

Omnis Temporalis



April 8 - June 25, 2017

Richmond Art Gallery

Omnis Temporalis

PROGRAM

Music by Mark Haney

Script by Seth, adapted by Mark Haney

Omnis Temporalis draws together the graphic work of acclaimed Canadian cartoonist Seth with contemporary classical music and performance by Vancouver-based composer and double bassist, Mark Haney. Both an installation and the site for a series of performances, the exhibition is based on Seth's graphic novel, *George Sprott: 1894-1975*.

Richmond Art Gallery is proud to present Mark Haney's premiere of *Omnis Temporalis*. Sprott's story is retold through dialogue and music supported by an ensemble of characters in the gallery exhibition space designed by Seth as the CKCK TV station.

Omnis Temporalis began its life in this very room, which makes it a fitting location for the premiere of the recording and performance of the work.

In November 2012 the Gallery's curator, Nan Capogna, invited me to be part of the exhibition, *Temporary Assignment*, an ephemeral exhibition mounted before the gallery underwent renovations. My part in that exhibition was the beginning of the creative process for *Omnis*. I cut up several copies of Seth's picture novella, and with my double bass, spent 11 days creating the main melodic material here in the Gallery.

Omnis then became a constant fixture in my life. It was a large part of my Field House Residency with the Vancouver Park Board in 2013 and 2014. Not only was a wall of the studio covered in photos of the work I had done here, but my work there focused on the idea and reality of "community," influencing how I saw and felt about Seth's *Dominion*.

Since 2015 I have been composer in residence at Vancouver's Mountain View Cemetery. Being able to spend time thinking and writing about George's death in a cemetery was a truly unique experience and helped me to find a more peaceful view of George's ending.

Omnis was also a huge part of my 35-day pilgrimage on the Camino Santiago in 2015. I went alone, took no electronics of any kind (not even a camera), didn't look at a computer screen for close to 6 weeks, and walked. My backpack had only the bare essentials, and the binder with the work score for *Omnis*. Helen Sprott's song, "A Funny Dream", was written in a twelfth-century church. Dimly lit, silent and with an eerie glow from the ornate gold altar, it helped me connect with the ethereal voice Helen needed to have.

The hardest part of the creation of this multi-faceted work has been the end. Finishing the recording and doing a final revision of the script and score has been incredibly difficult; I didn't know how to let it go. After having it be a large part of my daily consciousness for five years it seemed like a permanent part of my life. But, of course, my deep immersion in the creation of the work that you are now experiencing is like everything else, only temporary.

The recording of *Omnis Temporalis* will be available in the near future from Drawn and Quarterly with album art by Seth. This creates a unique

feedback loop of creative activity; I created *Omnis Temporalis* based on Seth's work, and Seth will now design the album based on *Omnis Temporalis*.

One of the rewards in presenting both versions of *Omnis Temporalis* in the same room is the contrasting way they explore one of the work's central themes: that of community. On the recording we populated the city of Dominion with more than 20 voices, creating a large community all reflecting on George. For the live presentations, three musicians and four actors band together to bring the same community to life.

Mark Haney

CREATIVE TEAM, PERFORMANCE

Mark Haney.....Composer, Director
Seth.....Artist, Set Designer
Diane ParkCostume Designer, Technical Director, Projections
James Fagan Tait.....Directorial Consultant

CAST

Richard Newman.....George Sprott
Dorothea Hayley..... Daisy Sprott
koraleeNarrator, Ensemble
Jovanni Sy Ensemble

MUSICIANS

Mark Haney..... Double Bass
Mark Takeshi McGregor Alto/Bass Flute
Marina Hasselberg Cello

BIOGRAPHIES

Mark Haney

Artistic Director of The Little Chamber Music Series That Could and Composer in Residence at Vancouver's Mountain View Cemetery, Mark is deeply motivated by issues of Canadian identity, culture, and community. As a composer Mark is best known for "Aim for the Roses", an avant-garde double bass suite that tells the true story of Canadian daredevil Ken Carter - John Bolton's film of the same name, which opened 2016's DOXA Festival, tells the stories of Mark and Ken Carter and their respective obsessions with their passion projects. As a double bassist Mark has performed throughout North America in a wide variety of genres, and continues to commission and premiere new works by Canadian composers.

