SATURDAY 7 JUNE 2025

DOUBLE PIANO MUSIC

Namekawa Davies
Piano Duo

IGOR STRAVINSKY
KEITH JARRETT
JOHN CAGE
PHILIP GLASS

BOLDTENDENCIES

BOLD
TENDENCIES

SATURDAY 7 JUNE at 7.30PM

DOUBLE PIANO MUSIC

Namekawa-Davies Duo

"This is not a symphony in which I have included Psalms to be sung. On the contrary, it is the singing of Psalms that I am symphonizing."

– Igor Stravinsky

“If sound is music and came from silence, then silence is potentially greater than sound. If the sound is effective, it should actually have some chemical – some sort of physiological – effect on the listener.”

– Keith Jarrett

“Music is an affirmation of life – not an attempt to bring order out of chaos nor to suggest improvements in creation, but simply a way of waking up to the very life we're living.”

– John Cage

“When you hear for the first time the music you have composed, there is that astonishing moment when the idea that you carried in your heart and your mind comes back to you in the hands of a musician.”

– Philip Glass

FLOORS 7-10
PECKHAM MULTI-STOREY
CAR PARK
LONDON SE15 4ST

BOLDTENDENCIES.COM

BOLD
TENDENCIES

Programme

Igor Stravinsky: Symphony of Psalms (1930) arr. by Shostakovich

I · Psalm 38, Exaudi orationem meam, Domine
II · Psalm 39, Expectans expectavi, Dominum
III · Psalm 150, Alleluia. Laudate Dominum

Keith Jarrett: Ritual (1977) (UK Premiere)

Interval

John Cage: The Seasons (1947)

Philip Glass: Four Movements for Two Pianos (2008) (UK Premiere)

FLOORS 7-10
PECKHAM MULTI-STOREY
CAR PARK
LONDON SE15 4ST

BOLDTENDENCIES.COM

BOLD
TENDENCIES

In our year of Deja Vu, a double welcome. Welcome to this special spectacular programme and welcome to this special spectacular place.

The rich sonorities of multiple pianos hold a special place in music history. Whereas most orchestral instruments play one line at a time, a keyboard allows one player to essay melody, harmony, counterpoint and rhythm to form a complete range of expression. Adding a second instrument enlarges the resonance and intensity even more, and many composers have written for the combination with sensational effect.

In 1974, prolific conductor, pianist and chamber musician Dennis Russell Davies conducted a programme of new music at Lincoln Centre, New York. As part of this programme, a young Keith Jarrett played the solo part in Carla Bley's *¾*. Awed by Jarrett's instrumental approach – his love of the grand piano and of jazz; his virtuosic skills of improvisation – Davies invited him to collaborate with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, beginning their long-standing association.

During rehearsals, Jarrett, who had heard Davies' own playing, invited him to play a new piece he was working on – *Ritual*, first performed by the latter and recorded in June 1977. Almost 48 years later to the day, the UK premiere of *Ritual* features as part of our 2025 opening concert: a double dream of piano played by Maki Namekawa – much beloved by Bold Tendencies as by audiences around the world – and her husband Dennis Russell Davies, joining us here at Bold Tendencies for the first time.

Leading figures within the music and performance world, Davies and Namekawa are each possessed of prolific solo careers. Their expansive repertoires range across musical traditions – from baroque ballads to modernist masterpieces; maverick works of minimalism, to the acoustic and avant-garde. Forming the

Namekawa-Davies Duo in 2003, the pair have graced venues across the world with their unique musical sensibility and uncompromising excellence, including the premiere of new works and commissions by leading composers of our contemporary moment written especially for them.

Speaking to the perception of déjà vu as a form of spiritual awakening, tonight's programme begins with Igor Stravinsky *Symphony of Psalms* (1930), uniquely arranged by Dmitri Shostakovich for two pianos. The Symphony was originally written as a three-movement choral symphony with orchestra, deriving its name from the use of psalm texts in the choral parts. Stravinsky was tasked with creating a work that would bring to life devotional texts for a popular audience and produced a piece that is at once sublime and spiritual, boundary pushing, harmonious and idiosyncratic. The transcription of Psalms joins other examples of pianized Stravinsky: *The Firebird*, *Pétroushka*, *Les Noces*, and *The Rite of Spring*. Shostakovich's arrangement reflects his admiration for the work in that it succeeds in preserving both the ecclesiastic ambiance and choral textures of the original.

