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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 22, 2010**

Tickets & Information: 212/854-7799; [millertheatre.com](http://millertheatre.com)

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“...*The series which stands out as exceptionally fine from all others is the Composer Portraits concerts presented by Miller Theatre.*”—Composer and critic George Grella, *The Big City* blog

**MILLER THEATRE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

presents three premieres as it continues its *Composer Portraits* series with:

**Fred Lerdahl**

Cellist Anssi Karttunen performs the world premiere of the *Cello Concerto*  
Friday, November 19, 8:00PM

Single Tickets: \$25 • Students \$15 with valid ID

**From Miller Theatre Director Melissa Smey:**

“One of the benefits of being located on the Columbia campus is the great wealth of talent that surrounds us. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to highlight composer and professor Fred Lerdahl in our next Composer Portrait. Long admired by the classical cognoscenti, Fred’s music is deserving of a wide public audience. The program we are presenting is particularly exciting because it will feature several premieres, including two new works for the amazing Finnish cellist Anssi Karttunen, who will make his Miller debut.”

**Friday, November 19, 8:00PM**

**Fred Lerdahl** (b. 1943)

Miller Theatre shines a much-deserved spotlight on composer **Fred Lerdahl**. Lerdahl’s music is all about variation: building colorful, complex soundscapes from small melodic ideas. A Guggenheim fellow and Pulitzer finalist, he is also a composition professor at Columbia University. Finnish cellist **Anssi Karttunen**, “the most impressive cellist on the scene today” (*Los Angeles Times*), makes his Miller debut with a new work written especially for him and the **Argento Ensemble**, while the **Daedalus Quartet** performs the New York premiere of Lerdahl’s *Third String Quartet*.  
*Click [here](#) to read full program notes.*

ARTISTS: **Anssi Karttunen**, cello  
**Daedalus Quartet**  
**Argento Chamber Ensemble**  
**Michel Galante**, conductor

PROGRAM: *Time after Time* (2000)  
*Third String Quartet* (2008) (New York Premiere)  
*Arches* (2010) (World Premiere)  
*There and Back Again* (2010) (U.S. Premiere)

BIOS: Composer **Fred Lerdahl** has received numerous honors for his music, including the Koussevitzky Composition Prize, two composer awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Two of his pieces were finalists for the Pulitzer Prize in music. He studied at Lawrence University, Princeton, and Tanglewood, and has taught at Columbia University since 1991, where he is Fritz Reiner Professor of Musical Composition. He has been commissioned by the Fromm Foundation, the Koussevitzky Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Library of Congress, and others. Among the organizations that have performed his works are the New York

Philharmonic, the Pittsburgh Symphony, the San Francisco Symphony, the American Composers Orchestra, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Juilliard Quartet, and the Venice Biennale. He has been in residence at the Marlboro Music Festival, IRCAM, the Wellesley Composers Conference, the American Academy in Rome, the Bowdoin Summer Music Festival, and the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences.

Finnish cellist **Anssi Karttunen** leads a busy career as a soloist and chamber-music player, performing extensively all over the world. He performs on modern cello, classical and baroque cellos, and on violoncello piccolo. He is a passionate advocate for contemporary music and his collaboration with composers has led him to give over 90 world premieres. Karttunen performs all the standard cello works, but has also discovered many forgotten masterpieces and transcribed numerous pieces for cello and chamber ensembles. He also performs in recitals and chamber music at major festivals in Europe. Karttunen plays in a string trio with the Austrian violinist Ernst Kovacic and Canadian viola player Steven Dann. He was the artistic director of the Helsinki Biennale (1995 and 1997) and the Suvisoitto-festival in Porvoo, Finland (1994 to 1997). From 1999 to 2005 Karttunen was the principal cellist of the London Sinfonietta.

**Daedalus Quartet** has established itself as a leader among the new generation of string ensembles. Since its founding the Daedalus Quartet has performed in many of the world's leading musical venues; in the United States and Canada these include Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Library of Congress, the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, D.C., and Boston's Gardner Museum. Abroad the ensemble has been heard in such famed locations as the Musikverein in Vienna, the Mozarteum in Salzburg, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, and the Cité de la Musique in Paris. Daedalus has won plaudits for its adventurous exploration of contemporary music, most notably the compositions of Elliott Carter, George Perle, György Kurtág, and György Ligeti. The Quartet has also collaborated with some of the world's finest instrumentalists: these include pianists Awadagin Pratt, Joyce Yang and Benjamin Hochman; clarinetists Paquito D'Rivera and Alexander Fiterstein; and violists Roger Tapping and Donald Weilerstein. Members of the Daedalus Quartet hold degrees from The Juilliard School, Curtis Institute, Cleveland Institute, and Harvard University.

**Argento Chamber Ensemble** is the performance arm of the Argento New Music Project. Consisting of nine members, the ensemble expands to perform and record chamber orchestra works of up to 30 musicians. The ensemble has toured the United States and abroad in festivals including the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, the International Festival of Spectral Music in Turkey, the American Festival of Microtonal Music in New York, and the International Festival of Electro-acoustic Music. The group has worked with leading composers such as Pierre Boulez, Tania Leon, Tristan Murail, Elliott Carter, Philippe Hurel, and Philippe Leroux, and has collaborated with younger emerging composers internationally. The ensemble's first recording, featuring the music of Tristan Murail, was released in January of 2007 and received critical acclaim worldwide.

**Michel Galante** has performed as principal, guest, and assistant conductor with orchestras and ensembles in the United States, Canada, and Europe. He is a doctoral candidate in composition at Columbia University. His composition awards include Hertz, Fulbright, and Mellon fellowships, and prizes from ASCAP and the Composer's Guild.

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*Columbia University's Miller Theatre is located north of the Main Campus Gate  
at 116th St. & Broadway on the ground floor of Dodge Hall.*

For tickets, the public should call the Miller Theatre Box Office at 212/854-7799, M-F, 12-6PM.  
Tickets can also be purchased online at <http://www.millertheatre.com/>.

For further information, press tickets, and to arrange interviews,  
please contact Aleba Gartner Associates at 212/206-1450 or [a@alebagartner.com](mailto:a@alebagartner.com).

For photos, please contact Charlotte Landrum at 212/854-2380 or [cl2867@columbia.edu](mailto:cl2867@columbia.edu).

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