

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JANUARY 7, 2008



Elliott Carter's 100th Year

Composer's centenary celebrated internationally in 2008 with performances in cities including New York, Madrid, Turin, Amsterdam, Paris, Berlin, Tokyo, Vienna, and London.

"I consider every piece of mine a musical adventure." -- Elliott Carter

Twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize, first composer to receive the United States National Medal of Arts, one of the few composers ever awarded Germany's Ernst Von Siemens Music Prize, in 1988 made Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the government of France, and one of the only living composers elected to the Classical Music Hall of Fame, **Elliott Carter** is internationally recognized as one of the leading American voices of the classical music tradition. At 99 years old, he has created a body of more than 130 works, thirty of which were composed in the last ten years, and nine of which were composed in 2007 alone. The Carter Centenary will be celebrated internationally with performances in cities throughout the world - including New York, Madrid, Turin, Amsterdam, Paris, Berlin, Tokyo, Vienna, and London -- with several of his new pieces receiving premieres even in his 100th year.

In New York, **The Juilliard School** will kick off Carter's centennial with the 24th annual festival, this year called **FOCUS! All About Elliott**, directed by festival founder **Joel Sachs**. From January 25 through February 2, the festival will present six full-length concerts at The Juilliard School's Peter Jay Sharp Theater, featuring **Pierre Boulez** conducting musicians from the **New Juilliard Ensemble** and the **Lucerne Festival Academy**, **Joel Sachs** conducting the **New Juilliard Ensemble**, **James Levine** conducting the **Juilliard Orchestra**, and some 50 Juilliard soloists and chamber players. A highlight of the program will be the New York premiere of *Symphonia: sum fluxae pretium spei* on February 2. Mr. Carter will be interviewed by **Joel Sachs** in a special pre-concert event on January 31 at 7 PM.

This summer, the **Tanglewood Music Center (TMC)** will present the **2008 Festival of Contemporary Music (FCM)** from July 20 to 24, devoted wholly to Carter. The Festival will focus on the remarkable productivity of his recent years, presenting new works including the world premieres of *Sound Fields* for string orchestra and *Mad Regales*, both commissioned by TMC. Featured performers include **Oliver Knussen**, **Charles Rosen**, **Ursula Oppens**, **James Levine**, **James Sommerville**, **John Oliver**, **The TMC Fellows**, **TMC Vocal Fellows**, **The New Fromm Players**, **The Tanglewood Music Center (TMC) Orchestra**, and **The Boston Symphony Orchestra**.

Worldwide, performers such as **Pierre-Laurent Aimard** and **Pacifica Quartet** will mark the event with international tours of signature Carter works, while institutions such as **Saint Louis Symphony**, **Nash Ensemble (UK)**, **Lucerne Festival Academy (Switzerland)**, and **Casa da Música (Portugal)** will dedicate entire evenings to a mixture of Carter repertoire.

Mr. Carter's 100th birthday (December 11, 2008), will be celebrated jointly in London, where Pierre Boulez will lead the **Ensemble Intercontemporain** in an all-Carter program featuring Pierre-Laurent Aimard at Queen Elizabeth Hall; in Birmingham, where the **City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra** and Elspeth Dutch will perform the UK premiere of Carter's Horn Concerto; and New York City, with James Levine leading pianist **Daniel Barenboim** and the **Boston Symphony Orchestra** in the New York premiere of *Interventions* for Piano and Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. This new work was co-commissioned by The Carnegie Hall Corporation, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and the Staatskapelle Berlin. This performance is to be the centerpiece of Carnegie Hall's centenary celebration, which will be announced in its entirety later this month.

Other US Events (partial list):

January 30 - *The Complete String Quartets*, performed by the **Pacifica Quartet**
Presented at The New York Society for Ethical Culture by **The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center**. Featuring a day-long workshop discussing Carter's works on January 29

March 18 - World Premiere of *Figment IV*, for solo viola
Samuel Rhodes, viola, at the Freer Gallery in Washington, DC. Subsequent performances in Philadelphia (Mar. 19), New York (Mar. 21), and Boston (Mar. 23)

April 29 - World Premiere of *Clarinet Quintet*
The Juilliard Quartet, with **Charles Neidich**, clarinet, at The Juilliard School's Peter Jay Sharp Theater, commissioned by the Juilliard School

Featured European Events (partial list):

January 11-16 - **Elliott Carter Carte Blanche**
Featuring the **Spanish National Orchestra** at the Auditorio Nacional in Madrid, Spain

January 12-18 - **Rai Nuova Musica**
Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI and special guests in Turin, Italy

November 18-27 - **Neue Oper Wien**, Austrian Premiere of *What Next?*

A complete list of works and performances, as well as downloadable photos, images, biographies, and a video interview, can be found on the Carter centenary website: www.carter100.com

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