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Great Music Wednesday, August 22, 2007, 7 pm South Plaza

## Henry Brant: Dormant Craters

Manhattan School of Music Percussion Ensemble Gamelan Son of Lion Brandon Patton and Friends on steel drums Pheeroan akLaff Warren Smith Soloists conducted by Neely Bruce

To be performed at 7 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. with a short intermission in between

Composer Henry Brant is the foremost American creator of spatial music. In this sound immersion format, the performers are distributed throughout the performance space and surround the audience. Still going strong at 93, Brant received the Pulitzer Prize for his composition "Ice Field" in 2002. Dormant Craters, one of two pieces commissioned from Brant by Lincoln Center Out of Doors and originally played in 1997, is a work for two solo drummers and three percussion ensembles -- steel pans, Balinese gamelan and a large ensemble of Western instruments. The effect is a stunning, not-to-be missed music experience -- a wall of percussion sounds creating a world-wide "big bang."

Conductor Neely Bruce is a composer, performer and scholar of American music. His Convergence for multiple ensembles moving in four different parades (750 people) was commissioned by and performed at Lincoln Center Out of Doors and neighborhood sites surrounding Lincoln Center in 2002. Over 1,000 musicians participated in simultaneous parades. Professor of music and American studies at Wesleyan University, Bruce has worked closely with Henry Brant since 1980.

The Manhattan School of Music Percussion Ensemble: Jeffrey Milarsky, Director; Claire Heldrich, Executive Director; Sean Ritenauer, Ana Lorenzo, Sean Kleve, Donna Thompson, Wilson Torres

Gamelan Son of Lion: Barbara Benary, Artistic director; Patrick Grant, Lisa Karrer, David Simons

Brandon Patton and Friends: Bill Carbone, Amelia Ingram, Brandon Patton, Matt Steckler, Nate Van Til