The sense of the liturgical is carried through as Namekawa delivers *Ritual* (1977). Recurrence is laced throughout – not only was the work first performed by Davies, its performance marks the second time Namekawa will bring Keith Jarrett to Bold Tendencies, building upon her 2024 performance of his iconic, largely improvised Köln Concert.

Just as reverent and ritual practices repeat throughout cultural histories, so too are the year's weather phases governed by circularity. Built around the Native American concept of the seasons, Davies plays John Cage *The Seasons* (1947), shifting through the emotional registers of quiescence (winter), creation (spring), preservation (summer), and destruction (autumn).

Originally conceived as a ballet with choreography by Merce Cunningham, the nine-movement work is exemplary of the essence of Cage's musical thought, characteristic playfulness and sensual beauty. The work is also a burgeoning example of Cage's compositional technique of using *gamuts*: pre-selected, fixed chords, used to create unexpected harmonic progressions. Each with a unique sound quality, the collection of chords have been likened by Cage to a group of stones or shells one might pick up on the beach – chosen for their individual sense and feel; their affective, distinct characters.

Namekawa and Davies are long-favoured interpreters of the work of Philip Glass – Davies' relationship with the composer dates back over four decades; and Namekawa, who has toured and played Glass' music all over the world, is the dedicatee of his first *Piano Sonata* (2019). Fittingly, this programme ends with Glass *Four Movements for Two Pianos* (2008): written especially for the duo. Weaving a tapestry of sound to construct a vertically dense landscape, with subtle shifts and enthralling repetition the work enfolds the rhythmic complexity and melodies signature of Glass's timeless aesthetic to exploit the natural timbral palette of the pianos.

Double Piano Music marks Namekawa's return to the Concrete Concert Hall for a third consecutive summer, following on from her extraordinary performance of the complete Philip Glass *Piano Etudes* for our season of *Crisis* season in 2023, and her aforementioned rendering of Keith Jarrett's *Köln Concert* for COMMUNION in 2024. Leading performers in the music world, we are thrilled to welcome Maki Namekawa and Dennis Russell Davies, to welcome the Namekawa-Davies Duo, for an evening of exceptional music for two pianos, kicking off our 2025 Live Events programme in memory, dreams, and premonition.

Maki Namekawa (born 1969, Tokyo, JP) has earned a unique reputation for her commitment to four centuries of great piano music. Her concert repertory ranges from neglected masterpieces by J.S. Bach, Mendelssohn, Berg and Guarnieri to new works as the trusted collaborator to many of today's leading composers. The list of music especially written for her includes Sonatas by Phillip Glass and Joe Hisaishi, and she has headlined first performances of music by Keith Jarrett, Arvo Pärt, and Benjamin Yusupov amongst others. An important part of Maki's artistic profile are her creative collaborations with Angelique Kidjo, Lucinda Childs and Justin Peck. Maki has performed at the most important international venues and festivals of our time, including Carnegie Hall, Philharmonie de Paris, Suntory Hall, and the Salzburg Festival. Maki has been a regular guest at the distinguished Piano Festival-Ruhr since 2002, winning the Piano Festival Ruhr Prize in 2017.

Dennis Russell Davies (born 1944, Ohio, US) is the Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of Filharmonie Brno, CZ and Chief Conductor of MDR-Sinfonieorchester, DE (Germany's oldest radio orchestra). His activities as an opera and orchestral conductor, pianist and chamber musician are characterised by an extensive repertory stretching from Baroque to the latest music of our time. One of music's most innovative and adventurous conductors and programmers, Dennis enjoys close working relationships with composers including John Cage, Philip Glass and Laurie Anderson. He has conducted more than 140 new theatre and opera productions, including at the Bayreuth and Salzburg Festivals, the Metropolitan Opera, the Opéra National de Paris, and the Lyric Opera of Chicago. He was made Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2009; additional accolades include the German "Bundesverdienstkreuz", the Austrian "Ehrenkreuz für Wissenschaft und Kunst", and the title "Commandeur des Arts et Lettres" bestowed by the French Government.

