

John Luther Adams

Sunday, September 21, 2014 • 2:00 p.m.

Lake View Cemetery



Inuksuit

Composer: John Luther Adams

Music Director: Douglas Perkins

Assistant Music Director: Amy Garapic

About *Inuksuit*

In the concert hall, we shut out the outside world and concentrate our listening on a few carefully chosen sounds. Outdoors, we're challenged to expand our awareness to encompass a multiplicity of sounds—receiving messages not only from the composer and the performers, but also from the larger world around us.

Each performance of *Inuksuit* is different, determined by the size of the ensemble and the specific instruments used, by the topology and vegetation of the site—even by the songs of the local birds. The musicians are dispersed widely throughout a large area. The listeners are also free to move around and discover their own individual listening points, actively shaping their experience.

Inuksuit is inspired by the stone sentinels constructed over the centuries by the Inuit in the windswept expanse of the Arctic. Translated literally, the word “Inuksuit” means “to act in the capacity of the human.”

As I composed *Inuksuit*, my thoughts were haunted by visions of the melting of the polar ice, the rising of the seas, and the question of what may remain of humanity's presence after the waters recede. I imagined each musician and each listener as a solitary figure in a vast, open landscape. What I wasn't prepared for was the strong sense of community the piece seems to create.

—John Luther Adams

About the Composer

John Luther Adams is a composer whose life and work are deeply rooted in the natural world. He was awarded the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for Music for his symphonic work *Become Ocean*. *Inuksuit*, his outdoor work for up to 99 percussionists, is regularly performed all over the world.

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A recipient of the Heinz Award for his contributions to raising environmental awareness, Mr. Adams has also been honored with the Nemmers Prize from Northwestern University “for melding the physical and musical worlds into a unique artistic vision that transcends stylistic boundaries.”

Born in 1953, Mr. Adams grew up in the South and in the suburbs of New York City. He studied composition with James Tenney at the California Institute of the Arts, where he was in the first graduating class in 1973. In the mid-1970s he became active in the campaign for the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, and subsequently served as executive director of the Northern Alaska Environmental Center.

Mr. Adams has taught at Harvard University, the Oberlin Conservatory, Bennington College, and the University of Alaska. He has also served as composer-in-residence with the Anchorage Symphony, Anchorage Opera, Fairbanks Symphony, Arctic Chamber Orchestra, and the Alaska Public Radio Network.

The music of John Luther Adams is recorded on Cantaloupe, Cold Blue, New World, Mode, and New Albion, and his books are published by Wesleyan University Press.

Performers (Alphabetical)	Celeste Polakovic	Lara Hueter	Andy Edelen
	Taylor Roseberry	Kevin Keith	Colin Fratus
Group 1	Luke Rinderknecht	Tyler Mashek	Evan Gottschalk
	Matthew Saunders	Michael Mazzulo	Andrew Grossman
Seth Alexander	Jeff Shaw	Turner Matthews	Michael Hamilton
Derrick Becker	Ethan Shafron	Colin Mudie	Neal Lantry
Crystal Burks	Zion Simms	JJ Pereira	Emily Larson
Liam Bacon	Casey Voss	Ben Rempel	Shane Jones
Ryan Elvert	Group 2	Troy Schaltenbrand	Lizzy Miline
Dave Finegold		Brian Shivers	Ty Niemeyer
Alicia Gallucci	Pat Altmire	David Singhaus	John Meiner
Amy Garapic	Kai Anderson	Anthony Taddeo	Breana Meyers
Simon Gilbert	Storm Benjamin	Vince Wallace	Dylan Moffitt
Nicole Gutman	Josh Bolton	Cameron Weichman	Jeff Nietzsche
Andrew Kirschner	Hunter Brown	Keith Wilson	Louis Pino
Aaron Levy	Aaron Butler	Group 3	Mo Placer
Darren Lin	Eli Chambers		Anna Provo
Jonathan Monacelli	Paul Cox	Anna Anger	Noah Roberts
Tom Morris	Colin Dees	Kelsey Bannon	Evan Saddler
Christian Napoleon	Austin Ferguson	Mickey Bertelson	Jake Schlaerth
Steve Neal	Steve Flory	Roger Braun	Chelsea Tinsler
Karisma Palmore	Josh Graham	Andrew Dobos	Drew Wright
Doug Perkins	Ryan Harrison	Matt Edick	

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