

Dedalus Ensemble plays Tom Johnson

Daniel Goode (DownTown Music Ensemble) and musicians of the Dedalus Ensemble will present some recent developments of Tom Johnson's work. They will play some new pieces for flutes, viola, clarinet, cello and guitar.

Falling Thirds with Drum
Intervals for 2 instruments
Squares
Tinkelenberg Rhythms for guitar

"New music people in New York generally still know mostly the music I wrote when I was living in New York. The Four Note Opera, Nine Bells, Lecture with Question Period, An Hour for Piano, Failing... But I've now been living in Europe for 30 years, and a lot of the music I've written during this time has never been performed anywhere in the States, so it's time to bring New York listeners up to date a bit. We won't have time to do the Rational Melodies or Organ and Silence or any of the Tilework series or lots of other things, but we can present a few very recent pieces of chamber work, and we can do a good job of it, because the ensemble Dedalus plays my music as well as anyone in the world."

Tom Johnson, born in Colorado in 1939, received B.A. and M.Mus. degrees from Yale University, and studied composition privately with Morton Feldman. After 15 years in New York, he moved to Paris, where he has lived since 1983. He is considered a minimalist, since he works with simple forms, limited scales, and generally reduced materials, but he proceeds in a more logical way than most minimalists, often using formulas, permutations, predictable sequences and various mathematical models.

Johnson is well known for his operas: The Four Note Opera (1972) continues to be presented in many countries. Riemannoper has been staged more than 30 times in German-speaking countries since its premier in Bremen in 1988. Often played non-operatic works include Bedtime Stories, Rational Melodies, Music and Questions, Counting Duets, Tango, Narayana's Cows, and Failing: a very difficult piece for solo string bass.

His largest composition, the Bonhoeffer Oratorium, a two-hour work in German for orchestra, chorus, and soloists, with text by the German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, was premiered in Maastricht in 1996, and has since been presented in Berlin and New York.

Created in 1996, **DEDALUS Ensemble** is a contemporary experimental music ensemble based in Montpellier, France. Their repertoire gives a large place to flexible scores from across the United States and European New Music from the 1960's to today. DEDALUS is a collective where every musician collaborate to orchestration and interpretation. DEDALUS is a leading ensemble in France and performs extensively in festivals and concert series across France and Europe. A noted champion of contemporary American experimental music, the Ensemble has premiered works by Tom Johnson, Christian Wolff, Alvin Lucier, Phill Niblock, Frederic Rzewski, James Tenney before French audiences.