Igor Fyordorovich Stravinsky (born 1882, Saint Petersburg, RU; died 1971, New York, US) was a Russian composer and conductor, widely considered one of the most important and influential composers of the 20th century. Stravinsky's compositional career is

often divided into three main periods – his Russian period (1913–1920), his neoclassical period (1920–1951), and his serial period (1954–1968). Whilst his proclivity for stylistic changes confused many of his contemporaries, the importance of his versatile language in the development of modernist music is undoubted. Credited by Claude Debussy with having "enlarged the boundaries of the permissible", Stravinsky's revolutionary ideas influenced composers as diverse as Aaron Copland, Philip Glass, Béla Bartók, and Pierre Boulez; and in 1998 *Time* magazine listed Stravinsky as one of the 100 most influential people of the century.

Keith Jarrett (born 1945, Pennsylvania, US) is revered as one of greatest musicians of the 21st century – a pianist, composer and master of improvisation; with a career spanning the performance and composition of both jazz and classical music. Jarrett rose to international fame in the 1970s playing and recording wholly improvised concerts – such as the now iconic Köln Concert (1975) – redefining the piano's role in contemporary music, and catapulting him to prominence as one of the best-selling jazz artists in history. Artistic collaborations include with Art Blakely as part of The Jazz Messengers; Gary Peacock and Jack DeJohnette as part of the Standards Trios; and extensive tours with Charles Lloyd and Miles Davis. His numerous accolades include the 2003 Polar Music Prize, receipt of which made him the first awardee to be recognised by the institution with prizes for both contemporary and classical music.

John Milton Cage Jr. (born 1912, California, US; died 1992, New York, US) was an American composer and music theorist; a pioneer of musical indeterminacy, electroacoustic music, and non-standard use of musical instruments; and a leading figure of the post-war avant-garde. He was instrumental in the development of modern dance – mostly through his association with choreographer (and romantic partner) Merce Cunningham – and groundbreaking in his composition of "chance-controlled" music (from 1951), inspired by his studies of Indian philosophy and Zen Buddhism. Renowned for his use of extra-musical techniques, the invention of the prepared piano (a piano with its sound altered by objects placed between or on its strings or hammers), can be traced to his composition

Bacchanale (1940). Cage's best known work is *4'33"* (1952), a work that challenged assumed definitions of musicianship and musical experience, shifting perceptions both in musicology and the broader aesthetics of art and performance.

Philip Glass (born 1937, Maryland, US) is an American composer and pianist, and founder of the Philip Glass Ensemble (established 1968). Glass was instrumental in the development of minimalist music – a genre comprising works built up from repeating phrases and shifting layers. He has written 15 operas, numerous chamber operas and musical theatre works, 14 symphonies, 12 concertos, nine string quartets, various other chamber music pieces, and many film scores. He has received four Grammy Award nominations – including two for Best Contemporary Classical Composition for *Satyagraha* (1987) and *String Quartet No. 2* (1988) – and three Academy Award nominations for Best Original Score, for Martin Scorsese's *Kundun* (1997), Stephen Daldry's *The Hours* (2002), and Richard Eyre's *Notes on a Scandal* (2006). Glass' numerous, discipline-spanning friends and collaborators include Mick Jagger, Allen Ginsberg, Jerome Robbins, Laurie Anderson, Brian Eno, Aphex Twin, Patti Smith, David Bowie and Stephen Colbert.

BOLD
TENDENCIES

Bold Tendencies is a not-for-profit arts organisation established in the rooftop spaces of Peckham's Multi-Storey Car Park in 2007. It has transformed a disused building in the heart of South London into an iconic, much-loved place of culture and assembly with spectacular views out over the city and pioneering architecture project Frank's Cafe. Supporting a new generation of creative voices alongside acclaimed international artists, it delivers an ambitious annual programme of experimental Visual Arts, Creative Learning and Live Events open to the public, offering access, participation and enjoyment of the arts for everyone.

