BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Blanton Museum's Acclaimed SoundSpace Series Transports Visitors to 1960s Downtown Manhattan



SoundSpace: Downtown NYC 1960 Sunday, April 27 | 2:00pm

AUSTIN, Texas – February 25, 2014 – The Blanton Museum of Art's SoundSpace series returns on Sunday, April 27 with a vibrant lineup of experimental works by minimalist composers Steve Reich, Phillip Glass, and others based in lower Manhattan in the 1960s. In conjunction with the Blanton's exhibition Converging Lines: Eva Hesse and Sol LeWitt, the program showcases the impressive network of artistic innovation that thrived in downtown New York City during this period.

The Austin-based Invincible Czars will lead off the program, performing their unique adaptation of Terry Riley's In C with choreography by Jennifer Sherburn of Austin's Forklift Danceworks. Other highlights of the program include Steve Reich's Clapping Music and Drumming performed by line upon line percussion, a performance of Steve Reich's Different Trains by the Felix Quartet (principals of the Austin Symphony Orchestra and Austin Lyric Opera), and duo performances on piano harp by Outlier, comprised of NYC-based Max Bernstein and San Antonio-based Mark McCoin. Jason Phelps of Intergalactic Nemesis will perform conceptual works from La Monte Young's Composition 1960 and Brent Fariss of the New Music Co-op will showcase several new compositions. In a special presentation led by One Ounce Opera, visitors are invited to participate in an audience Sing-A-Long of Phillip Glass's The New Rule, a work specifically designed to be performed by both amateur and professional singers.

Bringing together university students from across the State, SoundSpace: Downtown NYC 1960 will host The University of Texas at Austin's Flute Choir, The University of Texas at San Antonio's New Music Lab, premiering new works by UTSA students, and the Texas State New Music Ensemble, presenting Thomas Clark's Effulgence.

In addition to live musical performances, the program will feature several sound installations in unexpected locations throughout the museum. These installations will include Steve Reich's *Pendulum Music* and *Solo Motion Sound*, La Monte Young's *Compositions* 1960, and Philip Glass' 1+1.

On March 12, 2014 the SoundSpace series will serve as the primary case study in a panel organized by the Blanton Museum of Art for the 2014 SXSW Music Conference and Festival. Museum Music: Art Galleries as Performance Space explores the benefits of making innovative connections between art and music through musical collaborations in the museum space, and features panelists Adam Bennett, Steven Parker, and Veronica Roberts.

Heralded by the *Austin American-Statesman* as "The most successful new music event in the City," *SoundSpace* is organized for the Blanton by Artistic Director <u>Steven Parker</u>. A dynamic concert series that brings together musicians and other creatives from all corners of Austin's artistic community, *SoundSpace* is now in its fourth year. The series focuses on making connections between visual and sound art, and demonstrates the Blanton's commitment to nurturing collaborations that provide innovative experiences with art, inspire creativity, and support the educational mission of The University of Texas at Austin.

SoundSpace: Downtown NYC 1960 is open to the public and included with the purchase of general museum admission: \$9 for adults, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students, and free for Blanton Members, UT Students, Faculty and Staff, and Children 12 and under. More information can be found at www.blantonmuseum.org.

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About the Blanton Museum of Art:

Founded in 1963, the Blanton Museum of Art is one of the foremost university art museums in the country and holds the largest public collection in Central Texas. Recognized for its modern and contemporary American and Latin American art, Italian Renaissance and baroque paintings, and encyclopedic collection of prints and drawings, the Blanton offers thought provoking, visually arresting, and personally moving encounters with art.

The museum is located at the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Congress Avenue and is open Tuesday though Friday from 10 - 5, Saturday from 11-5, and Sunday from 1-5. Thursdays are free admission days and every third Thursday the museum is open until 9. Admission Prices: Adults \$9, Kids 12 and under FREE, Seniors (65+) \$7, Youth/College Students (13-21) \$5. Admission is free to members, all current UT ID-holders. For additional information call (512) 471-7324 or visit www.blantonmuseum.org.

For more information contact:

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