



**PARK AVENUE ARMORY ANNOUNCES
2013 ARTISTIC PROGRAMMING**

**2013 Season to Feature a Range of Groundbreaking, Genre-Bending,
and Immersive Commissions and Presentations**

Season to include:

- **OKTOPHONIE**, **Karlheinz Stockhausen's** epic electronic masterpiece ritualized in a lunar environment created by visual artist **Rirkrit Tiravanija**;
- **WS**, a monumental installation by **Paul McCarthy**, of fantasy, excess and dystopia featuring a full-scale forest, suburban ranch houses, and a cacophony of film and sound;
- The U.S. premiere of a new play by **Matt Charman** depicting chess phenomenon Garry Kasparov's clash with IBM's super-computer Deep Blue;
- An imaginative experience mixing music, film, politics, and moments of illusion created by filmmaker **Adam Curtis**, **Robert Del Naja** of music pioneers **Massive Attack**, with Punchdrunk director **Felix Barrett**, designer **Es Devlin**, and the innovative art and design practice **UVA**;
- The U.S. premiere of ***The Life and Death of Marina Abramović***, re-staged for the Armory's soaring drill hall by **Robert Wilson**, with **Abramović**, **Antony**, and **Willem Dafoe**;
- In the newly restored Board of Officers Room, an intimate recital series with baritone **Christian Gerhaher**, violinist **Vilde Frang**, and pianist/composer **Anton Batagov**;
- Also in the period rooms, **Under Construction**, the Armory's ongoing series of intimate evenings with artists-in-residence performing works in progress.

New York, NY – February 18, 2013 – Park Avenue Armory announced today its 2013 season, a series of commissions, co-commissions and presentations that blur the distinctions between genres and break new ground for artists and audiences alike within the unconventional presentation platforms of the Armory's soaring Wade Thompson Drill Hall and jewel-like historic rooms. Dedicated to giving artists the freedom to push the envelope with their work and to providing exceptional, thought-provoking, and immersive experiences for audiences, Park Avenue Armory catalyzes a new kind of work that extends far beyond what can be achieved in traditional theaters, concert halls, and museum galleries.

The Armory's 2013 season will include **WS**, a monumental installation by **Paul McCarthy**; an enveloping sonic experience featuring **Karlheinz Stockhausen's** electronic masterpiece **OKTOPHONIE** in a lunar environment created by **Rirkrit Tiravanija**; **The Machine**, a play by one of Britain's fastest rising young playwrights, **Matt Charman**, that chronicles Garry Kasparov's 1997 chess game against IBM's Deep Blue super-computer, a contest that set man against machine; a new kind of imaginative experience conceived by **Adam Curtis** and **Robert Del Naja** mixing music, film, politics, and moments of illusion, performed by **Massive Attack** and special guests; and **Robert Wilson's** powerful new staging of **The Life and Death of Marina Abramović**.

The season will also feature the debut of a recital series staged in the Armory's exquisite Board of Officers period room, allowing audiences a rare and intimate opportunity to hear chamber music the way it was originally meant to be experienced. Scheduled to appear are baritone **Christian Gerhaher**, violinist **Vilde Frang**, and pianist **Anton Batagov**. The Board of Officers Room is currently being restored as a state of the art salon for music and performance and will be completed in September 2013 for the inauguration of the recital series. The architects are Herzog & de Meuron with Platt Byard Dovell and White as the executive architects.

2013 will also see the continuation of the Armory's **Under Construction** series—intimate evenings of works in progress presented by artists in residence in the Armory's jewel-like period rooms.

Citi is the Armory's 2013 season sponsor.

With its soaring 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall and array of dramatic period rooms, the Armory provides a robust and dynamic platform for artists to create and audiences to experience groundbreaking immersive works in all genres that cannot be realized elsewhere in New York City. Recent critically acclaimed presentations include the final performances of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company; *Philharmonic 360* with Alan Gilbert and the New York Philharmonic, in which the orchestra surrounded the audience for a concert of spatial music; and Ann Hamilton's participatory installation, *the event of a thread*, an Armory commission.

