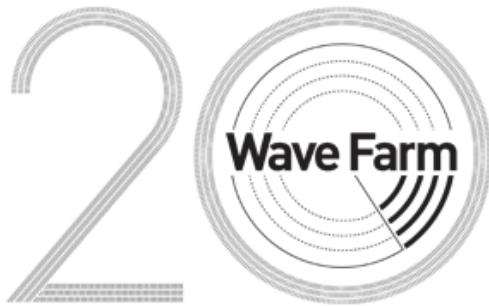


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PHIL KLINE'S UNSILENT NIGHT
in HUDSON and on WGXC 90.7FM
DEC. 23 2017 at 7:00 p.m.



TRANSMISSION
ARTS



WGXC
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November 24, 2017
wavefarm.org
unsilentnight.com

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Wave Farm + WGXC 90.7-FM present
Phil Kline's holiday cult classic

UNSILENT NIGHT

7 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 23 in Hudson, New York
Broadcast live on WGXC 90.7-FM
and at wavefarm.org/listen



In partnership with Wave Farm, Phil Kline's *Unsilent Night* returns to Hudson for its second year. Led by Phil Kline himself, participants gather at Hudson's Public Square at Warren and Seventh Street and march to Hudson's Promenade for the parade's culmination. This year's parade route celebrates Hudson's lesser traveled alleys and enclaves, winding through corridors and byways that shade the city's historic streetscape.

This pioneering work of public sound art debuted in Greenwich Village in 1992 and is today a tradition that has been celebrated in 100+ cities across five continents Kline's electronic soundscape is played by the audience on boomboxes—and amplified phones carried through city streets. Each participant simultaneously plays one of 4 composed tracks, together creating a joyous noise on foot. The event is free and open to the public.

How to Participate

www.unsilentnight.com/participate

Bring a boombox or cell phone **with external amplification**. If going digital, be sure to **pre-download the tracks** to your device at www.unsilentnight.com/participate.

Participants can also borrow a boombox from the collections of Phil Kline or Wave Farm. These are limited and so first-come first-served. There will be cassettes available for those who bring their own boomboxes.

2017 LIST OF PARTICIPATING CITIES

Detroit, MI: December 1
Fargo, ND: December 1
Flagstaff, AZ: December 1
Florence, AL: December 1
Knoxville, TN: December 1
Newnan, GA: December 1
Port Jefferson, NY: December 1
Breckenridge, CO: December 2
Seattle, WA: December 2
Winchester, VA: December 2
Norfolk, VA: December 6
Wilmington, DE: December 6
Cambridge, Ontario: December 7
Delaware, OH: December 7
North Adams, MA: December 7
Columbia, MD: December 8
Traverse City, MI: December 8
Malden, MA: December 9
Nacogdoches, TX: December 9
San Francisco, CA: December 9



Unsilent Night NYC 2016, Photo by **Sxip Shirey**

"The effect of Kline's music is gorgeous, as bell sounds lap up against buildings and ricochet all around, and the non-denominational spirit of it can warm even the coldest of hearts."
—**The Wall Street Journal**

This December, composer **Phil**

Atlanta, GA: December 10
Edmonton, AB: December 10
Mount Pleasant, MI: December 10
Philadelphia, PA: December 11
Colorado Springs, CO: December 16
Indianapolis, IN: December 16
Louisville, KY: December 16
Nashville, TN: December 16
Sacramento, CA: December 16
Austin, TX: December 17
New York, NY: December 17
Montréal, QC: December 19
Chicago: December 21
Denver, CO: December 21
Athens, GA: December 22
Hudson, NY: December 23
Joshua Tree, CA: TBD
Oberlin, OH: TBD
Tacoma, WA: TBD

**Schedule updated daily
at unsilentnight.com/schedule**

Kline's mobile sound-sculpture *Unsilent Night* takes place in more than 39 cities across the United States and Canada. Streets, parks and sidewalks will come alive with "a shimmering sound-wall of bells and chimes that is dreamlike to wander through in the December nip" (*The Village Voice*).

A landmark in avant-garde public art, *Unsilent Night* is one of the more unlikely holiday traditions to spread around the world. It is beautiful not just for what The New York Times calls its "phosphorescent sound" but because anyone can present it or participate, using any kind of sound blaster. Even the onlookers in shops and apartments become listening participants.

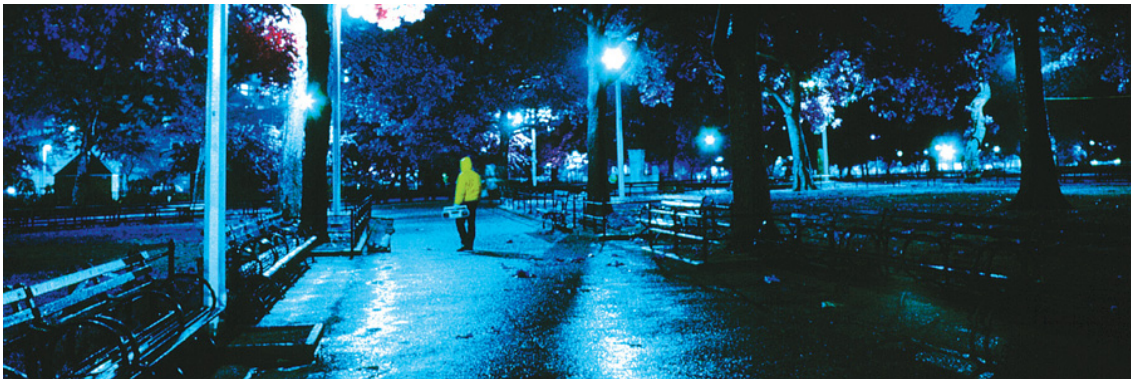


Photo by **Tom Jarmusch**

About *Unsilent Night*

Unsilent Night is an original composition by Phil Kline, written specifically to be heard outdoors in the month of December, always as a free event. It takes the form of a promenade in which the audience becomes the performer (each participant gets one of four tracks of music that they play simultaneously), walking a carefully chosen route through a city's streets.

