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COLORADO SYMPHONY PRESENTS:

THE PHILIP GLASS ENSEMBLE PERFORMING *KOYAANISQATSI*

Experience the fusion of film and music as the Philip Glass Ensemble performs Glass's legendary score live with Godfrey Reggio's visionary masterpiece.

Sep. 8, 2025 – Denver, CO – The Colorado Symphony is thrilled to announce an extraordinary live film and music experience as the Philip Glass Ensemble performs the groundbreaking score to *Koyaanisqatsi* on Saturday, January 31, 2026 at Boettcher Concert Hall.



This one-night-only performance pairs the Ensemble's signature sound with Godfrey Reggio's influential 1982 film, creating an immersive evening of music and cinema. *Koyaanisqatsi* is the first film in Reggio's acclaimed *Qatsi* trilogy, offering a hauntingly powerful meditation on technology, humanity, and the natural world.

The score, composed by Philip Glass, is widely regarded as a landmark in minimalist music and one of the most celebrated film soundtracks of the last half-century.

Hearing it performed live by the Philip Glass Ensemble,

the group for whom it was written, elevates this cinematic experience into a transcendent, visceral event.

ABOUT KOYAANISQATSI

Released in 1982, *Koyaanisqatsi* is the first film in director Godfrey Reggio's acclaimed *Qatsi* trilogy, followed by *Powaqqatsi* (1988) and *Naqoyqatsi* (2002). The title is a Hopi word meaning "life out of balance," and the film presents an arresting, wordless portrait of the relationship between nature, humanity, and technology.

Without dialogue or narration, *Koyaanisqatsi* relies entirely on powerful imagery and Philip Glass's hypnotic, propulsive score to convey its vision. Through time-lapse photography, slow motion, and juxtaposed imagery, the film captures the beauty and turbulence of the modern world, moving from vast landscapes to the frenetic pace of urban life.



Upon its release, *Koyaanisqatsi* became a landmark in experimental cinema and is credited with influencing generations of filmmakers and visual artists. Its score by Philip Glass, performed live by the Philip Glass Ensemble, is regarded as one of the most iconic and influential film soundtracks of the last century.



ABOUT PHILIP GLASS ENSEMBLE

“The Philip Glass Ensemble represents the most authentic performance practice of my music in our time. I am looking forward to championing them as they carry it forward and bring its unique repertoire to new generations.” – *Philip Glass*

The Philip Glass Ensemble (PGE) comprises the principal performers of the music of Philip Glass. In 1968, Glass founded the PGE in New York City as a laboratory for his music. Its purpose was to develop a performance practice to meet the unprecedented technical and artistic demands of his compositions. In pioneering this approach, the PGE became a creative wellspring for Glass, and its members remain inimitable interpreters of his work.

The artists of the PGE recognize their unique position in the history of music of the past half-century, and passing on that legacy is part of their practice. A deep dedication to educating the next generation of musicians is integral to the PGE’s work, both on tour and as the Ensemble-in-Residence at The Philip Glass Institute at The New School.

The PGE debuted at the Whitney Museum of American Art in 1969, and in its early years performed primarily in the galleries, artist lofts, and museums of SoHo’s then-thriving artistic community. In the five decades since, the PGE has performed in world-renowned music festivals and concert halls across five continents, and has made records with Sony, Nonesuch, and Orange Mountain Music.

Many of Philip Glass’s most celebrated works were expressly composed for the PGE: its core concert pieces *Music in Twelve Parts*, *Music in Similar Motion*, and *Music with Changing Parts*; the opera and musical theater projects *Einstein on the Beach*, *Hydrogen Jukebox*, *1000 Airplanes on the Roof*, *Monsters of Grace*; and the full-length dance works *Dance* (Lucinda Childs) and *A Descent Into the Maelström* (Australian Dance Theater). The PGE is most widely acclaimed for its soundtracks to Godfrey Reggio’s trilogy of wordless films: *Koyaanisqatsi*, *Powaqqatsi*, and *Naqoyqatsi*. It is also featured in Glass’s operas *La Belle et la Bête* and *The Photographer*.

The Philip Glass Ensemble is the exclusive performer of its repertoire and is dedicated to bringing it to audiences worldwide.



This event does not include the Colorado Symphony. Tickets for this performance are on sale now. For more information on the Colorado Symphony, please visit coloradosymphony.org.

What: The Philip Glass Ensemble performs *Koyaanisqatsi*

Where: Boettcher Concert Hall

When: Saturday, January 31, 2026 at 7:30pm MST

Tickets: [Available now at coloradosymphony.org](https://coloradosymphony.org)

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CONTACT:

For more information or to request interviews, please contact:

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For high-resolution, downloadable images of the Colorado Symphony,

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Support for the 2025/26 Colorado Symphony Season is provided by: The Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), Genesee Mountain Foundation, Denver Arts & Venues, Bonfils-Stanton Foundation, Schoen Foundation, and the Colorado Symphony Guild.

TICKETS:

Tickets to Colorado Symphony events are available online at coloradosymphony.org/tickets, by phone at 303.623.7876, and in person at the Boettcher Concert Hall Box Office, Denver Performing Arts Complex, 1000 14th Street. The Box Office is open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, noon - 5 p.m., and two hours prior to each performance.

ABOUT THE COLORADO SYMPHONY

One of the leading orchestras in the United States, the Colorado Symphony Association is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization performing more than 150 concerts annually at Boettcher Concert Hall in downtown Denver and across Colorado. Led by Music Director Peter Oundjian, the Colorado Symphony is home to eighty full-time musicians, representing more than a dozen nations, and regularly welcomes the most celebrated artists from the world of symphonic music and beyond. The orchestra celebrated its Centennial during the 2023/24 concert season. In the last year, the Colorado Symphony served over 340,000 people attending live performances at concert and non-traditional venues throughout Colorado's Front Range. Recognized as an incubator of innovation, creativity, and excellence, the Colorado Symphony continually expands its reach through in-person and virtual education programs, outreach, and programming. The Colorado Symphony partners with the state's leading musical artists,



cultural organizations, corporations, foundations, sports teams, and individuals to expose diverse audiences to the transformative power of music. To learn more, visit coloradosymphony.org.