

Michael Gordon's TIMBER, played by MANTRA Percussion: Carlsbad Music Festival, BAM Next Wave & Vancouver New Music & New Press

1 message

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Subject: Michael Gordon's TIMBER, played by MANTRA Percussion: Carlsbad Music Festival, BAM Next Wave & Vancouver New Music & New Press



Michael Gordon's "Stunning" Virtuoso work TIMBER performed by MANTRA Percussion
Carlsbad Music Festival
Brooklyn Academy of Music's 30th Next Wave Festival
Vancouver New Music at the Orpheum Annex

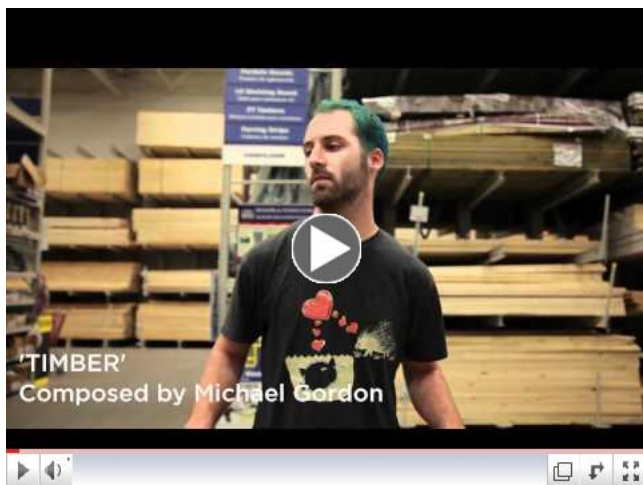


Photo Credit: Peter Serling

Michael Gordon writes music that explores the extreme possibilities of rhythm, dynamics and texture. Gordon showcases his signature dynamic waves of textures and polyrhythms in Timber, an evening-length work for six percussionists.

Co-commissioned by Netherlands-based Slagwerkgroep Dan Haag and New York-based Mantra Percussion, Timber, a stunning and virtuosic work, is played on six instruments made from specially cut wooden planks. Timber brings the physicality, endurance and technique of percussion performance to a new level. The range of sounds and rhythms Gordon is able to get out of a single piece of wood is nothing short of

astounding, and the music moves seamlessly from the visceral to the cerebral, from beat-driven to ambient, from delicate to overwhelming. It is a tour de force for the composer and the performers alike. The performers are the New York-based ensemble Mantra Percussion, hailed by the New York Times as "...finely polished...a fresh source of energy."



NPR Music Field Recordings: Mantra at Lowe's Hardware

There's something primeval about guys banging on wood. But the New York percussion group Mantra takes such primitive pounding to a surprisingly refined level. For composer Michael Gordon's mesmerizing new work - Timber, written for six two-by-fours - Mantra set up a public performance of the piece in the lumber department of a big-box hardware store in Alexandria, Va. Who knew 60 inches of processed pine could sound so good?

[Read About Mantra Percussion](#)

Press Highlights

[New York Magazine: The Carpenter's Greatest Hits](#)

[Sarasota Herald-Tribune](#)

[Interview and Feature Article by David Patrick Stearns, Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

The musical instruments look like something you'd see in the lumber department of Home Depot. Playing them requires great skill and stamina, but no special alchemy.

Yet there's one element that's more conjured than contrived in Michael Gordon's new percussion work, Timber: It has a halo, an ethereal aura of sound... [Read More](#)

[Review of Mantra Performance from Boston Globe by Matthew Guerrieri](#)

"Over the course of an hour, Gordon wrings a rich array of sounds from the lumber, from chorale-like resonance to cascading Steve-Reich-like shifting phases. (The performance, by New York-based Mantra Percussion, was fluently focused in its stamina.)" [Read More](#)

[Review of Recording from Time-Out Chicago](#)

"The glorious overtones produced from this limited array has to be heard to be believed. A spine-tingling shimmer caroms from east to west in the listener's headphones..."

Time-Out Chicago [Read More](#)

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