

MUSIC AT NOON PROGRAM

OCTOBER 24, 2023
University Recital Hall
Metamorphosis
Tim Beattie, guitar

Sonata del Caminante (2007)

- I. Visión de la Amazonia
- II. El Gran Sertao
- III. Danza Festiva
- IV. Toccata Nordestina

Leo Brouwer
(b. 1939)

Metamorphosis (1989), arr. Thomas Csaba

Phillip Glass (b. 1937)

The Not-Doings of an Insomniac (2015) arr. T. Beattie

- I. Not Dreaming ('Small Town' by Lou Reed and John Cale)
- II. Not Tasting ('Telephone Song' by Laurie Anderson)
- III. Not Smelling ('Shine, Shine' by Yoko Ono)
- IV. Not Hearing ('Neighbourhood' by David Byrne)
- V. Not Seeing ('I Wonder How Many People in This City' by Leonard Cohen)
- VI. Not Touching (excerpt from 'Babel' by Patti Smith)
- VII. Not Beginning, Not Ending ('Nobody Wants a Lonely Heart' by Arthur Russell)



FACULTY OF
FINE ARTS

UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

~PROGRAMME NOTES~

Philip Glass (b. 1937)

Metamorphosis (1989) arr. T. Csaba

Written by Philip Glass in 1988, *Metamorphosis* is a set of five pieces originally for solo piano, referring to and inspired by Franz Kafka's 1915 novella *The Metamorphosis*. It is a re-composition of an orchestral score that Glass penned as incidental music for the film, *The Thin Blue Line*. The work points to a psychological transformation, and broadly speaking represents both internal and external struggle in the face of powerlessness and bleakness of circumstance. First quiet, somber, static, then slowly broadening through the evolution of motive, dynamic, timbre, texture, and rhythmical complexity.

Leo Brouwer (b. 1939)

Sonata del Caminante (2007)

- I. Visión de la Amazonia
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“Camina, Caminante,
Sigue;
Camina y no te pare,
Sigue.”

“Walk, Walker,
go on;
Walk and don't stop,
keep going.

Nicolás Guillén

Sigue... (del poemario *Motivos de Son*, 1930)

Leo Brouwer's second sonata for solo guitar, *Sonata del Caminante* (the *Wanderer's Sonata*) was written in 2007 for the great Brazilian guitarist, Odair Assad. Characteristic of much of Brouwer's output, *Caminante* represents a skillful combination of western classical idioms with afro-Cuban influences, with the use of claves – anchoring rhythms and motifs – and even evoking a samba in the third movement. What results is an unmatched demonstration of the guitar's expressive and sonic capabilities through four movements of music played without pause.

“The Sertao and the great forest intersect in waterfalls of sounds distant and static, calmed like the plain ... if I intended something, it was “intensity” ... this is the intense Brazil, the one I am interested in.” (L. Brouwer, 2009)

Philip Glass (b. 1937)

The Not-Doings of an Insomniac (2015) arr. T. Beattie

1. Not Dreaming (Small Town by Lou Reed and John Cale)
2. Cale)
3. Not Tasting (Telephone Song by Laurie Anderson)
4. Not Smelling (Shine, Shine by Yoko Ono)
5. Not Hearing (Neighborhood by David Byrne)
6. Not Seeing (I Wonder How Many People in This City by Leonard Cohen)
7. Leonard Cohen)
8. Not Touching (excerpt from Babel by Patti Smith)
9. Not Beginning, Not Ending (Nobody Wants a Lonely Heart by Arthur Russell)
10. Heart by Arthur Russell)

Resulting from my interest in narrative-driven music as well as a penchant for poaching other instrument's repertoire, I decided to transcribe The Not-Doings for solo guitar earlier this year. Written for Robert Black in 2015, Glass' partita for solo bass and spoken word is a sort of commentary on the anxieties and hyper-stimulation of modern urban life. The piece was written while Glass was on tour in Europe – passing through different time zones and unfamiliar cities, often experiencing bouts of insomnia. He decided to make use of these otherwise lost late-night hours, and what resulted is this partita in seven movements. The texts attached to each movement explore themes of solitude, loneliness, anxiety, regret, nostalgia, and are all penned by Glass' friends and associates. The inclusion of spoken word raises the work, in his own words, into "something atmospheric and theatrical."

I. Not Dreaming

Small Town (Lou Reed and John Cale)

When you're growing up in a small town
You know you'll grow down in a small town
There is only one good use for a small town
You hate it and you know you'll have to leave.

II. Not Tasting

Telephone Song (Laurie Anderson)

Hi. How are you? What are you doing? Yeah, I know, it's kind of noisy here. There's kind of a party going on. Why don't you just come over? Just put on your coat and call a cab and come over. Yeah, I know you're asleep—but it's really fun—you'd have a really good time. Just put on your shoes and call a cab and come over. No, he's not here. Well, maybe he's here—maybe he's not here. What's the difference? Yeah, I know it's Brooklyn. Yeah, well, what's thirty bucks? It's two nights. OK. OK. Listen, I'm sure I could get you in.

III. Not Smelling

Shine, Shine (Yoko Ono)

Look at the highrises around you.
Incredible! Impossible!
Let everything in your room shine and sparkle.
Sparkling phone, sparkling floor,
Sparkling glasses, sparkling hats.
Start thinking what else.
Everything that sparkles brings you a sparkling life.
Sparkling eyes, sparkling belly button, sparkling legs.
Yes, dear. i ii iii

IV. Not Hearing

Neighborhood (David Byrne)

Funky beats, Barrow Street
Walking with your dog
I see you, You see me
Then we stop & talk
Later on, some café
Thinking what you said
Children laugh, telling jokes
Till their eyes are red

The people feel so good Say boy, say girl
All in my neighborhood Say boy, say girl

We got peace, love & monkey business
Gonna reach the very top

There'll be pride, hope & Sunday mornings
All the things I'm thinking of

We could change the world
In the night while we are sleeping
The Power's in my neighborhood

Liquor stores, stop & shop
Old folks sit outside
Restaurants – Laundromats
She's still on my mind

April, May, June, July,
August comes around
Pretty soon, a year's gone by
And we're still hanging out

V. Not Seeing

I Wonder How Many People in this City (Leonard Cohen)

I wonder how many people in this city
live in furnished rooms
Late at night when I look out at the buildings
I swear I see a face in every window
looking back at me
and when I turn away
I wonder how many go back to their desks
and write this down.

VI. Not Touching

Excerpt from "Babel" (Patti Smith)

Everything comes down so pasteurized
everything comes down 16 degrees they say your amplifier is too loud turn your amplifier down
are we high all alone on our knees memory is just hips that swing
like a clock
the past projects fantastic scenes tic/toc tic/toc tic/toc
fuck the clock!

VII. Not Beginning, Not Ending

Nobody Wants a Lonely Heart (Arthur Russell)

Now as you eat
Don't think of the one you love
And on the street
Don't look at the sky above
If there's no one home

Don't expect nothing
'Cause nobody wants a lonely heart

Now like a dog
Who's homeless and can't be sleeping
Like a log
He knows that he's best off keeping out of sight

Don't expect nothing
'Cause nobody wants a lonely heart

And in the door
There's nobody coming through it anymore
But I'm looking through it to some other way

Don't expect nothing
'Cause nobody wants a lonely heart
Nobody wants a lonely heart