

Other Minds®  
ALLOTTA  
SONATAS

Other Minds® presents  
in cooperation with the  
Center for Contemporary  
Music, Northeastern  
University and Mills  
Performing Arts



→ PAST  
FORWARD →

DENNIS RUSSELL  
DAVIES, PIANO  
MAKI NAMEKAWA,  
PIANO

Thursday, May 14, 2026,  
7:00 pm. Littlefield  
Concert Hall, Mills  
College at Northeastern  
University

# PROGRAM

## LOU HARRISON

Keyboard Sonata (Sonata for Harpsichord or Fortepiano) (1999)

*For Linda Burman-Hall*

Allegro moderato

Adagio, arioso

Estampie

Dennis Russell Davies, solo

## ARVO PÄRT

Sonatina for Piano, Opus 1, Number 1 (1958)

*Dedicated to Professor Bruno Lukk*

Allegro

Larghetto; Allegro

Dennis Russell Davies, solo

## JOE HISAISHI

Piano Sonata (2020–22)

*Composed for Maki Namekawa*

Heavy Metal

non troppo

Toccata

Maki Namekawa, solo

## Full Intermission

## PAUL HINDEMITH

Sonata for Piano Four Hands (1938)

Mäßig bewegt

Lebhaft

Ruhig bewegt

Maki Namekawa & Dennis Russell Davies,  
piano four-hands

## Brief Intermission

## WILLIAM BOLCOM

Fantasy-Sonata #2 (2018)

*To the memory of Paul Jacobs (d. 1983)*

Senza tempo, like a chant, free rubato;  
risoluto; violent and percussive; lirico,

misterioso; with more movement; tranquillo  
(January 6, 2018 - Ann Arbor)

Scherzando; much slower; tempo I

(June 11, 2018 - Ann Arbor)

Andante piacevole ed espressivo; fast, furious,  
fateful

(September 1, 2018 - Ann Arbor)

Introduction, senza tempo; ben misurato e  
risoluto; a few variations to close: saraband  
tempo; a little more tempo; sprightlier

(October 5, 2018 - Ann Arbor)

Dennis Russell Davies, solo

## PHILIP GLASS

Piano Sonata (2019)

*Composed for Maki Namekawa*

Movement I

Movement II

Movement III

Maki Namekawa, solo

## Note from the Executive & Artistic Director

by Charles Amirkhanian

Among the great rewards of musical life are the interpersonal connections we build over a lifetime. A glance at tonight's list of composers reveals some of the most productive and significant connections built by our soloists over their many years in the public sphere. Dennis Russell Davies and Maki Namekawa have not been satisfied just to interpret the existing repertoire. They have built on it by encouraging the creation of new pieces from some of their best friends across the globe, or by resurrecting some of their less-well-known repertoire. Furthermore, it is a pleasure and honor that they count us at Other Minds among their closest friends. On numerous occasions these two individuals generously have donated their artistry to entertain and enlighten the Other Minds audience. For that we thank them for their invaluable partnership.



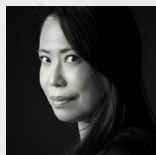
Dennis Russell Davies' activities as opera and orchestral conductor, and as pianist and chamber musician, are characterized by an extensive repertory stretching from Baroque to the latest music of our time. Widely considered to be one of the most innovative and adventurous conductors/programmers in the classical music world, Davies has successfully challenged and inspired audiences on both sides of the Atlantic as well as in Japan. He is noted for exciting, well-structured concerts and for his close working relationships with such varied composers as Luciano Berio, William Bolcom, John Cage, Philip Glass, Heinz Winbeck, Aaron Copland, Lou Harrison, Laurie Anderson, Arvo Pärt, Hans Werner Henze, Kurt Schwertsik, Thomas Larcher, Balduin Sulzer, and Manfred Trojahn.

After first appointments as Music Director of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Chief Conductor of the American Composers Orchestra, which he led for 25 years, Davies

moved to Europe as General Music Director of the Staatsoper Stuttgart, then Opera Bonn and the Beethoven Orchestra Bonn. He subsequently led the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, and the Sinfonieorchester Basel. In 2013, during his long and successful tenure in Linz as Chief Conductor of the Landestheater Linz and Bruckner Orchester Linz, Davies inaugurated the new Linzer Musiktheater conducting the world premiere of Philip Glass's/Peter Handke's *Spuren der Verirrten* and Strauss's *Rosenkavalier*. As guest conductor in the USA, he has appeared with the orchestras of Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Boston, New York, and Cleveland. In Europe he has worked regularly with the Concertgebouworkest and the Gewandhausorchester and has conducted the Berliner Philharmoniker, Filarmonica della Scala, the St. Petersburg Philharmonia, Orchestra of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, as well as the Hamburg and Munich Philharmonic Orchestras.

