

PHILIP GLASS

PHILIP GLASS (composer, keyboards), born in Baltimore, Maryland, is a graduate of the University of Chicago and the Juilliard School. In the early 1960s, Glass spent two years of intensive study in Paris with Nadia Boulanger and, while there, earned money by transcribing Ravi Shankar's Indian music into Western notation. Upon his return to New York, he applied these Eastern techniques to his own music. By 1974, Glass had a number of significant and innovative projects, creating a large collection of new music for his performing group, the Philip Glass Ensemble, and for the Mabou Mines Theater Company, which he co-founded. This period culminated in *Music in Twelve Parts*, followed by the landmark opera, *Einstein on the Beach*, created with Robert Wilson in 1976.

Since *Einstein*, Glass has expanded his repertoire to include music for opera, dance, theater, chamber ensemble, orchestra, and film. His score for Martin Scorsese's *Kundun* received an Academy Award nomination while his score for Peter Weir's *The Truman Show* won him a Golden Globe. His film score for Stephen Daldry's *The Hours* received Golden Globe, Grammy, and Academy Award nominations, along with winning a BAFTA in Film Music from the British Academy of Film and Television Arts. The critically acclaimed films *The Illusionist* and *Notes on a Scandal* were released last year, with *Notes* earning Glass an Oscar nomination for best original score.

In 2004 Glass premiered the new work *Orion*— a collaboration between Glass and six other international artists opening in Athens as part of the cultural celebration of the 2004 Olympics in Greece, and his *Piano Concerto No. 2 (After Lewis and Clark)* with the Omaha Symphony Orchestra. Glass's latest symphonies, *Symphony No. 7* and *Symphony No. 8*, premiered in 2005 with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, and Bruckner Orchester Linz at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, respectively. 2005 also saw the premiere of *Waiting for the Barbarians*, an opera based on the book by J.M. Coetzee. Glass's orchestral tribute to Indian spiritual leader Sri Ramakrishna, *The Passion of Ramakrishna*, premiered in 2006 at Orange County Performing Arts Center.

Glass maintained a dense creative schedule throughout 2007 and 2008, unveiling several highly anticipated works, including a music theater piece, *Book of Longing*, based on Leonard Cohen's book of poetry, a score to Woody Allen's film *Cassandra's Dream*, and an opera about the end of the Civil War titled *Appomattox*, which premiered at the San Francisco Opera. The English National Opera, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Opera, remounted Glass's *Satyagraha*, which appeared in New York in April 2008 and then returned to London again in March 2010.

Glass's most recent opera, based on the life and work of Johannes Kepler premiered in September 2009 in Linz, Austria and was brought to the New York in November 2009 by The Brooklyn Academy of Music.