

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Automated Instruments Rock the Vancouver Art Gallery's March 23rd FUSE

VANCOUVER, BC — The **Vancouver Art Gallery's FUSE** will present composer **Steve Reich's** most emblematic early works performed by the city's finest percussionists, automated instruments by internationally renowned sound artist **Maxime Rioux** and a performance by critically acclaimed Vancouver dancer **Tara Cheyenne Friedenber**g. A DJ in a gallery-turned-lounge, dinner and drinks on the Gallery Cafe's happening patio and guided tours of the exhibitions **Fred Herzog: Vancouver Photographs** and **Acting the Part: Photography as Theatre** make the **March 23rd FUSE** an event not to miss.

Following their sold-out celebration of Steve Reich's music in late 2006, Music on Main will present the great modern composer's early works *Drumming (Part One)*, *Clapping Music* and *Come Out*. Throughout the Gallery, percussionists Robin Reid, Martin Fisk, Lauri Lyster and Vancouver Symphony Orchestra principal percussionist Vern Griffiths will play music by a man the *Village VOICE* recently called "...America's greatest living composer," the *New Yorker* labeled "...the most original musical thinker of our time," and *The New York Times* declared as "...among the great composers of the century." From his early taped speech pieces to his recent video opera, Reich's path has embraced not only aspects of Western Classical music, but the structures, harmonies and rhythms of non-Western and American vernacular music. Music on Main is Canada's newest music series founded by Artistic Director David Pay. Promising great music in a casual but stimulating environment, the series offers top-flight musicians, an ear for contemporary music and a refreshing concert format.

Taking over the Gallery's Rotunda, internationally renowned sound artist Maxime Rioux will construct an automated orchestra composed of self-propelled acoustic instruments built from drums, cymbals, strings, bells and cans, among other things. Called the *Automates Ki*, the artist's mechanized acoustic sculptures are animated by inaudible frequencies that cause them to operate on their own terms, creating abstract and sporadic melodies and ritualistic trance-like rhythms. Using an impulsion board, much like a traditional mixing board, the artist manipulates his creations by varying the electrical current provided to them, allowing them to react with a wide range of movements and sounds.

Also performing in the Galley's Rotunda is popular Vancouver dancer Tara Cheyenne Friedenbergl who's highly physical, character-driven works are a hybrid of dance and theatre. For the past 15 years Friedenbergl has been performing and creating work on Vancouver's stages, across Canada, the US and Europe. She received a Jessie nomination for her choreography of the sell-out hit Urinetown the Musical at the Firehall Arts Centre, and her recent work *bANGER*, called "deliciously clever" by The Globe and Mail, was People's Choice at the 2005 Dancing on the Edge Festival .

The Vancouver Art Gallery's *FUSE* is the city's most original night of art, music and performance. Taking place the last Friday of every month, *FUSE* offers an ever-changing array of programming featuring Vancouver's thriving artistic communities. From aerial dancers performing on the Gallery walls, to pop culture lectures on Picasso, *FUSE* puts Vancouver's leading visual arts destination in an entirely new light - at night. Tickets to *FUSE* are \$15 per person. Members of the Vancouver Art Gallery receive free admission.

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Media sponsors:



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