

Ryoji Ikeda: datamatics [ver.2.0]

18 April 2011

Barbican Hall 7.30pm

Produced by Forma

Tickets £12.50 - 20

Box Office: 0845 120 7550 www.barbican.org.uk/contemporary

Barbican Centre Silk Street London EC2Y 8DS

datamatics [ver.2.0] is the latest audiovisual concert from extraordinary Japanese artist Ryoji Ikeda's *datamatics* series, an art project that explores the potential to perceive the invisible multi-substance of data that permeates our world.

One of Japan's leading electronic composers and visual artists, **Ryoji Ikeda's** work has been hailed by critics as some of the most radical and innovative in the contemporary electronic music scene. Focusing on the minutiae of ultrasonics, frequencies and the essential characteristics of sound itself, his work exploits sound's physical property, its causality with human perception and mathematical dianoia as music, time and space.

Using pure data as a source for sound and visuals, *datamatics* combines abstract and mimetic presentations of matter, time and space in a powerful and breathtakingly accomplished work. Projecting dynamic, computer-generated imagery, in pared down black and white with striking colour accents, Ikeda's intense yet minimal graphic renderings of data progress through multiple dimensions. A powerful and hypnotic soundtrack reflects the imagery through a meticulous layering of sonic components to produce immense and apparently boundless acoustic spaces.

The technical dynamics of the piece, such as its extremely fast frame rates and variable bit depths, continue to challenge and explore the thresholds of our perceptions. First premiered in 2006, **datamatics [ver.2.0]** has toured around the world including, most recently, Pompidou Metz (2009), Ars Electronica Linz (2009), Grec Festival de Barcelona (2009), Concertbouw Brugge (2010) and FIAF / Japan Society (2010).

This concert opens the SPILL Festival of Performance – an artist-led international festival of experimental theatre, live art and performance, curated by Robert Pacitti. Other highlights include a new audio-visual work by **Diamanda Galás**.

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