

For immediate release:

9 October 2012

Vancouver New Music presents

Richter 858

Bill Frisell • Eyvind Kang • Hank Roberts • Jenni Scheinman

Richter 858

A musical celebration of Gerhard Richter's 80th birthday!

Saturday, November 24, 2012 | 8PM

7:15PM artist chat with Bill Frisell, hosted by Contemporary Art Gallery Executive Director Nigel Prince (co-presented with CAG)

Vancouver Playhouse (601 Hamilton St.)

Tickets \$35 regular, \$25 students & seniors (plus venue surcharge)

Available through www.brownpapertickets.com or

1-800-838-3006, and at the door.

In honour of acclaimed painter Gerhard Richter's 80th birthday, Vancouver New Music brings Bill Frisell's *Richter 858* project to the Vancouver Playhouse for its premiere Vancouver performance.

www.newmusic.org

Eight abstract paintings by Richter are the starting points for *Richter 858*, a series of compositions by guitarist Bill Frisell inspired by Richter's work. The 858 Quartet turn brushstrokes into sounds in this live, multi-media event, which will also feature music from Frisell's *Sign of Life: Music for the 858 Quartet*.

"The 858 Quartet...respond to the compositions intuitively, moving from abstraction to introspection and, briefly, to what's almost an old-time fiddle reel. Frisell's raveling and unraveling continue, to our benefit."

- Bruce Wallace, Bay Guardian

"For most other players, a project such as this would be an interesting side alley, a diversion from their mainstream work. With Frisell, there is no mainstream work; every project is a new departure. One expects the unexpected - a world music sextet follows a country trio, follows a heavyweight jazz trio. Richter 858 slips seamlessly into the sequence; distinctly different and distinctively Frisell."

- John Eyles, BBC

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Bill Frisell on the 858 Quartet:

"Originally the music for this group was written for and inspired by eight Gerhard Richter paintings. A project was put together and produced by my friend, David Breskin. The Richter paintings are where this began, but the chemistry felt so good with these folks, I have written more music and will continue to do so as it develops on into the future...For me, this has been a chance to write for my dream string section and also a reunion with one of my best friends, Hank Roberts. Hank was in my first band and we hadn't played together or even seen each other for many years."

About Bill Frisell:

Over the years, Frisell has contributed to the work of such collaborators as Paul Motian, John Zorn, Elvis Costello, Ginger Baker, The Los Angeles Philharmonic, Suzanne Vega, Loudon Wainwright III, Ron Sexsmith, Vinicius Cantuaria, Marianne Faithful, John Scofield, Rinde Eckert, The Frankfurt Ballet, film director Gus Van Sant, and numerous others, including Bono, Brian Eno, Jon Hassell and Daniel Lanois on the soundtrack for Wim Wenders' film *Million Dollar Hotel*.

This work has established Frisell as one of the most sought-after guitar voices in contemporary music. The breadth of such performing and recording situations is a testament not only to his singular guitar conception, but his musical versatility as well. This, however, is old news by now. In recent years, it is Frisell's role as composer and band leader which has garnered him increasing notoriety.

**** Vancouver premiere ****

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