Seth

In addition to creating *George Sprott: 1894-1975*, Seth is the cartoonist behind the comic book series *PALOOKAVILLE*, which started as a pamphlet comic book in 1991 and is now a semi-annual hardcover. His comics have appeared in *New York Times Magazine*, *Best American Comics* and *McSweeney's Quarterly*. His illustrations have appeared in numerous publications including the cover of the *New Yorker*, *the Walrus*, and *Canadian Notes & Queries*. He was Lemony Snicket's partner for the *Young Readers* series, *All the Wrong Questions*, and has illustrated and designed a new, deluxe edition of Stephen Leacock's *Sunshine Sketches of a little Town*. In 2011 he was awarded the Harbourfront Festival Prize. He has exhibited internationally in a variety of group and solo shows and is the subject of the award winning National Film Board documentary entitled *Seth's Dominion*. Seth lives in Guelph, Ontario with his wife Tania, and their two cats in an old house named "Inkwell's End".

Diane Park

Diane Park is General Manager of The Little Chamber Music Series That Could, and the costume designer for *Omnis Temporalis*. She is a Vancouver-based multi-disciplinary artist who creates through costume, dance, photography and video. Collaboration and experimentation are important

parts of her practice. Her costume creations for film (*Aim for the Roses*, John Bolton), new music (Nicole Lizée, Nu:BC, Astrolabe Musik, Little Chamber Music), dance (Daelik, Ziyian Kwan, Peter Bingham), theatre (UBC), and stilt performance (2010 Olympics, Vancouver international Childrens' Festival) have been featured in gallery shows and won Wearable Art awards. She is currently Interim Head of Wardrobe at the University of British Columbia's Theatre and Film Department.

Richard Newman - George Sprott

Over the last half century, Richard has acted and sung on stages across North America, appeared on such TV shows as *X Files* and *Supernatural*, and voiced several of your very favourite cartoon characters.

Dorothea Hayley - Daisy Sprott

Dorothea Hayley has been a soloist with the Vancouver Symphony, the Bourgas Symphony, and Capriccio Basel, and has appeared in recital in Europe, Asia, and North and South America. She has performed in festivals such as *Sonic Boom*, *the Happening Festival*, *Gulangyu Piano Festival*, *Performer's Voice Symposium*, and *New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival*. Dory holds a doctorate in performance from Université de Montréal, and teaches at Vancouver Community College. She is the Artistic Director of the Blueridge Chamber Music Festival.

koralee - Narrator, Ensemble

koralee is a vocalist and songwriter. The Red Book, her Los Angeles based electronica project, released the debut EP "Vernix" in Europe, The UK, Russia and China in early 2017. She is currently creating a techno-influenced album with DJ and Producer John Norman for his UNT Records imprint. She is also an emerging artist and an accomplished performer, having appeared in award-winning commercials, independent film, and the Vancouver produced TV series, *Namaste Yoga*.

Jovanni Sy - Ensemble

Jovanni Sy is a director, playwright, performer, and the Artistic Director of Gateway Theatre in Richmond, BC.

Mark Takeshi McGregor - Alto/Bass Flute

Richmond-born flutist Mark Takeshi McGregor has performed throughout North and South America, Europe, Australia, and Israel, including appearances at *Festival Montréal-Nouvelles Musique*, *Vancouver New Music Festival*, *Athelas New Music Festival* (Copenhagen), *the Internationale A•DEvantgarde-Festival* (Munich), *Melos- Ethos Festival* (Bratislava), and *the Symposium of New Music* in Brazil.

Marina Hasselberg - Cello

Cellist Marina Hasselberg has recently been awarded the City of Vancouver Mayor's Arts Award, a Jessie Award (*Onegin*, Arts Club), and the position of Principal Cellist with the Vancouver Island Symphony. She specializes in classical, baroque, new music, and interdisciplinary works that cross genre boundaries.

