La Jolla Music Society Announces the World Première of Multimedia Version of Steve Reich’s *New York Counterpoint* as Part of SummerFest 2022 Synergy Initiative

*San Diego, CA* — On Saturday, July 30, as part of the opening weekend of SummerFest, La Jolla Music Society will present the world première of a new multimedia version of Steve Reich’s *New York Counterpoint*, co-commissioned by La Jolla Music Society and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

Part of the Synergy Initiative, the piece features Anthony McGill, principal clarinetist for the New York Philharmonic, live on clarinet and pre-recorded video of ten other clarinetists, directed by acclaimed arts documentary filmmaker Tristan Cook. This unique collaboration between La Jolla Music Society and New York’s Lincoln Center brings together for the first time ten clarinetists from the New York Philharmonic, The Met Opera, The Juilliard School, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. A final version adding in video of McGill’s performance will become an installation in Lincoln Center’s soon-to-be-reopened David Geffen Hall.

*New York Counterpoint* was composed by Steve Reich in 1985 and is one of his best-known works. Intended as a work for amplified clarinet and tape, it captures the throbbing vibrancy of Manhattan, imitating electronic sounds through acoustic instrumentation. Traditionally, the soloist pre-records ten clarinet and bass clarinet parts and then plays a final eleventh part live against the tape. For this world première, however, Anthony McGill will play against video recordings of ten clarinetists from across Lincoln Center, brought together for the first time.
New York Counterpoint is part of the program for “Point Counterpoint,” a SummerFest concert devised by Inon Barnatan that explores the musical concept of counterpoint—the relationship between two or more musical lines or voices, used by composers spanning the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 20th century eras. In addition to New York Counterpoint, the program for the evening includes Valentini’s Sonata for Two String Quartets and Bass “EnHarmonic;” Haydn’s String Quartet in F Minor, Op. 20, No. 5; Mozart’s Fantasy in F Minor for Two Pianos, K.608 (arr. Busoni); and Elgar’s Piano Quintet in A Minor, Op. 84.

Anthony McGill serves as the principal clarinet of the New York Philharmonic—its first African-American principal player. He is hailed for his “trademark brilliance, penetrating sound, and rich character” (The New York Times), as well as for his “exquisite combination of technical refinement and expressive radiance” (The Baltimore Sun). McGill also serves as an ardent advocate for helping music education reach underserved communities and for addressing issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion in classical music.

This video was co-commissioned by La Jolla Music Society and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts as part of the Synergy Initiative, produced by Inon Barnatan and Clara Wu Tsai. Now in its third season, the Synergy Initiative is a unique series of concerts that merges music and artists with other art forms, breaking the mold of traditional performing arts in unconventional and creative ways. The series’ producers see it as a way to not only explore different approaches to music, but also create opportunities to introduce new audiences to these works.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND SINGLE TICKETS
Single tickets are now on sale, and range from $45 to $110.

SummerFest subscriptions are also available now. The Windansea Series—all 15 concerts in The Baker-Baum Concert Hall—is $1,120 or $1,289 depending on seat location. Any JAI concert can be added on to Windansea for 8 percent off the price of a single ticket.

Partial subscription series and compose-your-own packages are also available.

Details, subscription packages, and single tickets are available at the La Jolla Music Society box office, by phone at (858) 459-3728, and online at www.LJMS.org.

COVID POLICY
Vaccination: The Conrad no longer requires proof of vaccination or testing to enter the venue or attend a concert, as of Saturday, April 9, 2022.

Masking: We strongly recommend and encourage wearing a face mask while in any indoor areas of The Conrad.

Drinks will be allowed in The Baker-Baum Concert Hall during SummerFest 2022. Patrons are encouraged to keep their facemasks on when not actively drinking.

Private receptions: Attendees at private receptions, including guests, must provide proof of
vaccination. Proof of negative test will not be accepted at these events.

The health and safety of The Conrad artists, staff, and audience are of foremost importance to us. We continue to monitor data and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and the County of San Diego and will adjust our policies and protocols accordingly.

ABOUT LA JOLLA MUSIC SOCIETY

As one of Southern California’s leading presenters of première performing arts, La Jolla Music Society contributes to San Diego’s cultural vitality year-round through a rich variety of presentations, including classical, jazz, global roots, contemporary music, and dance. For more information, visit www.LJMS.org, or call 858.459.3728.