"The Armory inspires epic and immersive experiences that can be had nowhere else in the City. In 2013, the drill hall programming will focus on site-specific commissions and interdisciplinary collaborations, encouraging major artists from a range of backgrounds to push beyond their normal practices. The work will blur the line between high art and popular culture, ask tough questions about the world in which we live, and change the way audience members experience art," stated **Rebecca Robertson**, President and Executive Producer of Park Avenue Armory. "To complement the monumental productions in the drill hall, the Armory will offer a program of more intimate experiences in its splendid period rooms including recitals by major soloists and works in progress by artists in the creative phases of their work."

"This awesome New York landmark inspires artists to create questioning, exquisite and challenging works of art, offering new dialogues between artists and audiences," said **Alex Poots**, the Armory's Artistic Director. "It is a privilege to work with these artists as they dedicate themselves to creating new and specially conceived works of art for the Armory."

“Park Avenue Armory has built one of the most exciting and innovative cultural institutions in New York City, and we are delighted to continue our premier corporate sponsorship of the extraordinary 2013 season,” said **Peter Charrington**, CEO of Citi Private Bank, North America. “The building itself is a national treasure, and the artistic programs are bold, imaginative and cutting edge. We look forward to many wonderful and thought-provoking events here.”

**PARK AVENUE ARMORY
2013 SEASON**

OKTOPHONIE

By Karlheinz Stockhausen

Environment designed by Rirkrit Tiravanija

New York Premiere

Wednesday, March 20 at 8:00 p.m.

Friday, March 22 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 23 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 24 at 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 26 at 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 27 at 8:00 p.m.

Part of Stockhausen’s magnum opus “Licht” (or “Light”), *OKTOPHONIE* is a trailblazing electronic music experience where the audience is surrounded by eight groups of loudspeakers, enveloping them in a sonic environment. *OKTOPHONIE*, which will be performed by one of his original collaborators Kathinka Pasveer, exemplifies Stockhausen’s work as a compositional pioneer who grappled with spatial music as he bent the rules and redefined the listening experience.

Staging the work as the composer originally intended—in outer space—Rirkrit Tiravanija has been commissioned by the Armory to create a ritualized lunar experience, a floating seating installation within the Armory’s soaring drill hall that heightens the listeners’ octophonic experience and transports them to another realm. The audience will don white robes for the journey, carried along by the all-encompassing score, itself a meditation on the transformation from plunging darkness into blinding light.

This production is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

WS

An Installation by Paul McCarthy

Co-curated by Alex Poots and Hans-Ulrich Obrist in association with Tom Eccles

June 19-August 4, 2013

Tuesday-Thursday: 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday: 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays

The Armory's fifth major visual arts presentation will be the influential and provocative artist **Paul McCarthy's** largest installation in the U.S. to date. Drawing inspiration from Grimm Brothers' fairytales and centuries-old mythologies of the forest, **WS** will provide an immersive experience that weaves together a vast fantastical forest with towering trees, two off-scale and altered suburban ranch-style houses, and a video installation layering film and sound. The Armory presentation builds upon McCarthy's ongoing exploration of American myths and icons.

This installation is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the NYC Council.

THE MACHINE

A play by Matt Charman

U.S. Premiere

Commissioned by Park Avenue Armory

Wednesday, September 4 at 7:30 p.m. (Preview)

Thursday, September 5 at 7:30 p.m. (Preview)

Friday, September 6 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 7 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 8 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00pm

Tuesday, September 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 11 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, September 13 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 14 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 18 at 2:00 p.m.

