

EIGHTH BLACKBIRD

COMPOSITION **AS** EXPLANATION



Composed by Pulitzer Prize and GRAMMY winner **David Lang**, *composition as explanation*, commissioned by Duke Performances, is a scored nod to Gertrude Stein's candid and circular 1926 lecture. True to form, Lang integrates classical composition and innovative aspects of theater, performance, and choreography. To create actors out of Eighth Blackbird, Lang sought out **Anne Bogart**, the acclaimed theater director and the co-artistic director of SIT! Company. With Bogart at the helm, Lang envisions a new kind of musical artist, one with the formal training of actors on stage. In *composition as explanation*, Lang's experiment in empowering musicians to become more than the conduits that deliver music to the listener comes full circle to true theater.

The project includes the sextet, a stage manager and a lighting designer.

