



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Zeitgeist to present Douglas Ewart Portrait Concerts**

Zeitgeist is set to present a series of portrait concerts featuring award-winning and widely-acclaimed multidisciplinary artist Douglas R. Ewart. Best known as a composer, improviser, sculptor and maker of masks and instruments, Douglas R. Ewart weaves his remarkably broad gifts into a single sensibility that encourages and celebrates the wholeness of individuals in culturally active communities.

Concerts on Friday and Saturday, May 12-13 will feature performances of Ewart's chamber music, including *The Red Hills*, *Marcus Garvey*, *Songs of Stories of Hopes, Dreams, and Visions*, and the world premiere of *Crepuscule*, written for Zeitgeist.

On June 15, Zeitgeist will host Douglas Ewart's *Sonic Tops*, an event that will gather musicians, poets, artists, and community members together to engage in music-making, performance art, and conversation in both indoor and outdoor spaces at The Northside Healing Space in North Minneapolis, located at 2100 Emerson Avenue North. The event will be free to the public and will have activities for both participating and observing.

#### **About Douglas R. Ewart**

Born in Kingston, Jamaica in 1946, Douglas R. Ewart immigrated to Chicago, Illinois in the United States in 1963. His travels throughout the world and interactions with diverse people since then has, again and again confirmed his view that the world is an interdependent entity. An example of his efforts both to study and to contribute to this interdependence is his use of his prestigious 1987 U.S.-Japan Creative Arts Fellowship to study both modern Japanese culture and the traditional Buddhist shakuhachi flute, and also to give public performances while in Japan.

In America, his determination to spread his perspective is part of the inspiration behind his often multi-disciplinary works and their encouragement of artist-audience interactions. It is also the basis of the teaching philosophy with which he guides his classes at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he has taught since 1990, and the basis of the perspective he has brought to his service on advisory boards for institutions such as The National Endowment for the Arts, Meet the Composer (New York City) and Arts Midwest. Mr. Ewart uses his past experience as chairman of the internationally renowned Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM) to celebrate and build upon the history and achievements of the organization,

and is from this perspective a natural extension of the activities he has been engaged in for the past four decades.

## **Douglas Ewart Portrait Concert**

**May 12-13, 7:30 p.m.**

**Studio Z: 275 East Fourth Street, Suite 200, Saint Paul, MN**

**\$20 / \$15 students & seniors**

## **Douglas Ewart's Sonic Tops**

**June 15, 5-7 p.m.**

**Northside Healing Space: 2100 Emerson Ave N, Minneapolis**

**Free**

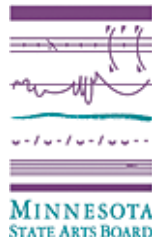
**Tickets and information at [zeitgeistnewmusic.com](http://zeitgeistnewmusic.com)**

### **About Zeitgeist:**

Lauded for providing "a once-in-a-lifetime experience for adventurous concertgoers," Zeitgeist is a new music chamber ensemble comprised of two percussion, piano and woodwinds. One of the longest established new music groups in the country, Zeitgeist commissions and presents a wide variety of new music for audiences in the Twin Cities and on tour. Always eager to explore new artistic frontiers, Zeitgeist collaborates with poets, choreographers, directors, visual artists and sound artists of all types to create imaginative new work that challenges the boundaries of traditional chamber music. The members of Zeitgeist are: Heather Barringer, percussion; Patti Cudd, percussion; Pat O'Keefe, woodwinds; Nicola Melville, piano.

This activity is made possible with support from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

Zeitgeist is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, The City of St. Paul's Cultural STAR Program, The Amphion Foundation, The Knight Foundation, The Lowertown Future Fund, the Target Foundation, the McKnight Foundation, the Jerome Foundation, the Albrecht Family Foundation, The Mandel Family Foundation, and the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature.



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