

(BW) MECA presents "Looking East", honoring Asian Heritage Month

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HOUSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--

Multicultural Education and Counseling through the Arts (MECA), The [Foundation for Modern Music](#) and [Rothko Chapel](#) present a program honoring Asian Heritage Month, featuring nationally renowned pianist [Adam Tendler](#) performing John Cage's legendary Sonatas and Interludes for prepared piano on **Friday, May 18, at 7:30 p.m., at the [Rothko Chapel](#) with a reception following Tendler's performance.** This will be Tendler's first solo recital appearance since his landmark national tour project America 88x50. Pianist and Houston composer [Robert Bridges](#) will open the program with a world premiere of his Buddhist-inspired string quartet *Kinhin Twelve Minutes*.

Adam Tendler, a graduate from the [Indiana University School of Music](#), continues his intensive keyboard studies while composing privately. Tendler's performances have been comprised of solo piano recitals and frequent appearances with orchestras. While at conservatory, he had extensive training in theory, history, counterpoint, singing skills, dictation, computer/electronic music production, Indian music, pedagogy, 20th-century composer history, as well as advanced music seminars reserved customarily for graduate and doctoral students, working one-on-one with some of the world's most renowned musical thinkers.

Robert Bridges wrote *Kinhin Twelve Minutes* as a reflection of the Zen Buddhist art of walking meditation, using the piece to explore "the meditative discipline and the individual search for beauty and truth inherent within each individual." In the walking meditation of *Kinhin*, which means, "to go straight," one focuses on a single meditative concept while slowly walking forward. The piece roots itself in Zen Buddhist tradition, but Bridges notes that we can find the practice of moving meditation in other philosophic and religious practices, such as in the mystical Christian rite of the rosary, the whirling meditation of the Dervishes, or the pilgrimages of Islam. In *Kinhin Twelve Minutes*, Bridges, like Cage in the *Sonatas and Interludes*, invites "audience members to enter into their own state of meditative absorption as the work progresses."

The Looking East concert is part of MECA's [Cullen Trust](#) for the Performing Arts Concert Series and is co-sponsored by Rothko Chapel, The Foundation for Modern Music, the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance, The [Jung Center](#), Copy.com, Asia Society Texas Center, The Consulate General of India, the Asian Chamber of Commerce, Hollywood Vietnamese Restaurant, [Texas Commission](#) on the Arts and [Southwest Airlines](#).

Admission is free.