

SONOKLECT '98-'99

A Concert Series of Twentieth-Century Music

Terry Vosbein, Director

Robert Dick
Composer and Flutist

Washington and Lee University
Keller Theatre • 8:00 p.m. • 14 November 1998

PROGRAM

Flames Must Not Encircle Sides (1980)

Afterlight (1973)

Flying Lessons — Contemporary Concert Etudes
selected from Volume I (1983) and Volume II (1986/87)

Satan, Oscillate My Metallic Sonatas, for bass flute (1996)

Greenhouse (1991)

INTERMISSION

Felix on the Helix (1997) for flute with glissando headjoint

Piece In Gamelan Style (1979)

Re-Illuminations (1985)

Lookout (1989)

IF, for bass flute in F (1993)

*All works are by Robert Dick (Multiple Breath Music, BMI)
and all are for the concert flute unless otherwise noted.*



ROBERT DICK

More than any other composer/performer today, Robert Dick has achieved international recognition for his creation of a rich new musical language for his instrument—the flute. Known worldwide for his original and exciting compositions and improvisations, he has frequently been compared to Paganini and Hendrix as a virtuoso who has not only mastered his instrument but also redefined it. Playing the full range of flutes, from the giant, stand-up contrabass flute through bass flutes in F and C, alto flute, concert flute and piccolos in Ab and C, Dick has performed his music throughout the United States, Europe and Japan.

Mr. Dick moved from New York to Switzerland in 1992 and lives with his wife, Regula Muller, in Lucerne. He received the Lucerne Music Prize in 1996 and was commissioned to compose a piece for flute and piano. Entitled *Life Concert*, this work was premiered in 1997.

Robert Dick's multifaceted musical life includes composition, improvisation, master class teaching and publication, and work on redesigning the flute itself. He is currently collaborating with Bickford Brannen of the Brannen Brothers, Inc., on the development of a flute that Dick has conceived will radically expand the instrument's sonic world. The new flute is envisioned to be the evolutionary successor to the Boehm flute that has been in use since the mid-nineteenth century.

The recent seasons have found Robert Dick performing in Switzerland, Germany, France, Austria, Italy, Holland, the United States, Canada and Brazil. Master classes frequently accompany his solo concerts and he has taught at the Musik-Akademie der Stadt Basel, Juilliard, the Mozarteum in Salzburg, the Vienna Conservatory, the University of Montreal, the Royal College of Music in London, Soal University in Kyoto and many, many others.

A prolific recording artist, his most recent CD, *Jazz Bar-B-Q on Mars*, is on ENJA Records. This recording, which features music by John Coltrane, Eric Dolphy, Jimi Hendrix, Wayne Shorter, Ornette Coleman and Robert Dick, continues the collaboration with the Soldier String Quartet that began with 1993's critically acclaimed *Third Stone from the Sun* (New World Records).

Noteworthy premieres of Dick's music include his piece for solo flutist and flute quartet *Gossip Cats Are Dancing* at the Philharmonie in Cologne and his *Concerto for Flute/Bass Flute, Strings and Percussion* at Town Hall in New York. Mr. Dick was soloist in both performances with the German flute quartet V.I.F. in Cologne and the Solisti New York Chamber Orchestra at Town Hall. *The New York Times* spoke of the *Concerto* as, "Riveting in its timbral variety and brilliant in Mr. Dick's playing."

In December 1993, Mr. Dick premiered his piece *The Sea of Stories* for solo flutist and flute orchestra (four piccolos, five flutes, two alto flutes and bass flute). The flute class at the North Carolina School of the Arts performed with Mr. Dick as soloist. The work was commissioned by the National Endowment for the Arts. Mr. Dick is one of only two Americans ever to be awarded both Composers' Fellowships (twice) and a Solo Recitalist Grant by the N.E.A. He has received a Guggenheim Fellowship for composition and commissions from the Jerome Foundation, Fromm Music Foundation, Mary Flagler Cary Trust, the city of Zurich and the Philharmonie in Cologne.

As an improviser, Robert Dick is a member of groups based both in New York and Europe. European groups include the **A.D.D. Trio**, with Steve Arguelies, drums; and Christy Doran, electric guitar; **Oscura Luminosa**, with Petia Kaufmann, harpsichord; Conrad Steinmann, recorders; Dorothea Schurch, voice; and Alfred Zimmerlin, cello; and **Aurealis**, with John Wolf Brennan, piano; and Daniele Patumi, contrabass.

In New York, he is a member of three ensembles: **New Winds**, with Ned Rothenberg, alto sax, bass clarinet and shakuhachi; and Herb Robertson, trumpets; **Tambastics**, with Gerry Hemingway, drums; Mark Dresser, bass; and Denman Maroney, piano; and **Steel and Bamboo**, with Steve Gorn, Indian "bansuri" bamboo flute; and Gerry Hemingway, drums.

Robert Dick has performed with Min Tanaka, Steve Lacy, Ned Rothenberg, Georg Gräwe, George Lewis, Shelley Hirsch, Uli Kieckbusch, Evan Parker, Joelle Learndre, Klaus König and many others.

RECENT CDS:

Irrefragable Dreams (Random Acoustics 018)—improvised duos with violinist Mari Kimura.

Instinct (Bellaphon LR 45104)—The A.D.D. Trio plays originals by Steve Arguelies Robert Dick and Christy Dorari.

Worlds of If (Leo Records CD 224)—Robert Dick solo and multitrack. Solo pieces for flute, alto flute, F-bass & piccolo. Overdubbed groups of flutes and voices. Duo with guest Ned Rothenberg.

Third Stone from the Sun (New World/counter currents 80435-2)—music by Jimi Hendrix and Robert Dick performed with the Soldier String Quartet.

Digging It Harder from Afar (Les Disques victo 028)—New Winds performing original pieces and improvisations.

Steel and Bamboo (O.O. Discs %12)—original music for the duo of Robert Dick and Steve Gorn, master of the Indian “bansuri” bamboo flute.

Ventuti Shadows (o.o. Discs %7)—original solos and duos with Ned Rothenberg, shakuhachi; Steve Gorn, “bansuri”; Neil B. Rolnick, electronics; and Mary Kay Fink, flute.

Mr. Dick has authored and published, on his Multiple Breath Music imprint, a number of seminal works for contemporary flute: “The Other Flute: A Performance Manual of Contemporary Techniques”; “Tone Development Through Extended Techniques”; “Circular Breathing for the Flutist”; “Flying Lessons: Six Contemporary Concert Etudes” (Volumes I and II). Translations are published in German (Zimmermann), Dutch (Molenaar), Italian (Ricordi) and Spanish (Mundi Musica).

The United States distributor for Multiple Breath Music (BMI/SUISA) is:

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1998-99 SONOKLECT Season

26 September

Jazz Drummer Peter Erskine & the Lounge Art Ensemble . . . consisting of saxophonist Bob Sheppard and bassist Dave Carpenter, and dedicated to playing Modern American Music in the horn trio format.

14 November

Flute Virtuoso Robert Dick . . . more than any other composer/performer today, he has achieved international recognition for his creation of a rich new musical language for his instrument.

23 January

GHOSTS!! . . . is a musical theater work for solo singer, puppets, masks and synthesizer in two acts, composed and performed by Michael Kallstrom.

13 March

Tromba Due . . . is a unique artistic collaboration between two of the finest trumpeters actively involved in chamber music today, David Spencer and Ryan Anthony.