In 1997, Garry Kasparov, the world's greatest chess player, arrived in New York City for the biggest match of his life. His opponent wasn't a fellow Grandmaster but a faceless super-computer, Deep Blue, built by tech-giant IBM. The man versus machine match was IBM's bid to raise its profile and its stock price. An international celebrity and the undisputed master of his art, Kasparov came to America for freedom and glory. What he didn't expect to confront was the lifelong dedication of another man, Deep Blue's wunderkind inventor Doctor Hsu. Both geniuses, they staked their reputations on the tournament. What followed was one of the most compelling stories of our time. The production will use the unique scale and epic beauty of the Armory to explore this clash of breathtaking human genius with matchless computer power.

This production is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

A NEW WORK BY ROBERT DEL NAJA AND ADAM CURTIS

Robert Del Naja of **Massive Attack** and **Adam Curtis** create a new kind of imaginative experience that mixes music, film, politics and breathtaking moments of illusion together in a hallucinatory ride through the dreams and the hidden realities of our strange, anxious age. In collaboration with **Felix Barrett**, **Es Devlin** and **UnitedVisualArtists**. With performances by **Massive Attack**.

U.S. Premiere

Commissioned by Park Avenue Armory, Manchester International Festival, and Ruhrtriennale International Festival of the Arts. In partnership with the BBC

Saturday, September 28 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 29 at 8:00 p.m.

Monday, September 30 at 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 2 at 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 3 at 8:00 p.m.

Friday, October 4 at 8:00 p.m.

An extraordinary collaboration connecting the dark, intense music and visual work of **Robert Del Naja** of **Massive Attack** with the thought-provoking vision of documentary filmmaker **Adam Curtis**, this site-specific event integrates music, film, and elements of illusion created by a visionary team of artists and designers that also includes Punchdrunk director **Felix Barrett**, radical set designer **Es Devlin** (Royal Shakespeare Company, Jay-Z and Kanye West), and the innovative art and design practice **UnitedVisualArtists**. Described as “a collective hallucination” by Del Naja and “a musical entertainment about the power of illusion and the illusion of power” by Curtis, this groundbreaking production will include performances by **Massive Attack** and place the audience at the center of stories of politics and power over the last 30 years.

This production is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and by the British Council. Complementary public programs are presented in partnership with the British Council.

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF MARINA ABRAMOVIĆ

Conceived and directed by Robert Wilson

With **Marina Abramović**, **Antony**, and **Willem Dafoe**

U.S. Premiere

Commissioned by Manchester International Festival and Teatro Real, Madrid with Theater Basel, Art Basel, Holland Festival, Salford City Council and deSingel, Antwerp

Thursday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. (Preview)

Friday, December 13 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 14 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18 at 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.
Friday, December 20 at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 21 at 2:00pm and 8:00 p.m.

At the intersection of theater, opera and visual art, director Robert Wilson's reimagining of performance artist Marina Abramović's extraordinary life and work begins with her difficult childhood in former Yugoslavia, and chronicles her journey to the present day. Abramović, who plays herself as well as her imposing mother, is joined by world-renowned actor Willem Dafoe and singer Antony, performing original music and songs created for this 'quasi opera.' Premiered at the Manchester International Festival in 2011, **The Life and Death of Marina Abramović** has played to sold-out audiences and rave reviews in Madrid, Basel, Antwerp and Amsterdam. For the Armory, Wilson is creating a new staging that uses the full sweep and soar of the Wade Thompson Drill Hall to draw the audience in as though they are part of the story.

RECITAL SERIES

The 2013 season marks the debut of the Armory's recital series, which will feature performances by three extraordinary artists, rarely heard in New York. Presented in the Armory's exquisitely renovated Board of Officers Room, audiences will experience chamber music as it was originally intended: in a glorious salon setting, close enough to the artists to feel as though they are part of the performance.

Christian Gerhaher, *baritone*

Gerold Huber, piano

Friday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 29 at 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 1 at 8:00 p.m.

