

October 2003

PREMIERE TOUR OF REICH'S CELLO COUNTERPOINT INCLUDES PERFORMANCE AT CARNEGIE'S ZANKEL HALL

On Saturday, October 18, cellist Maya Beiser introduces **Steve Reich's** *Cello Counterpoint*, at The Krannert Center, Champaign/Urbana (Illinois), as part of a touring multi-media program called "World to Come," encompassing text, vocals, dramatic lighting and interactive videos. Further stops on Beiser's tour include Zankel Hall at Carnegie, where *Cello Counterpoint* has its New York premiere on October 30, then Kennedy Center (November 2), and the University of California at Santa Cruz (Nov. 11). For additional dates in 2004, visit www.boosey.com/reich.

the power of
multiplicity

The concept behind Reich's *Counterpoint* series is simple yet arrestingly original: his characteristic contrapuntal textures merge from ensembles of a single instrument, or a solo player and pre-recorded multi-track tape. The earlier works in the series are *Vermont Counterpoint*, for eleven flutists (or flute and tape), *New York Counterpoint* for multiple clarinets (1985), and *Electric Counterpoint* for electric guitars (1987). Reich calls *Cello Counterpoint* "one of the most difficult pieces I have ever written, calling for extremely tight, fast-moving rhythmic relationships not commonly found in the cello literature." Like the other *Counterpoint* pieces, it can be played either by a soloist with the other parts pre-recorded, or by a live ensemble.

a freer approach
to structure

Notes Reich, "Both the first and last movements are based on a similar four chord cycle that moves ambiguously back and forth between C minor and Eb major. However, this harmonic cycle is treated extremely freely, particularly in the third movement. As a matter of fact, what strikes me most about these movements is that they are generally the freest in structure of any I have ever written. The second, slow movement is a canon in Eb minor involving, near the end of the movement, seven separate voices."

Three Tales, two discs

In Reich recording news, Nonesuch has just issued *Three Tales* in a two-disc, DVD/CD package – the ideal format for this controversial, and lauded collaborative work with video artist Beryl Korot. Required viewing (and listening) for Reich fans!