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## Music And Mathematics -- A Special Presentation

*Philip Glass, award-winning composer,  
will elucidate the patterns behind his work*

SAN FRANCISCO -- Movies, music and mathematics will intersect when Golden Globe winning composer Philip Glass and Robert Osserman, Special Projects Director at the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) speak on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at Herbst Theatre from 2:00-3:00 PM. The presentation, "From Einstein to 'Koyaanisqatsi,'" will offer a rare opportunity to hear Glass discuss some of the deeper aspects of his music and his innovative work on film.

Glass, who comes to the Bay Area for live performances accompanying all three films of the QATSI Trilogy, will discuss the unique process that went into the creation of those films, as well as others done in collaboration with a number of renowned directors and cinematographers. "The conversational format of our presentation compares to 'Inside the Actor's Studio,' except targeted for movie, music, and math lovers," said Osserman. The program is hosted by MSRI and San Francisco Performances.

Glass was awarded the Golden Globe for Best Score in 1999 for his work on "The Truman Show" (1998). He also has received Golden Globe, Grammy, and Academy Award nominations for his work on "The Hours" (2002).

Considered one of the founders of the minimalist movement in the 1960s, Glass has evolved techniques he calls "additive processes" and "cyclic structures". In addition to his early interest in music and composition, Glass was a mathematics major in college. He has said that as a child, Einstein was one of his heroes. His first opera, "Einstein on the Beach," sold out the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, and constituted a radical rethinking of opera itself. In similar fashion, the Philip Glass/Godfrey Reggio full-length feature film "Koyaanisqatsi" with its pure admixture of striking images and music, and without plot or dialog, was a revolutionary new development in cinema. The third film in the series, "Naqoyqatsi" (2002), is replete with mathematical references and imagery which will be explored during the Conversation.

Tickets to "From Einstein to 'Koyaanisqatsi,'" are \$10 and are available at Ticket Web ([www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com)) or can be purchased at the door. They are free with the purchase of a "Glass Pass" to the three performances.

MSRI is one of the world's premiere centers for research in the mathematical sciences, and has been advancing mathematical research through workshops and conferences since its founding in 1982. More than 1700 mathematical scientists visit MSRI each year. MSRI has also hosted a number of events featuring Robert Osserman in conversation with prominent figures in the arts, including comedian Steve Martin and playwrights Tom Stoppard, David Auburn and Michael Frayn. This is second in a series on music and mathematics sponsored by MSRI, the first being a conversation with the pianist Christopher Taylor.

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