



MEDIA RELEASE

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Zeitgeist's 9th Annual Early Music Festival featuring Pauline Oliveros

Zeitgeist's **9th Annual Early Music Festival** explores the powerful contributions of our musical pioneers with a celebration of composer Pauline Oliveros. From the 1960s until her death in 2016, Oliveros influenced American music profoundly through her work with improvisation, meditation, electronic music, myth and ritual.

As a group of musicians dedicated to the music of our time, Zeitgeist knows the most meaningful expressions of today are informed by the musical contributions of yesterday. The annual Early Music Festival honors that artistic debt with performances of influential and rarely-heard works by 20th century masters.

The festival will be preceded by four **Early Music Workshops** at Studio Z featuring performances and discussion of Oliveros's music, including an overview of her work, discussion of her musical activism, her influence on composers of today, and a Deep Listening workshop.

Pauline Oliveros (1932-2016) was a senior figure in contemporary American music. Her career spans fifty years of boundary dissolving music making. In the 1950s she was part of a circle of iconoclastic composers, artists, and poets gathered together in San Francisco. Awarded the 2012 John Cage award from the Foundation of Contemporary Arts, Oliveros was Distinguished Research Professor of Music at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY and Darius Milhaud Artist-in-Residence at Mills College. Oliveros was as interested in finding new sounds as in finding new uses for old ones. Her primary instrument was the accordion, an unexpected visitor perhaps to musical cutting edge, but one which she approached in much the same way that a Zen musician might approach the Japanese shakuhachi. Oliveros's life as a composer, performer and humanitarian was about opening her own and others' sensibilities to the universe and facets of sounds. Since the 1960s, she influenced American music profoundly through her work with improvisation, meditation, electronic music, myth and ritual. Pauline Oliveros was the founder of "Deep Listening," which comes from her childhood fascination with sounds and from her works in concert music with composition, improvisation and electroacoustics. She described Deep Listening as "a way of listening in every possible way to everything possible to hear no matter what you are doing. Such intense listening includes the sounds of daily life, of nature, of one's own thoughts as well as musical sounds. Deep Listening is my life practice." Oliveros founded the Deep

Listening Institute, formerly Pauline Oliveros Foundation, now the Center for Deep Listening at Rensselaer.

Early Music Workshop: Music of Pauline Oliveros

March 19, 6 p.m. \$10

Join Zeitgeist for an overview of the music of Pauline Oliveros. Zeitgeist and guest artists will perform and discuss several works from throughout Oliveros' career, including her speaking choir piece *Sound Patterns*, early electronic works, and her text-based work *The Well and the Gentle*.

Early Music Workshop: Pauline Oliveros - Artist & Activist

March 26, 6 p.m. \$10

Pauline Oliveros created work that commented on contemporary society and encouraged social change. Join us as we explore her work addressing feminism and our relationship to our environment and each other. Featuring a performance of *To Valerie Solanas and Marilyn Monroe in Recognition of Their Desperation*.

Early Music Workshop: Deepening the Legacy

April 2, 6 p.m. \$10

Composer and licensed Deep Listening practitioner Viv Corringham has written a new work for Zeitgeist in honor of Pauline Oliveros and the Early Music Festival. Come hear a preview of this new work, learn about Deep Listening, and discover how Oliveros's ideas continue to influence musicians today.

Early Music Workshop: Deep Listening with Viv Corringham

April 6, 3:30 p.m. \$10

Pauline Oliveros's Deep Listening is meant to be practiced by anyone. Join licensed Deep Listening practitioner Viv Corringham in deep listening exercises that will enhance your experience of sound and deepen your experience with the world around you.

Zeitgeist Early Music Festival: Pauline Oliveros

April 4-7

\$15 each day / \$10 students & seniors / \$40 festival pass

Thursday, April 4

7:30 p.m. Vocal works by Oliveros, including *Sound Patterns*, *Sound Patterns and Tropes*, and *For Valeria Solanas and Marilyn Monroe in Recognition of Their Desperation*

Friday, April 5

7:30 p.m. *The Well and the Gentle*, *Sound Piece*, and the premiere of *Listening for Pauline and IONE*, a new work by Viv Corringham in recognition of Oliveros

Saturday, April 6

3:30 p.m. Early Music Workshop: Deep Listening with Viv Corringham

5:30 p.m. Screening of Oliveros's opera *Io and Her and the Trouble with Him*

7:30 p.m. *The Earthworm Also Sings: A Deep Listening Event*

Sunday, April 7

2:00 p.m. Chamber music by Oliveros, including *To Valerie Solanas and Marilyn Monroe in Recognition of Their Desperation*, *Rolling Meditation*, *Norwegian Wood*, and *Six for New Time* (for Sonic Youth).

Guest Artists: Adam Zahller, Tiffany Skidmore, Walter Skidmore, Mike Duffy, Justin Spenner, Joey Crane, Gabby Doran, Svea Drentlaw, Benjamin Mansavage Klein, Philip Blackburn, Queen Drea, Joan Hutton, Jill Dawe, Brian Heller, Scott Miller, Isaac Mayhew, Alyssa Anderson, Dameun Strange, Ann Millikan

All events at:

Studio Z: 275 East Fourth Street, Suite 200, St. Paul

Tickets and info at zeitgeistnewmusic.org.

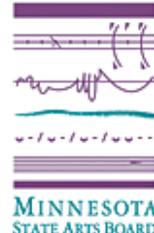
About Zeitgeist:

Founded in 1977, Zeitgeist is a new music chamber ensemble consisting of two percussion, piano and woodwinds, and is one of the oldest and most successful new music groups in the country. Based in St. Paul, Minn., the group presents an annual concert series and delivers a wide variety of community-based performance programs for residents of the Twin Cities and the surrounding areas. Zeitgeist's mission is to bring newly created music to life with performances that engage and stimulate. Members are: Heather Barringer, percussion; Patti Cudd, percussion; Pat O'Keefe, woodwinds; Nicola Melville, piano.

Zeitgeist is supported by the The City of St. Paul's Cultural STAR Program, The Amphion Foundation, The Knight Foundation, The Lowertown Future Fund, the Target Foundation, the McKnight Foundation, the Jerome Foundation, the Albrecht Family Foundation, the Aaron Copland Fund, The Mandel Family Foundation, and the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature.

Zeitgeist Early Music Workshops are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Zeitgeist Early Music Festival is made possible in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.



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