Bold Tendencies 2025 is generously supported by

Mila Charitable Trust
Henry Moore Foundation
Southwark Council
Continuo Foundation
Scops Arts Trust
Selfridges & Co
Bloomberg Philanthropies
Hauser & Wirth
The Wavendon Foundation

In partnership with

Steinway & Sons
Frank's Cafe
KitMapper
CASS Art
Southby Productions

with thanks to our 2025 Live Programme Commissioning Circles

Rachmaninoff Commissioning Circle

Sam & Alexandra Morgan
& those who wish to remain anonymous.

Oliver Leith Commissioning Circle

Brian Boylan
John & Emma Donnelly
Bob Shaw
Lukas Zueger-Knecht
& those who wish to remain anonymous

FLOORS 7-10
PECKHAM MULTI-STOREY
CAR PARK
LONDON SE15 4ST

BOLDTENDENCIES.COM

BOLD
TENDENCIES

With thanks to the COMMUNION Founding Friends

The Skyliners
Marie Donnelly
James Lingwood & Jane Hamlyn
Evan Tawil
Ryan Taylor

The Jarmans
Brian Boylan
Sadie Coles
Carolyn Dailey
Maryam Eisler
Andrew & Stephanie Hale
James Lindon

The Holzers
Ronojoy Dam
Es Devlin & Jack Galloway
Tom Dingle & May Calil
Viv Guinness
Jenny Holzer
Fatima Maleki
Penny Mason
Hugh Monk
Felicity & Robert Waley-Cohen
Sara Stewart
Rebecca Wilmshurst

The Bristows
Edmund Barry
Selim & Houda Bouafsoun
John Cavanagh
Sue & Colin Grayson-Ford
Judy Greenwood
Marcelle Joseph
Isabella de Sabata

The hi boos
Lena Baume
Nathalie Baume
Janine Catalano
Jade Coles & Beth Davies
Matthew Earnest
Monica Irani
Caroline Issa
Anne Pitcher
James & Sarah Sassoon
Susan Spindler & Peter Brown
Don Weniz

& those who wish to remain anonymous.

FLOORS 7-10
PECKHAM MULTI-STOREY
CAR PARK
LONDON SE15 4ST

BOLDTENDENCIES.COM

BOLD
TENDENCIES

Bold Tendencies Team

Hannah Barry
Artistic Director & Chief Executive

Diana Córdoba Barrios
Creative Director & Deputy Chief Executive

Tom Kelly
Head of Operations & Production

Charlie Mills
Senior Curator & Producer: Visual Arts

Misty Ingham
Senior Curator & Producer: Creative Learning

Toby Taylor
Audience Development & Engagement Lead

Katrina Nzegwu
Programme Research Lead

Riccardo Pillon
Associate Curator: Live Events

Bold Tendencies Board
Ronojoy Dam
Linda Hewson
Helen Newman
Zia Zareem-Slade

Mumtaaz Hassan
Creative Learning Coordinator

Alfiah Brown
Creative Learning Facilitator

Esme Wedderburn
Creative Learning Facilitator

Dipo Alao-Odeleye
Engagement Assistant

Trish Chlipala
Engagement Assistant

Noah Findlay
Engagement Assistant

Akif Rahman
Engagement Assistant

Mitzi Clarke
Back of House Assistant

Simon Whybray
Graphic Design

Oscar Maguire
Graphic Design & Visualisation

FLOORS 7-10
PECKHAM MULTI-STOREY
CAR PARK
LONDON SE15 4ST

BOLDTENDENCIES.COM

BOLD
TENDENCIES

More and Better!
Your generosity allows us to bring a world-class Visual Arts, Creative Learning and Live Events programme to Peckham. We cannot do the work we do without our supporters.

If you'd like to get involved please ask for information at the Kiosk or email us info@boldtendencies.com.



FLOORS 7-10
PECKHAM MULTI-STOREY
CAR PARK
LONDON SE15 4ST

BOLDTENDENCIES.COM