



Santa Fe Art Institute

For immediate release
September 9, 2004

Contact:
Jennifer Schlesinger
505-424-5050
jschlesinger@sfai.org

Page: 1/3

Benefit Performance by Laurie Anderson in Celebration of Transmit + Transform, Santa Fe Art Institute's 2004 Season of Lectures, Studio Workshops, Exhibitions, and Performances

Legendary performance artist and musician Laurie Anderson performs "The End of the Moon," a multimedia solo work

**Performance: Tuesday, November 16, 7:30 pm
Lensic Performing Art Center, Santa Fe**

**Benefit Reception: November 16 at Swig, 6 - 7:30 pm
Benefit Dinner: November 16, following the performance**

Santa Fe Art Institute (SFAI) is honored to present Laurie Anderson in a solo performance in celebration of Transmit + Transform, the 2004 season of programming exploring sound and light in contemporary art. Proceeds from the pre-performance party and the post-performance dinner will benefit SFAI and raise funds for annual programming. Anderson will perform *The End of the Moon*, the second in a series of new solo works that combines stories, songs, and music in a low-tech setting to create an ambitiously large picture of contemporary American culture.

Anecdotal, wide ranging and epic, *The End of the Moon* also features new music for violin and electronics. Since her pioneering multimedia work *United States* Anderson's subject has often been technology and culture. Of *The End of the Moon* she writes, "I find that the best way to look at our culture these days is not through a multi-media show, but with the simpler and sharper tools of words."

As NASA's first artist-in-residence, Anderson will draw on her recent research and travels. Part travelogue, part personal theories, history, and dreams, *The End of the Moon* looks at the relationships between war, esthetics, spirituality and consumerism. Following the critical and popular success of *Happiness*, *The End of the Moon* will explore the contemporary meanings of freedom and time, as well as the tangled ways in which we decide what is beautiful now.

Tickets for the performance (\$25, \$35, and \$50) will go on sale October 16, 2004, at the Lensic Box Office (505-988-1234). Tickets for the Benefit Reception at Swig, with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and videos by Laurie Anderson, are \$125 and include a \$50 seat for the performance. Tickets for the Benefit Dinner are \$250 and include admission to the benefit reception and a \$50 ticket to the performance. For information on the pre- and post-performance benefit events, please contact SFAI at 505-424-5050.

Known primarily for her multimedia presentations, Anderson has cast herself in roles as varied as visual artist, composer, poet, photographer, filmmaker, electronics whiz, vocalist, and instrumentalist. *O Superman* launched Anderson's recording career in 1980, rising to number two on the British pop charts and subsequently appearing on *Big Science*, the first of seven albums on the Warner Brothers label. Other record releases include *Mister Heartbreak*, *United States Live*, *Strange Angels*, *Bright Red*, and the soundtrack to her feature film *Home of the Brave*. A deluxe box set of her Warner Brothers output, *Talk Normal*, was released in the fall of 2000 on Rhino/Warner Archives. In 2001, Anderson released her first record for Nonesuch Records, entitled *Life on a String*, which was followed by *Live in New York*, recorded at Town Hall in New York City in September 2001, and released in May 2002.

Anderson has toured the United States and internationally with shows ranging from simple spoken word performances to elaborate multimedia events. Major works include *United States I-V* (1983), *Empty Places* (1990), *The Nerve Bible* (1995), and *Songs and Stories for Moby Dick*, a multimedia stage performance based on the novel by Herman Melville. In the fall of 2001, Anderson toured the United States and Europe with a three-person band, performing music from *Life on a String*. She has also presented many solo works, her most recent being *Happiness*, which premiered in 2001 and toured internationally through spring 2003.

Anderson has published six books, the most recent of which is *Laurie Anderson* by RoseLee Goldberg (Abrams, 2000), a retrospective of her visual work. Text from Anderson's solo performances appears in the book *Extreme Exposure*, edited by Jo Bonney. She has also written the entry for New York for the Encyclopedia Britannica.

Laurie Anderson's visual work has been presented in major museums throughout the United States and Europe. In 2003, The Musée Art Contemporain of Lyon in France produced a touring retrospective (on tour through 2005) of her work from the 1970s through the present, entitled *The Record of the Time: Sound in the Work of Laurie Anderson*. Anderson is represented by the Sean Kelly Gallery in New York.

As composer, Anderson has contributed music to films by Wim Wenders and Jonathan Demme; dance pieces by Bill T. Jones, Trisha Brown, Molissa Fenley; and a score for Robert LePage's theater production, *Far Side of the Moon*. She has created pieces for National Public Radio, The BBC, and Expo 92 in Seville. Her orchestra work *Songs for A.E.* premiered at Carnegie Hall in February 2000, played by the American Composers Orchestra, conducted by Dennis Russell Davies.

Recognized worldwide as a groundbreaking leader in the use of technology in the arts, Anderson collaborated with Interval Research Corporation, a research and development laboratory founded by Paul Allen and David Liddle, in the exploration of new creative tools, including the Talking Stick. She created the introduction sequence for the first segment of the PBS special *Art 21*, a series about Art in the 21st century.

In 2002, Anderson was appointed the first artist-in-residence of NASA. Other current projects include a commission to create a series of audio-visual installations and a high-definition film for the World Expo 2005 in Japan and a series of programs for French radio. She will premier her new score "O!" at the Opera Garnier in Paris in December '04. She was also recently part of the team that created the opening ceremony for the Olympic Games in Athens. Her next project will involve a series of long walks. Anderson lives in New York City.

For more information on **Transmit+Transform** or any of SFAI's programming, please visit our website at www.sfai.org or call 505-424-5050. Santa Fe Art Institute is located at 1600 St. Michael's Drive, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505.

Laurie Anderson Benefit Performance Sponsor Circle: Gay Block and Malka Drucker, Marlene Meyerson, David Rosen and Christopher Rocca, David and Catherine Skinner and Lannan Foundation (as of September 9, 2004)

Transmit + Transform is funded with support from Avalon Trust, Brindle Foundation, The Burnett Foundation, City of Santa Fe Arts Commission and the 1% Lodgers' Tax, Getty Trust, M.A. Healy, Lannan Foundation, McCune Charitable Foundation, New Mexico Bank & Trust, Santa Fe Rotary Foundation, and Santa Fe Art Institute's Board of Trustees.