



For immediate use
MEDIA RELEASE

Ryoji Ikeda *formula* [book/dvd]

Published by forma [www.forma.org.uk]

Highly refined, this brand-new book covers Ryoji Ikeda's concerts and exhibitions to date, plus exclusive dvd material. Special limited edition also available.

Publication release date: Spring 2005

This is the first complete monograph about the seminal work of sound/new media artist **Ryoji Ikeda**. Since 1995, Ikeda has diffused an aesthetic of 'ultra minimalism' to the art world through concerts, installations, and recordings. He presents sublime imagery and manipulates acoustics to explore how sound can shape our experience of architectural space. His works exploit the minutiae of ultrasonics, frequencies and sound's causality interaction with human perception.

With superb attention to detail and layout, *formula* [book + dvd] documents the artist's latest projects, his landmark concerts and installations; and his collaborations with, amongst others, celebrated artist/musician Carsten Nicolai, acclaimed performance group Dumb Type and famous architect Toyo Ito. All of the DVD content is only available here, with a 35 minute full video documentation of *formula* [prototype] concert filmed in Tokyo and 8 sound pieces from installation works. The book features photographs, schematics and technical data, and full listings of Ikeda's performances, exhibitions and releases, plus brand-new especially produced artwork from the artist's *data.series*. This new series of moving image, sculptural, sound and new media works by Ikeda will use data as theme and material to explore the ways in which abstracted views of reality – data – are used to encode, understand and control the world.

Eagerly awaited, the publication comes in a numbered edition of 3,000.

A special limited edition of 100, available exclusively from Forma, includes a new print signed and numbered by the artist.

Ryoji Ikeda's work reflects a fluid approach that defies established art form definitions. *formula* (2000 -), a work in constant development, is a concert in which the artist is not on stage. Instead, a huge white screen and stage surface are the setting for an immersive world of projected images, punctuated by dazzling bursts of stroboscopic lighting. Ikeda aims for the complete integration of the various elements, composing music, graphics and video, and orchestrating the relationships between them through a meticulous score. *formula* occupies a space between the concert, cinema and installation.

Continues>

The complete video documentation of Ikeda's 2001 performance of *formula* in Tokyo is available on the DVD of the *formula* [book + dvd] package.

"Heard at its intended volume, Ikeda's music is a total experience, a white-out of pure data... A sell-out audience sat spellbound by the visceral effect of sound."

David Toop, *Haunted Weather*, Serpent's Tail, 2004.

formula [book + dvd] reflects precise design and the artist's flawless selection of surfaces and materials. An exceptional publication, it provides a 'heightened sensory experience' in a similar way to his concerts, installations and sound works.

Ryoji Ikeda is represented by **forma**, one of Europe's leading production agencies for innovative, interdisciplinary art.

'*formula* [book + dvd] is a prime example of the precision of Ryoji Ikeda's work in its conception and presentation. The publication is both the essential catalogue of Ikeda's groundbreaking work and a celebration of forma's continuing relationship with this leading sound / visual artist producing his concerts and exhibitions worldwide.'

- David Metcalfe, Chief Executive, forma

To find out more about Ryoji Ikeda, please visit www.forma.org.uk.

For further press information, please contact:

Hannah Barnes | Forma

T +44 (0)191 230 4646 | E hb@forma.org.uk

W www.forma.org.uk

Notes to editors:

Ryoji Ikeda

Japan's leading electronic composer/artist, New York based Ryoji Ikeda focuses on the minutiae of electronic tones and pulses and the essential characteristics of sound itself. Music, time and space are shaped by mathematical methods as Ikeda explores sound as sensation. Using digital technology to the utmost limit, Ikeda has been developing 'microscopic methods' for sound engineering and composition.

He has exhibited and performed at many of the world's leading festivals and venues, including Centre Pompidou 2004 & 2001, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville 1999, and La Villette 2002 (all Paris); Sónar 1999 (Barcelona); Architectural Association 2002, Hayward Gallery 2000, Millennium Dome 2000, and Queen Elizabeth Hall 2000 (all London); Auditorium Parco della Musica 2003 (Rome); ICC 1999 (Tokyo); Göteborg Biennial 2003 (Göteborg).

His albums *matrix* (2000), *0°C* (1998) and *+/-* (1996) have been critically acclaimed as groundbreaking contemporary music works. Employing sine waves, electronic "glitch" sounds, and white noise, these recordings show a precise and pared down sense of beauty.

Ikeda is also known internationally for his collaborative work, particularly with Japanese performance/media art group Dumb Type, German visual artist/composer Carsten Nicolai and Japanese architect Toyo Ito.

Continues>

In 2001, Ikeda was awarded the Ars Electronica Golden Nica prize for Digital Musics, and he was short listed for a World Technology Award in 2003.

Ryoji Ikeda is represented by forma worldwide.

formula [book + dvd]

The book and dvd are contained in a clear plastic slip-case in a numbered edition of 3000.
[book]: 186mm x 136mm, 96 pages, soft cover, with 62 full colour and 34 monochrome illustrations

[dvd]: features eight sound pieces from installation works and a 35-minute full video documentation of the formula [prototype] concert filmed in Tokyo.

Price: £25.00 | EUR 37.50. Special limited edition price: £50.00 | EUR 75.00. ISBN: 0-9548288-0-1

Published by Forma

Distributed by Cornerhouse Publications www.cornerhouse.org/publications

All texts in English

Special limited edition of 100 includes a print, signed and numbered by the artist. This is available exclusively from Forma.

Visit www.forma.org.uk to order special limited edition.

forma

forma is one of Europe's leading agencies for contemporary, cross-artform projects. It commissions, tours and publishes work worldwide, managing large-scale and technically innovative productions with flair. Creating rich dialogues between artists, audiences and places, the company pioneers art projects that suggest new possibilities for our current and future culture.

In the last year, forma productions have been presented at major festivals and venues in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Monaco, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and USA. We work with renowned artists such as Cerith Wyn Evans, Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, Kim Gordon, Ryoji Ikeda, Carsten Nicolai, Philippe Parreno, DJ Rupture, Ryuichi Sakamoto, Saburo Teshigawara and Richard Wilson, but we also work regularly with equally interesting artists at earlier stages of their careers.

For further information, please visit www.forma.org.uk

forma is supported by Arts Council England