

**wexner center**  
for the arts

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## **ELECTRONICA FORERUNNER TERRY RILEY PERFORMS AT WEXNER CENTER WITH HIS ENSEMBLE**

### **FELLOW BAY AREA ELECTRONICA INNOVATORS MATMOS OPEN SHOW**

**“Discovering something essential about the lifting of our spirits.” — *Los Angeles Times*  
on Terry Riley**

Pioneer of ecstatic trance music and minimalism, **Terry Riley** makes his Columbus debut **Friday, April 19 at 8 pm** at the Wexner Center for the Arts, performing piano and guitar-based music with his **All Stars**. Drawn from sources as diverse as Chopin, Indian ragas, and John Coltrane’s improvisations, Riley’s deeply affecting music continues to fascinate as he takes his audiences on evolving musical voyages. His compositions spiral in intricate, interlocking cascades of sound, from the ecstatic trance music of his sixties classic *In C* to the transporting solos on the CD *Lisbon Concert* to the most recent guitar-based composition *The Book of Abbeyozzud*.

Performing with Riley are award-winning musicians guitarist Gyan Riley (Terry’s son), violinist Tracy Silverman, and saxophonist George Brooks.

Bay Area electronic innovators **Matmos**, fresh from their collaboration with Björk on her world tour and on her recent release *Vespertine*, open the concert. As part of their set, Matmos will debut a special composition in tribute to Terry Riley, whom they acknowledge as a key forerunner of electronic music—including the use of samples and loops—that have greatly informed the musical ideas of Matmos and their generation.

news release

## **TERRY RILEY**

A pianist and composer, California native Terry Riley quietly changed the course of 20th-century music as a founder of the minimalist movement with his revolutionary 1964 classic *In C*. Terry's multilayered Eastern-flavored compositions, noted for their brightly orchestrated rhythms, set the stage for the New Age movement that appeared a decade or so later. His influence is heard throughout the world in works of prominent composers Steve Reich, Philip Glass, and John Adams, and in the music of rock groups from The Who to Tangerine Dream. The *London Sunday Times* calls Terry Riley "one of the 1,000 makers of the 20th century."

In the 1970s, Riley became a disciple of revered Indian raga vocalist Pandit Pran Nath, frequently appearing in concert with him for the next 26 years. The Indian Raga influence has remained a lifelong force in Riley's music, where it mingles easily with the jazz style of his compositions. Riley has also had a 20-year association with the Kronos Quartet that has resulted in many collaborations, including the *Three Requiem* quartets written by Riley and commissioned by Kronos in the late '90s. The third Requiem quartet, *Requiem for Adam* (composed in tribute to Kronos Quartet leader David Harrington's son Adam, who died while hiking with his family), received wide critical acclaim for both Terry and Kronos. In recent years Terry Riley's earliest unreleased work has been issued on CD as part of an extensive archive project. These recordings, such as last year's *You're No Good* have highlighted Terry Riley's foreshadowing of today's electronic music scene.

For more information on Terry Riley or the All Stars, visit their individual web sites: [www.terryriley.com](http://www.terryriley.com), [www.georgebrooks.com](http://www.georgebrooks.com), and [www.tracysilverman.com](http://www.tracysilverman.com).

## **MATMOS**

Opening the Terry Riley show is a set by fellow Bay Area electronic duo **Matmos**, rising stars on the electronica. Combining contemporary sampling, sequencing, and digital signal processing techniques, Matmos has built a loyal following and gathered critical acclaim in recent years. Matmos's self-titled debut CD in 1997 took the electronic scene by storm, garnering rave reviews at home and abroad. Last at the Wexner Center in October 2000, they made their Columbus debut with Louisville neo-chamber ensemble Rachel's. Matmos has collaborated with a diverse cast of musicians, from Rachel's to Icelandic pop phenomenon Björk, for her *Vespertine* album and as her backing band for her last world tour, where they also appeared as the opening band. For further information on Matmos visit [www.brainwashed.com/matmos](http://www.brainwashed.com/matmos).

## **RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES**

While at the Wexner Center, Terry Riley will meet with Ohio State students involved in contemporary composition from the School of Music. Riley will share insights about the path and influences of his career and his approaches to composition today, and discuss current projects such as his commission from NASA to create a new work based on magnetic fields generated from distant planets.

## **EVENT SUPPORT**

Lead support for the Wexner Center's 2001–02 performing arts season is provided by **AT&T** and the **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**. Major season support is provided by **Philip Morris Companies Inc.** Additional season support is provided by the **Ohio Arts Council** and the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation**. Promotional support is provided by **WCBE, 90.5 FM**.

## **CALENDAR INFORMATION: Terry Riley and the All Stars / with Matmos**

**Description:** Minimalist pioneer Terry Riley and the All Stars perform piano and guitar-based compositions; fellow Bay Area sonic innovators Matmos open the concert. Presented by the Wexner Center for the Arts.

**Date and time:** Friday, April 19 at 8 pm

**Location:** Weigel Hall, 1866 College Rd. at Ohio State University (adjacent to Wexner Center)

**Tickets:** \$20 general public/\$16 members and OSU students

**Ticket outlets:** Wexner Center, 614/292-3535; Ticketmaster outlets, 614/431-3600

**Public information:** 614/292-3535

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## **Images of Matmos available upon request.**

The Wexner Center for the Arts is The Ohio State University's multidisciplinary, international laboratory for the exploration and advancement of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, screenings, performances, artist residencies, and educational programs, the Wexner Center acts as a forum where established and emerging artists can test ideas and where diverse audiences can participate in cultural experiences that enhance understanding of the art of our time. In its programs, the Wexner Center balances a commitment to experimentation with a commitment to traditions of innovation and affirms the university's mission of education, research, and community service.

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