Davies' rich discography includes complete recordings of the symphonies of Anton Bruckner and Philip Glass (Bruckner Orchester Linz), Joseph Haydn (Stuttgarter Kammerorchester), and Arthur Honegger (Sinfonieorchester Basel). With his wife and duo partner Maki Namekawa he has recorded extensively, including works by Mozart, Beethoven, Shostakovich, Glass, and Stravinsky's original four-hand versions of *Le Sacre de Printemps*, *The Firebird*, and *Pétrouchka*, which he also recorded with the Sinfonieorchester Basel.

Born in Toledo, Ohio in 1944, Davies studied piano and conducting at the Juilliard School in New York. From 1997-2012, he was professor for orchestral conducting at the University Mozarteum Salzburg; beginning in September 2020 he will be guest professor at the Janáček Academy of Music and performing Arts in Brno. Since 2009, Dennis Russell Davies is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and has been awarded the German "Bundesverdienstkreuz," the Austrian "Ehrenkreuz für Wissenschaft und Kunst," as well as the title "Commandeur des Arts et Lettres" bestowed by the French government.



**Maki Namekawa** is a leading figure among today's pianists, bringing to audiences' attention contemporary music by international composers. As a soloist and a chamber musician equally at home in classical and repertoire of our time, she performs regularly at

international venues such as Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center New York, Musikverein Vienna, Barbican Center and Cadogan Hall London, Cité de la musique Paris, Philharmonie de Paris, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, BOZAR Bruxelles, Suntory Hall and Sumida Toriphony Hall Tokyo, Salzburg Festival, Ars Electronica Festival, Musik-Biennale Berlin, Rheingau Musik Festival, and Piano-Festival Ruhr.

Namekawa records and performs frequently for major radio networks in Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, France, and the USA. Orchestra engagements include Royal Concertgebouw Orkest Amsterdam, Münchner Philharmoniker, Bamberger Symphoniker, Dresdner Philharmonie, Bruckner Orchester Linz, Sinfonieorchester Basel, Filharmonie Brno, American Composers Orchestra, and Seattle Symphony.

In September 2018, Namekawa released the piano version of Philip Glass's soundtrack *MISHIMA – A Life in Four Chapters* that depicts the life and death of the Japanese writer and political activist Yukio Mishima. The arrangement was especially crafted for her by Glass's long-time musical director Michael Riesman and exhibits his crystal-clear technique. The recording was awarded the prestigious Pasticcio Prize by ORF—Austrian National Radio Broadcast. In June 2019, her recording *Isang Yun | Sunrise Falling* was awarded the Pasticcio Prize again. In 2019, Philip Glass composed his first and only Piano Sonata especially for Maki Namekawa. She premiered the Sonata on July 4th, 2019 at Piano-Festival Ruhr in Germany in the presence of the composer. The Piano Sonata was commissioned by the Piano-Festival Ruhr, the Philharmonie de Paris, and the Ars Electronica Festival.

Together with her husband, the conductor Dennis Russell Davies, Maki Namekawa formed a piano duo in 2003 which regularly performs in leading venues in Europe and North America including the Piano Festival Ruhr, the Radialsystem in Berlin, the Salzburg Festival, the Ars Electronica Festival, the Lincoln Center Festival, the Morgan Library, and Roulette in New York City, the Philips Collection in Washington, D.C., and Other Minds in the Bay Area. Major works written for the Namekawa-Davies Duo include Philip Glass's Four Movements for Two Pianos, Chen Yi's *China West Suite*, and Glass's *Two Movements for Four Pianos* (with Katia and Marielle Labèque) all commissioned by the Piano Festival Ruhr. In July 2017, Maki Namekawa, Dennis Russell Davies, and Philip Glass received the Piano Festival Ruhr Award. In 2019 Japanese composer Joe Hisaishi composed for the Namekawa-Davies Duo a work for 2 pianos and chamber orchestra *Variation 57*, premiered in Tokyo under the baton of the composer.



## UPCOMING OTHER MINDS EVENTS

### **Mavericks 250: Tudor / Reinagle**

Other Minds celebrates the American semiquincentennial with two summer concerts featuring Maverick American composers from distinct eras of musical history: live electronics pioneer David Tudor (1926–1996) and the Federalist Era's Alexander Reinagle (1756–1809).

Friday and Saturday, June 26th and 27th 2026, 7:30 pm, with an afternoon workshop on Saturday  
**DAVID TUDOR CENTENNIAL**  
Music of David Tudor by Composers Inside Electronics  
Littlefield Concert Hall, Mills College at Northeastern University, Oakland

Monday, July 20, 2026, 7:30 pm  
**ALEXANDER REINAGLE: COMPOSING A NEW NATION**  
Stephen Siek, piano  
Littlefield Concert Hall, Mills College at Northeastern University, Oakland

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7:30 pm  
**THE NATURE OF MUSIC 21: MARINA PETERSON**  
Goldman Theater at the David Brower Center, Berkeley, CA

### **SAVE THE DATES OTHER MINDS FESTIVAL 30**

Thursday–Sunday, October 8–11, 2026  
Brava Theater, San Francisco

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