



Robert Paterson, photo by Daniel Dottavio. Available in high resolution at www.christinajensenpr.com.

Intersections: A New America Arts Festival
presents

Composer Robert Paterson's
Looney Tunes

performed by **Great Noise Ensemble**

Friday, March 2, 2012 at 7pm
Lang Theater, Atlas Performing Arts Center
1333 H St NE | Washington, DC
Tickets: \$20; \$15 student/senior at 202.399.7993
or visit <http://intersectionsdc.org>

Robert Paterson: www.robpaterson.com
Great Noise Ensemble: www.greatnoiseensemble.com

“the music was put out there with enormous exuberance
and good humor”– *Washington Post* on *Looney Tunes*

Washington, DC – After the success of the world premiere of composer **Robert Paterson's** *Looney Tunes* last year, Great Noise Ensemble will again perform the piece on **Friday, March 2 at 7pm** at **Lang Theater of the Atlas Performing Arts Center** (1333 H St. NE). Part of **Intersections: A New America Arts Festival**, this concert is entitled *Guerrilla New Music* and will also include D.J Sparr's *Carnal Node*, Marc Mellits' *Five Machines*, and Armando Bayolo's *Illusory Airs*.

Robert Paterson's *Looney Tunes* (2006-07) is divided into four movements and uses well-known cartoon characters as a musical influence. The first movement, *Taz*, is inspired by the Tasmanian Devil character and plays upon all of Taz's traits with loud, dissonant outbursts, gyrating transitions, quiet, reflective sections and a few references to his attraction to music. The second movement, *Foghorn Leghorn*, is inspired by this character's loud, vocal disposition. The third movement, *Tweety Bird*, provides contrast with a somewhat high tessitura and includes prominent parts for piccolo, violin, xylophone and alto sax.

Of the last movement, Paterson states, “Two of my favorite cartoon characters of all time are the Road Runner and Wile E. Coyote, so it seemed appropriate to end the work with a fast *Road Runner* movement. I have always been fascinated by the seemingly infinite array of ACME inventions the Coyote uses to try and capture the Road Runner, and the last movement reflects this and incorporates a number of exotic, gizmo-like sounds and instruments.”

Intersections: A New America Arts Festival celebrates art as an inspiration for conversation and connection among artists and audience of all ages, races, cultures and art forms. Created in 2010, the festival returns in February 2012 for twelve days of multidisciplinary, curated performances with new opportunities for participation and audience engagement. For more information, please visit <http://intersectionsdc.org>.

About Robert Paterson: Composer Robert Paterson's richly colorful, wildly eclectic and intensely rhythmic music is influenced by visual art, nature, machines, and more, and is inspired by everything from the changing seasons, crashing waves, and Dali's melting clocks to the life of New York Mets Baseball catcher Mike Piazza. From 2009-2012, he is the Music Alive composer-in-residence with the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association, sponsored by Meet The Composer and the League of American Orchestras. The residency will culminate in a commission for a major new work for orchestra and chorus. Other recent honors include winning the Cincinnati Camerata Composition Competition, the Copland Award, Louisville Orchestra Composition Competition, Brian Israel Prize, two ASCAP Young Composer Awards, and grants from Meet The Composer, the

American Music Center, the American Composers Forum and ASCAP, as well as fellowships to Yaddo, the MacDowell Colony, the Aspen Music Festival, and the Atlantic Center for the Arts.

Born in 1970, Paterson was raised in Buffalo, New York, the son of a sculptor and a painter. Percussion was his first love, and an enduring one. Paterson pioneered the development of a six-mallet marimba technique presenting the world's first all six-mallet marimba recital at the Eastman School of Music in 1993. He discovered a passion for composition early in life as well, writing his first piece at age thirteen.

Recent and upcoming performances of Paterson's work include the European premiere and sixteen additional performances of *Dancing Games* by the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire (France); the premiere of a new work for the Vermont Symphony Orchestra conducted by Jaime Laredo; two new choral works for the Chamber Choir of Europe; an orchestral opera in two acts with writer and librettist David Cote, based on the award-winning British novel *A Child Possessed* by R.C. Hutchinson; *Wind Quintet* by the Philharmonia Quintet (Poland); *Eternal Reflections*, commissioned for the San Francisco-based Volti choir; *Embracing the Wind* by the Aureole Trio and New York Harp Trio; the Louisville Orchestra world premiere of *Electric Lines*, winner of the orchestra's new music competition, and a work previously selected for the Minnesota Orchestra and American Composers Orchestra New Music Readings; *Enlightened City*, commissioned for the 100th anniversary of the IHS Orchestra; and the world premiere of *Crimson Earth* by the University of Connecticut Wind Ensemble.

Ensembles that have performed Paterson's music include the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, New York New Music Ensemble, Da Capo Chamber Players, California EAR Unit, Finger Lakes Chamber Ensemble, Ensemble Aleph (Paris), Naiades Ensemble (London), Ensemble Nouvelles Consonances (Belgium), the Kairos String Quartet, the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra, the MANCA Festival presented by the Centre National de Création Musicale (CIRM) and the June in Buffalo new music festival. Paterson appears on recordings for Mode Records, Centaur Records, Capstone, and Riax. In 2011, *The Book of Goddesses*, which won Paterson the Composer of the Year Award from the Classical Recording Foundation, and *Star Crossing* were released by American Modern Records, the label of American Modern Ensemble.

Paterson has received degrees from Eastman (BM), Indiana University (MM), and Cornell University (DMA). He resides in New York City with his wife, Victoria, a violinist, and their young son Dylan.

About Great Noise Ensemble: "Among the most exciting and ambitious new music ensembles in Washington, D.C." (Kyle Gullings, *A Composer's Notebook*), and "perhaps the DC region's most exciting professional group dedicated to performing new classical music" (Jason McCool, *The Pinkline Project*), Great Noise Ensemble is a working embodiment of its mission to fight for the performance of new works and promote emerging talent in contemporary music.

Born in 2005 when composer and conductor Armando Bayolo placed an ad on Craigslist.org seeking like-minded musicians passionate about contemporary music, Great Noise Ensemble has become one of the most important and adventurous ensembles in the District of Columbia's new music scene. Since its first concert in January, 2006, Great Noise Ensemble has presented the world premieres of some 23 new compositions as well as regional premieres and rare performances of some of the major works of the last 25 years by composers like Steve Reich, John Luther Adams, Marc Mellits, Poul Ruders and Louis Andriessen. They have presented concerts in venues ranging from intimate community concert spaces like the Patricia M. Sitar Center and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring to prestigious locales such as the National Gallery of Art, the Hirshhorn Gallery and Sculpture Gallery and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

In 2008 Great Noise Ensemble became the Ensemble in Residence at The Catholic University of America's Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, bringing at least two of its regular season programs to the university's Ward Hall each year as well as fulfilling their educational mission by coaching student performers in rehearsals and performances of new works and through the reading and professional recording of new works by Catholic University student composers and headlining the graduate composition students' annual New Voices Festival and competition. Great Noise Ensemble was also recently named the Ensemble in Residence at the Atlas Performing Arts Center in Washington, where they will headline a new music series beginning in the 2012-13 concert season. For more information, visit www.greatnoiseensemble.com.

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