballet, Frankfurt Ballet, Boston Ballet and Montreal Danse. Her signature aerial duet, *Kiss*, is in the current repertory of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and Pacific Northwest Ballet. Marshall has directed a movie musical for RIPFest and has also choreographed dances in operas staged for the Los Angeles Music Center and the New York City Opera. A 2000 recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship, Marshall has also received a Dance Magazine Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Brandeis University Creative Arts Citation, the American Choreographer Award and two NYSCA Fellowships. She has received three New York Dance and Performance Awards (*BESSIES*) for Outstanding Choreographic Achievement, the first, in 1985, following the company's premiere concert at Dance Theater Workshop, and the second, in 1997, for her collaboration with Philip Glass on *Les Enfants Terribles*, and the third, in 2006 for *Cloudless*.

**Kasia Walicka Maimone's** (Costume Designer) film credits include *Capote*, *Jesus' Son*, *The Opportunists*, *Hysterical Blindness*, *Songcatcher*, Mira Nair's segment *India in 11'9"01-September 11* and Ang Lee's BMW short, *The Hire: Chosen*. Her opera projects include Philip Glass's *Les Enfants Terribles* and *The Sound of a Voice*. Walicka Maimone has also participated in experimental theater pieces by Robert Woodruff's *Oedipus Rex*, Richard Foreman's *Maria Del Bosco* and *King Cowboy Rufus Rules the Universe*, and Gadi Roll's *Romeo and Juliet*. She has also collaborated with choreographers Susan Marshall, Twyla Tharp, Donald Byrd and David Dorfman.

**Scott Zielinski** (Lighting Designer) is based in New York; he designed the Broadway production of

*Topdog/Underdog*, as well as productions at Lincoln Center, The Joseph Papp Public Theater, Theater for a New Audience, Manhattan Theater Club, Playwrights Horizons, New York Theater Workshop, Signature Theater, and Classic Stage Company, among others. He has also designed extensively at regional theaters throughout the U.S. Internationally his work includes productions in London, Paris, Edinburgh, Rotterdam, Hamburg, Berlin, Stuttgart, Zurich, Vienna, Stockholm, Oslo, Göteborg, Adelaide, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Singapore, Luang Prabang, Fukuoka, Toronto, and Ottawa. For dance his designs have been seen at The Joyce, Kennedy Center, American Dance Festival (all with Twyla Tharp), American Ballet Theatre, National Ballet of Canada, Centre National de la Danse, San Francisco Ballet, Boston Ballet, and Kansas City Ballet. His opera designs include work for New York City Opera, The English National Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Minnesota Opera, Toronto Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, Arizona Opera, Gotham Opera, Berkshire Opera, Opera Colorado, Spoleto Festival USA, and BAM.

**Christine Jones's** (Set Designer) work on Broadway includes *Spring Awakening*, with music by Duncan Sheik, and *The Green Bird* directed by Julie Taymor. Off-Broadway she has created the lighting for *Much Ado About Nothing* (Shakespeare in the Park); *Burn This* (Signature Theater); *Flesh and Blood*, *Nocturne* (NYTW); *True Love* (the Zipper); *Debbie Does Dallas*, (Jane Street). Her work in opera includes *Giulio Cesare* (Houston Grand Opera), *Lucia di Lammermoor* (New York City Opera), and *The Elephant Man* (Minnesota Opera). She was co-creator and designer of *The Onion Cellar* featuring the Dresden Dolls for ART in Boston; creator and designer of *Theater for One*, a booth for one actor and one audience member, for which she directs new work. Jones holds an MFA from NYU, and is a professor at Princeton University and NYU.

*Book of Longing* is commissioned by *Lincoln Center Festival 2007*; Luminato Festival of Arts and Creativity; The Barbican Centre; Wales Millennium Center; Stanford Lively Arts; University of Texas. World Premiere: June 1, 2007 Luminato Festival