Schumann Lieder

Myrthen, Op. 25

Liederkreis, Op. 39 (Eichendorff)

Die Löwenbraut, Op. 31/1 (Chamisso)

Zwölf Gedichte, Op. 35 (Kerner)

Vilde Frang, *violinist*

Michail Lifits, piano

Monday, October 21 at 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 22 at 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 23 at 8:00 p.m.

All-Mozart

Sonata No. 24 in F Major, K. 376

Sonata No. 18 in G Major, K. 301

Sonata No. 22 in A Major, K. 305

Sonata No. 27 in G Major, K. 379

Sonata No. 33 in E-flat Major, K. 481

Anton Batagov, pianist

Friday, October 25 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 26 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Morton Feldman's *Triadic Memories*

Park Avenue Armory's recital series is supported, in part, by the Wade Thompson Memorial Fund and The Reed Foundation.

TICKETS

Season tickets go on sale February 19.

Single tickets for *OKTOPHONIE* go on sale February 19. Single tickets for *WS* go on sale May 13 to the general public. Single tickets for the rest of the season go on sale June 17 (June 10 for Armory members and June 13 for subscribers).

To purchase tickets, visit armoryonpark.org or call Park Avenue Armory Ticket Services at (212) 933-5812.

SEASON SPONSORSHIP

Citi is the Armory's 2013 season sponsor.

Support for Park Avenue Armory's artistic season has been generously provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, The Shubert Foundation, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, the Marc Haas Foundation, The Charles Evans Foundation, and the Isak and Rose Weinman Foundation. Public funds are provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

ABOUT PARK AVENUE ARMORY

Part palace, part industrial shed, Park Avenue Armory fills a critical void in the cultural ecology of New York by enabling artists to create—and audiences to experience—unconventional work that cannot be mounted in traditional performance halls and museums. With its soaring 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall—reminiscent of 19th-century European train stations—and array of exuberant period rooms, the Armory offers a new platform for creativity across all art forms.

Since its first production in September 2007—Aaron Young's *Greeting Card*, a 9,216-square-foot “action” painting created by the burned-out tire marks of ten choreographed motorcycles—the Armory has organized a series of immersive performances, installations, and works of art that have drawn critical and popular attention working independently or with other cultural institutions. Among the highlights of its first five years are: Bernd Zimmermann's harrowing

Die Soldaten, in which the audience moved “through the music”; the unprecedented six-week residency of the Royal Shakespeare Company, in their own theater rebuilt in the drill hall; a massive digital sound and video environment by Ryoji Ikeda; a sprawling gauzy, multisensory labyrinth created by Ernesto Neto; the final performances of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company across three separate stages; and the New York Philharmonic performing Karlheinz Stockhausen’s sonic masterpiece *Gruppen* with three orchestras surrounding the audience. The ongoing *Under Construction* series features intimate performances in the Armory’s period rooms with artists presenting works in progress. The most recent project was *the event of a thread*, a site-specific installation by Ann Hamilton.

The Armory is currently undergoing an ongoing \$200-million revitalization of its historic building, named among the “100 Most Endangered Historic Sites in the World” by the World Monuments Fund in 2000. The renovation and restoration will stabilize and preserve the building and create new resources and state-of-the-art spaces for exhibitions, installations, and performances, as well as Artist-in-Residence studios, rehearsal rooms, and back-of-house amenities—offering dynamic environments for artists and audiences alike.

The multi-year revitalization project, designed by architects Herzog & de Meuron, reinvigorates the Armory’s original design while stabilizing, preserving, and renewing the building for future generations. Recent work includes the restoration of the Park Avenue façade and entrance, encompassing a rebuilt and restored front staircase, a new copper mansard roof, and a restored original 1879 cast-iron fence. Ongoing work includes the restoration and renovation of the period rooms. During the 2013 season, the Board of Officers Room, one of the largest and most important historic rooms in America and one of the few remaining interiors designed by Herter Brothers, will be unveiled and become the home of the Armory’s recital series.

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