



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

Composer Robert Paterson's

Meditation for solo organ
performed by Carson Cooman

Friday, August 19, 2011 at 12:30pm
South Church (The Unitarian Church on Nantucket Island)
11 Orange Street | Nantucket, MA

FREE admission. More information at
www.unitarianchurchnantucket.org or 508.228.5466

Robert Paterson: www.robpaterson.com
Carson Cooman: www.carsoncooman.com

Nantucket, MA— Composer Robert Paterson's *Meditation* for solo organ will be performed by Carson Cooman on Friday, August 19, 2011 in a free concert at 12:30pm at South Church, The Unitarian Church on Nantucket Island (11 Orange Street). The recital, part of the church's summer organ concert series featuring their historic 1831 Goodrich instrument, will also include Philip Moore's *Paeon* (2009); Adrian Self's "Maggie's Toy" from *Two Pieces* (1996); Gordon Young's *Trumpet Tune* (1978), *Diapason Dialogue* (1969), and *Prelude in Classic Style* (1966); Douglas Bell's *Fotheringhay Suite* (2011) [American premiere]; and Cooman's own *Prelude and Fugue* (2011).

Robert Paterson wrote *Meditation* for his wife, Victoria, on the occasion of their wedding on June 14, 1997 at Middlebury College in Vermont. The piece is inspired by Victoria's passion for Irish fiddle playing. **[INSERT MORE ON THIS HERE?]**

Carson Cooman is an American composer and organist with a catalogue of works in many forms – ranging from solo instrumental pieces to operas, and from orchestral works to hymn tunes. As an active concert organist, Cooman specializes exclusively in the performance of new music. Over 130 new works have been composed for him by composers from around the world, and his performances of the work of contemporary composers can be heard on a number of CD recordings.

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. *Fanfare* describes his work as, "immediately engaging" and "beautifully crafted."

In 2011, Paterson will receive the Composer of the Year Award from the Classical Recording Foundation for his album, *The Book of Goddesses*. 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. Two new albums of his music will be released by American Modern Records, the label of American Modern Ensemble, in 2011.

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. For more information, visit www.robpaterson.com.

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