



Summer 1 2022

# Philip Glass

First Piano Sonata (2019)

# Biography: Philip Glass

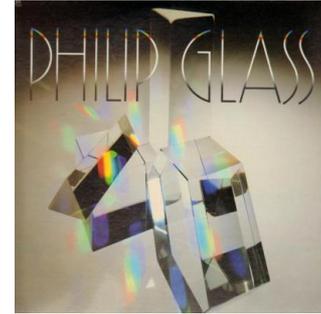


Philip Glass was born in 1937 and grew up in Baltimore (USA).



- Glass studied flute as a boy and enrolled at age 15 at the University of Chicago where he studied mathematics and philosophy.
- He then studied musical composition at the Juilliard School of Music (M.S., 1962) in New York City and moved Paris to study under Nadia Boulanger, the renowned music teacher.
- He returned to New York in 1967 and formed the Philip Glass Ensemble – seven musicians playing keyboards and a variety of woodwinds.

# The works of Philip Glass



- In the past 25 years, Glass has composed more than twenty five operas, large and small; twelve symphonies; three piano concertos and concertos for violin, piano, timpani, and saxophone quartet and orchestra; soundtracks to films and a growing body of work for solo piano and organ.
- Glass has worked with some high-profile rock and pop artists.
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- He presents lectures, workshops and solo keyboard performances around the world and he continues to appear regularly with the Philip Glass Ensemble.

# Click the picture to listen to the Piano Sonata



- *The biggest thing with new music is how to realize it. It's an issue of how to write it down but it's also about how to actually play it.” –Philip Glass*

# Biography: Maki Namekawa



- Japanese pianist Maki Namekawa studied at the Kunitachi University of Music in Tokyo and at the Paris Conservatoire.
- Maki Namekawa is a leading figure among today's pianists playing contemporary music by international composers.
- As a soloist and a chamber musician, she performs regularly at international venues.
- In 2019 Philip Glass composed his first Piano Sonata especially for Maki Namekawa. She premiered the Sonata on July 4th, 2019 at Piano-Festival Ruhr in Germany in the presence of the composer.

# Further Listening

## Metamorphosis - Complete



# Musical elements

- **Tempo:** - the speed of the music
- **Pitch:** - the way in which notes appear high or low in relation to one another
- **Rhythm:** - the length of certain notes, from short to long
- **Melody:** - the 'tune', created by combining rhythm and pitch
- **Harmony:** - when different pitches are played together at the same time to form chords
- **Texture:** - the ways in which different lines of music interweave
- **Timbre:** - the sound qualities of different voices and instruments
- **Dynamics:** - different levels of volume, from soft to loud