

T H E P O L Y G O N

January 4, 2019
Media Advisory

Musicircus
Sunday, January 13 from 1-4pm
at The Polygon Gallery

Musicircus is simple: **as many musicians as possible are invited to perform anything they want and in any way they desire – all at the same time!**

Performed in collaboration with the Blueridge Chamber Music Festival, *Musicircus* is a uniquely powerful act of artistic community. The event brings together numerous musicians and performers for an improvisatory afternoon performance, featuring compositions by legendary composer John Cage. Listeners also participate in the creation of the composition by moving around the venue – in this case, every single available space in The Polygon Gallery – thus changing the kaleidoscope of sounds they encounter.



Musicircus was written in 1967 by John Cage. For him, the blurred lines between performer and listener, the lack of a dominant focal point, and the atmosphere of controlled chaos creates a democratic, inclusive piece that mirrors the amiably anarchic society he envisioned.

Featured compositions include: *Litany for the Whale*, *Four6*, *Variations II*, *Suite for Toy Piano*, and the famous 4'33" performed by local musicians Mark McGregor, Martin Fisk, Melanie Adams, Alejandro Ochoa, and Dory Hayley. Additionally, this is a rare chance to hear Cage's monumental work for prepared piano, *Sonatas and Interludes*, performed by acclaimed Vancouver pianist Corey Hamm.

In addition to Cage's compositions, *Musicircus* also includes music ranging from jazz to Celtic to classical to world music, performed by groups including the North Shore Chamber Orchestra, Vancouver Cantonese Opera, and Vancouver Community College Music Ensembles.

The event is performed in conjunction with the final day to view the current exhibition at The Polygon *Hannah Rickards: One can make out the surface only by placing any dark-coloured object on the ground*. Cage has had an influence of much of Rickards's work, and has inspired much of the choreography in this recent installation.

Admission is always by donation, courtesy of BMO Financial Group.



Images: (top) Photo of John Cage, source unknown; (bottom) Hannah Rickards', Installation view from *One can make out the surface only by placing any dark-coloured object on the ground* (detail), 2018

Media Contact

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Listing Information

The Polygon Gallery in collaboration with Blueridge Chamber Music Festival presents *Musicircus*, an event that brings together numerous musicians and performers for an improvisatory afternoon performance, featuring compositions by legendary composer John Cage.

Date: Sunday, January 13, 1-4pm

Venue:
The Polygon Gallery
101 Carrie Cates Court
North Vancouver, BC V7M 3J4

Website: <https://thepolygon.ca/event/musicircus/>

Social Media

The Polygon Gallery
Facebook: [thepolygongallery](https://www.facebook.com/thepolygongallery)
Twitter: [@_ThePolygon](https://twitter.com/_ThePolygon)
Instagram: [@thepolygongallery](https://www.instagram.com/thepolygongallery)

Hashtags: #ThePolygon #Musicircus

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About The Polygon Gallery

Known as Presentation House Gallery for four decades, The Polygon Gallery is considered one of Canada's most internationally acclaimed public art galleries. With a mandate to exhibit and disseminate photography and media art, the Gallery emphasizes contemporary Canadian artists within a context of historical and international art.

Nearly 30 years in the making, The Polygon Gallery's new purpose-built home, which opened its doors on November 18, 2017, is a landmark building situated on North Vancouver's new waterfront designed by British Columbia's internationally lauded architectural firm, Patkau Architects, for the presentation of the preeminent art form of our age.

Admission always by donation, courtesy of BMO Financial Group.

thepolygon.ca



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