

Terry Riley

1964, introducing a new musical form based on interlocking repetitive patterns that changed the course of 20th century music. Born in Colfax, California, in 1935, he studied piano early on and later moved to San Francisco to study at SF State College and UC Berkeley, forming collaborations with La Monte Young and Anna Halprin. In 1962 he moved to Paris, performing in jazz clubs, participating in Fluxus happenings, and developing his tape loop techniques. Shortly after returning to California in 1964 he composed *In C*, which premiered to immediate acclaim. He moved to New York in 1965, expanding these ideas in works such as *Keyboard Studies*, *Poppy Nogood and the Phantom Band*, and *A Rainbow in Curved Air*, and with the 1968 Columbia release of *In C* introduced a global audience to Minimalism. In 1970 he became a disciple of Pandit Pran Nath, studying in India and performing with him for over two decades while continuing to develop his own improvisational practice. Riley's work spans chamber music, orchestra, opera, film, and solo pieces, with commissions from the Salzburg Festival, Carnegie Hall, NASA, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and a long collaboration with the Kronos Quartet.

Since 2019 Riley has lived in Japan. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2020, and *In C* was added to the National Recording Registry in 2022. His influence is evident in composers including Steve Reich, Philip Glass, and John Adams, as well as in groups such as The Who and Tangerine Dream, securing his place as a defining musical innovator of the 20th century.