OMNIS TEMPORALIS RECORDING

Presented by The Little Chamber Music Series That Could

During the exhibition visitors will hear an audio recording of *Omnis Temporalis*, a separate but related project by Mark Haney and Seth. Seth is designing an extravagant fold-out vinyl album for *Omnis Temporalis* that will be available from Montreal publishers, Drawn and Quarterly. The album includes over 20 voices reflecting on the character George Sprott packaged in Seth's signature style.

RECORDING CAST

George Sprott.....	Richard Newman
Narrator.....	Rebecca Hass
Daisy Sprott	Dory Hayley
Helen Sprott	Ida Nilsen
Elaspee Kanayuk	Joelysa Pankanea
Sir Grisley Gruesome	Allan Zinyk
Arthur Duff	Bramwell Tovey
Stanley Winters	Rick Maddocks
Violet Glow	Patti Allan
Rose Humbly	Michelle Lattimore
Janet	koralee
Fred Kennedy	Andrew McNee
Martin Klug	Torsten Muller
Jimmie Freeze	James Fagan Tait
Dr. Garrison	Andrew Wheeler
Lester Square	Craig Erickson
Raymond Bright	Marc Lindy
Owen Trade	Mark Haney
Sol	Tom Pickett
Theo	Mark Takeshi McGregor
Taxi Driver.....	Marina Hasselberg
Alto/Bass Flute	Mark Takeshi McGregor
Cello	Marina Hasselberg
Double Bass	Mark Haney

Melody Grill Ambience.....Nick’s Spaghetti House
 Coronet Hall Audience..Cleland Community Theatre, Penticton BC
 Stunt DriverDavid Gannett
 Music.....Mark Haney
 Lyrics/text Seth

Recording produced by Mark Haney and David Gannett. Engineered by David Gannett and Scot Wallace.

Recording made possible with the assistance of the Canada Council for the Arts, City of Vancouver, Creative BC and the Province of British Columbia

EXHIBITION AND PERFORMANCE SUPPORTED BY

Richmond Art Gallery staff: Matthew Brown, Nan Capogna, Shaun Dacey, Melanie Devoy, Carie Helm, Paula Hickey, Del Hillier, Mona Lochan, Karm Sidhu, Kay Slater, Kathy Tycholis.

Set constructed by Richmond Art Gallery Preparators, with assistance by Alaia Hamer and Sammie Hatch.

Images courtesy of Drawn & Quarterly with thanks to Tracy Hurren.

Chairs provided by Prince Charles Apartments for the performance.



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We acknowledge the
financial assistance of the
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PERFORMANCE DATES

Full Program Running time: 60 minutes.

Short Program Running time: 30 minutes

Premiere..... Saturday April 8, 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Members Only Event.....Tuesday, April 25, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Richmond Regional Heritage Fair Opening...Saturday, May 13, 11:15 am

Drink and Draw Thursday, May 25, 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Must be over 19. Free entry includes drawing material

Family Sunday Sunday, May 28, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Short program performed at 1pm, 2 pm & 3 pm

Doors Open Richmond Opening Event Friday, June 2, 7:00 pm

Doors Open Richmond Saturday, June 3, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Short program performed at 2 pm & 3 pm

Film Screening: *Seth's Dominion* Thursday, June 22, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

(running time 42 min)

Performance of *Omnis Temporalis* ...Thursday, June 22, 8:00 - 9:00 pm

**Visit richmondartgallery.org for updates
and further information on related events during the exhibition.**

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RICHMOND ART GALLERY

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7700 Minoru Gate
Richmond, BC V6Y 1R9
Free Admission
Wheelchair accessible

CONTACT

gallery@richmond.ca
604-247-8300
www.richmondartgallery.org

GALLERY HOURS

Monday - Friday: 10 am to 6 pm
Thursday: 10 am - 9 pm
Saturday & Sunday: 10 am to 5pm
Closed on statutory holidays