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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tickets & Information: 212/854-7799; www.millertheatre.com

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“Miller Theatre has become iconic through the consistent audacity and inspiration of its musical offerings.” — *Time Out New York*

MILLER THEATRE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

commences the 10th season of its renowned *Composer Portraits* series:

Iannis Xenakis

Steven Schick & ICE perform a feast of masterworks by the Greek revolutionary

Saturday, October 17, 8:00PM

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

From Director Melissa Smey: “On opening night last season, we premiered Iannis Xenakis’s only opera, *Oresteia*. That great work provided just a taste of what this mathematically and architecturally inclined composer has to offer. This season’s continued tribute to Xenakis—which also happens to launch the 10th anniversary of Miller Theatre’s *Composer Portraits* series—will bring even more to the new music table.”

Composer Portraits

The *Composer Portraits* series—now in its 10th anniversary season—remains the heart of Miller Theatre’s programming. Each concert investigates the work of a single composer by offering a prismatic view of their *oeuvre*. This year features a fascinatingly diverse group of composers from around the world.

Saturday, October 17, 8:00PM

Iannis Xenakis (1922-2001)

Mathematician, architect, Greek resistance fighter, and composer, **Iannis Xenakis** was a musical prophet of the digital age. **International Contemporary Ensemble**, who played with “lucidity, grit, and sharp musicality” in Miller’s production of Xenakis’s opera *Oresteia* last season, pays further tribute to this mastermind. Percussion superstar **Steven Schick** plays and conducts *O-Mega*, Xenakis’s final composition.

PROGRAM: Échange (1989)
Palimpsest (1979)
Akanthos (1977)
Thallein (1984)
O-Mega (1997)

ARTISTS: **International Contemporary Ensemble; Steven Schick**, conductor/percussion soloist

BIOS: **International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE)** is a uniquely structured chamber ensemble comprised of emerging performers and composers who are dedicated to advancing the music of our time. Through innovative programming, multimedia collaborations, commissions by young composers, and performances in nontraditional venues, ICE brings together new music and new audiences. ICE was founded in 2001 and has rapidly established itself as one of the leading new-music ensembles of its generation, winning first prize in the 2005 CMA/ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming and performing over 40 concerts a year in the United States and abroad. A champion of music by emerging composers, ICE has given over 200 world premieres to date and has performed the music of young composers from 15 different countries.

For the past 30 years **Steven Schick** has championed contemporary percussion music as a performer and teacher. Schick is the Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of California in San Diego and a consulting artist in percussion at the Manhattan School of Music. He was the percussionist of the Bang on a Can All-Stars of New York City and served as artistic director of the Centre International de Percussion de Genève. Schick is founder and artistic director of the percussion group red fish blue fish and music director and conductor of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus. His book, *The Percussionist's Art: Same Bed, Different Dreams*, was published by University of Rochester Press; his recording of *The Mathematics of Resonant Bodies* by John Luther Adams was released by Cantaloupe Music; and a three-CD set of the complete percussion music of Iannis Xenakis, made with red fish blue fish, was issued by Mode Records.

Plus, *free* Panel Discussion and Performance Iannis Xenakis: Interdisciplinary Connections

Friday, October 16, 7:00PM at Miller Theatre

Free - No tickets required

In conjunction with Miller Theatre's *Composer Portrait* of Iannis Xenakis, a consortium of artists and experts join together for a panel discussion focusing on the interdisciplinary connections between Xenakis's music and his related work as a mathematician, architect, physicist, and political activist. Percussionist Steven Schick performs the early percussion masterpiece *Psappha* followed by a conversation with panelists including composer David Lang; musicologist and Xenakis biographer Sharon Kanach; and Mark Wigley, Dean of Columbia's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. Arts journalist and scholar Lara Pellegrinelli will moderate. (*Artists and program subject to change*)

This event is presented in conjunction with the exhibition *Iannis Xenakis: Composer, Architect, Visionary* at The Drawing Center. Visit www.drawingcenter.org for more details.

Upcoming *Composer Portraits* at Miller Theatre:

Single Tickets: \$25 • Subscription: \$160; \$100 for 5 concerts

Galina Ustvolskaya

Ralph Shapey

Kaija Saariaho

Lou Reed: Metal Machine Music

Benet Casablancas

Sebastian Currier

Helmut Lachenmann: 75th Birthday Celebration

Saturday, November 7

Tuesday, November 17

Sunday, November 22

Friday, February 5

Thursday, February 25

Friday, March 5

Thursday, April 1

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 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.

For photos, please contact Christy Pill at 212/854-1488 or cp2234@columbia.edu.

Major support for Miller Theatre's 2009-10 season is provided by the Peter Jay Sharp Foundation, the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, the Francis Goelet Charitable Lead Trusts, and The Reed Foundation, Inc.

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