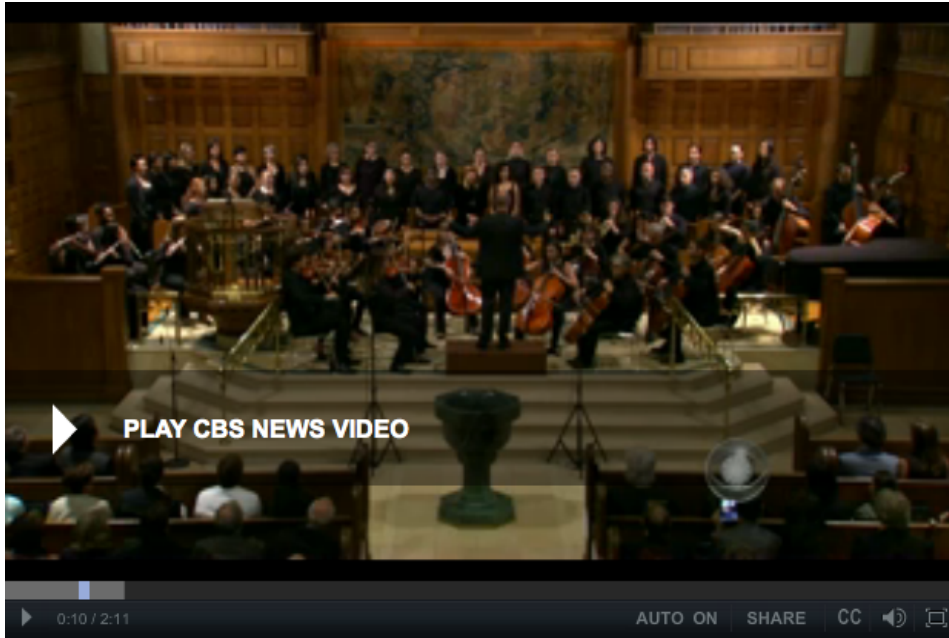


SUNDAY MORNING

Home | Arts | Books | Commentaries | Nature | Profiles | Notes | Ab

CBS NEWS / September 22, 2013, 10: 33 AM

Passage: A concert of note



The Punch Brothers, Marcus Mumford sing "The Auld ...



T Bone Burnett on Greenwich Village in the '60s



T Bone Burnett on the songs of "Inside Llewyn Davi...



Gold: Ancient Egypt's "flesh of the gods"

Comment / Shares / Tweets / Stumble / Email More +

(CBS News) It happened this week: a concert of note . . . ONE note, to be exact.

It was the New York premiere of the "Monotone-Silence Symphony."

Conceived by the late French artist Yves Klein (1928-1962), the symphony requires 70 musicians and singers to take turns hold a single sound for TWENTY minutes, followed by another twenty minutes of DEAD SILENCE.

The piece was performed just once in Klein's own lifetime, in Paris in 1960, accompanied by three nude models smearing themselves with Klein's signature blue paint.

New York art gallery owner Dominique Levy was the moving force behind this past week's performance:

"I thought that was the craziest and most unreasonable thing to ever do," Levy said. "How can you expect people to even bear 20 minutes of one note and 20 minutes of silence? And then I was lucky enough to experience it approximately, I think, ten years ago. And it was a life-changing experience."

Life-changing enough that she organized the concert to coincide with an exhibition

Follow Us



From CBS News



On Twitter

Team

Tweets from a list by CBS Sunday Morning
The @CBSunday Team on Twitter

Mo Rocca @MoRocca 20h
Meryl Streep's August Osage County character is the downmarket cousin of Glenn Close's Sunny von Bülow.
Expand

Mo Rocca @MoRocca 1 Jan
All new Ravioli starts now @CookingChannel (yes, I got the t-shirt at a discount)
pic.twitter.com/YdnpGJorAL

Expand

Mo Rocca @MoRocca 1 Jan
Grab your rod. Coming up Grandpa Dave & I go fishing on an all new Mv Grandmother's Ravioli

of Klein's paintings and sculptures -- most of them blue.

"If you think about it, it's one single tone,' Levy said. "And he works in monochromatic color, one single color."

And so to Wednesday night's performance in a Manhattan church (minus the distraction of the three nude models in blue).

Together, the voices and instruments had a mesmerizing effect over time.

To listen to Yves Klein's "Monotone-Silence Symphony," click on the audio player.

Audio recording courtesy of Bill Siegmund, of Digital Island Studios, New York.

A New York Times blogger wrote afterword that he imagined he'd heard bagpipes at one point.

And then, after twenty minutes . . . the rest was silence:

It was, Levy said, a "magical balance."

"I think that's what he wanted to achieve, a moment where you would be sort of forced to be within yourself, without any distraction but your own dream and imagination and experience something that we don't often have the luxury to experience."

For more info:

- [Dominique Levy Gallery](#), New York
- [Yves Klein Archives](#)
- [Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church](#), New York
- [Digital Island Studios](#), New York

© 2013 CBS Interactive Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Comment / Shares / Tweets / Stumble / Email More +

Around the web

Recommended by



Jay Cutler's Wife, the Cutlet's Mom Is Gorgeous
Rant Sports



Stars Who Are Out of Touch With Reality
Hollyscoop



Alyssa Milano Cuts Jay Mohr Down to Size for...
E! Online



Conn. football captain charged with killing male...
theGrio

Comments

0 Comments / 1 person listening

SIGN IN

Lindt USA - Official Site

www.lindtusa.com

Forget Something? Don't Miss Out on Premium LINDOR Truffles. Buy Today!

