

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. PREMIERE OF MACKEY'S *DREAMHOUSE* WITH THE BOSTON MODERN ORCHESTRA PROJECT

The **Boston Modern Orchestra Project** will celebrate the final concert of its 10th anniversary season with the U.S. premiere of **Steven Mackey's *Dreamhouse*** at Sanders Theatre on Saturday, May 19. As the nation's only orchestra dedicated exclusively to performing, commissioning, and recording new music of the 21st century, BMOP has turned its focus for this concert to American composers inspired by rock and roll. The U.S. premiere will reconnect all the original artists from its 2003 world premiere at the Holland Festival. **Gil Rose** and **Rinde Eckert** will be joined by **Synergy Vocals**, an "ear-tickling and entrancing" vocal quartet, and Seth Josel's guitar quartet, **Catch**.

diverse, idiosyncratic,
harmonious

Mackey composed ***Dreamhouse*** in response to a commission proposal from **Dutch Radio**: "We want to realize your dream." Recounts **Mackey**, "At that point my dream was simply to hear a band of diverse elements playing and singing together with abandon.... I wanted each element to be fully realized with music rich in detail, retaining their integrity and idiosyncratic character while combining to form a harmonious tapestry of sound and fluent continuity. Admittedly, when expressed in this way it sounds like propaganda for an extravagant, liberal, secular, democratic, free speech, utopia – the American dream. Perhaps it was the *Zeitgeist* of the post 9/11 era, but when I first introduced my text collaborator, **Rinde Eckert**, to my sketches for the piece he independently arrived at a similar, quasi-political interpretation."

reflections on
building a house

As the piece evolved, the "dream" that **Mackey** and **Eckert** explored in ***Dreamhouse*** took on both personal and political dimensions, unfolding through the metaphor of building a house. Anxieties surface as the notion of "domestic security" becomes increasingly problematic, threatened from the inside – "No matter how precisely strings are laid, there will be foundation flaws" – and from the outside, the elements that endanger one's walls (or borders).

selling the *house*

A commercial recording of ***Dreamhouse*** will be released in 2008.