It started in winter 1992, when Phil had an idea for a public artwork in the form of a holiday caroling party. He composed a four-track electronic piece that was 45 minutes long (the length of one side of a cassette tape), invited some friends who gathered in

Greenwich Village, gave each person a boombox with one of four tapes in it, and instructed everyone to hit PLAY at the same time. What followed was a sound unlike anything they had ever heard: an evanescence filled the air, reverberating off buildings and streets as the crowd walked a pre-determined route, creating a mobile sound sculpture different from every listener's perspective. "In effect, we became a city-block-long stereo system," says Phil. The piece was so popular that it became an annual tradition, and then an international phenomenon.

While technological advances allow the piece to now be played through a multitude of devices, Phil Kline originally designed the piece to incorporate the unreliability, playback delay, and quavering tones of cassette tapes. "Today most people use digital audio players, so I make the audio available in that format as well—but there's something about the twinkling, hallucinatory effect of a warbling cassette tape that I enjoy," he says.

The studio recording of *Unsilent Night*, which layers all the tracks, is available on Bang on a Can's **Cantaloupe Music** label.



Phil Kline, Photo by **Lovis Ostenrik**

About Phil Kline

A veteran of New York's downtown scene, Phil Kline stands out for his range and unpredictability. From vast boombox symphonies to chamber music and song cycles, his work has been hailed for its originality, beauty, subversive subtext, and wry humor. Early in his career he cofounded the rock band the Del-Byzanteens with Jim Jarmusch

and James Nares, collaborated with Nan Goldin on the soundtrack to *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency*, and played guitar in the notorious Glenn Branca Ensemble. Some of his early work evolved from performance art and used large numbers of boomboxes, such as the outdoor Christmas cult classic *Unsilent Night*. Other notable works include *Exquisite Corpses*, written for the Bang on a Can All-Stars; the politically-infused *Zippo Songs* and *Rumsfeld Songs*; *John the Revelator*, a setting of the Latin Mass written for early music specialists Lionheart; and the Sinatra-inspired song cycle *Out Cold*, written for Theo Bleckmann and premiered at BAM's Next Wave Festival. Phil hosts a daily radio show on WQXR/Q2 in NYC and is currently collaborating with filmmaker Jim Jarmusch on a music theater spectacle about Nikola Tesla. His music is available on the Cantaloupe, Starkland, and CRI record labels.

Phil Kline recently performed in the celebrated run of the Gertrude Stein / Virgil Thomson opera *The Mother of Us All* at Hudson Hall. Earlier in 2016, Kline was a participating artist in Basilica Hudson's 24-Hour Drone.

About Wave Farm + WGXC

Wave Farm is a non-profit arts organization driven by experimentation with broadcast media and the airwaves. Our programs—Transmission Arts, WGXC-FM, and Media Arts Grants—provide access to transmission technologies and support artists and organizations that engage with media as an art form.

Transmission Arts programs support artists who engage the transmission spectrum, on the airwaves and through public events. The Wave Farm Artist Residency Program is an international visiting artist program. The Transmission Arts Archive presents a living genealogy of artists' experiments with broadcast media and the airwaves. Wave Farm Radio is a continuous online radio feed and site-specific broadcast on 1620-AM.

Wave Farm's **WGXC 90.7-FM** is a creative community radio station based in New York's Greene and Columbia counties. Hands-on access and participation activate WGXC as a public platform for information, experimentation, and engagement.

Wave Farm's **Media Arts Grants** program includes fiscal sponsorship as well as the New York State Council on the Arts in Partnership with Wave Farm: Media Arts Assistance Fund (MAAF) and New York Media Arts Map, which support electronic media and film organizations, as well as individual artists, in all regions of New York State through a regrant from the NYSCA Electronic Media and Film program.

Unsilent Night in the Press

"The point is that everyone's together, simultaneously playing Kline's wintry

wonderwork, bringing joy, cheer and light to corners too numbed by despair to know they even need 'em." —**PHILADELPHIA WEEKLY**

"A tintinnabulating tribute to the joys of caroling, a here-comes-everybody happening, a brilliant bond of public space and listening public." —**VILLAGE VOICE**

"Perhaps the most striking aspect of Unsilent Night was the benign sense of wonder it instilled in observers." —**SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE**

"Unearthly but strangely comforting at the same time." —**NEW YORK DECODER**

"During the procession, the sense of wonder spreads outward as onlookers are enveloped in a nebula of phosphorescent sound." —**NEW YORK TIMES**

"The most eccentrically beguiling experience of the holiday season." —**TORONTO LIFE**

"A dreamy fruitcake of parts, tranquil even through its anarchy." —**LOS ANGELES TIMES**

"Caroling has never been so epic." —**FLAVORPILL**

"It's a 44-minute exercise in musical democracy and Christmas cheer. It's a tradition for our times, a modern twist on strolling minstrels and caroling parties." —**BALTIMORE SUN**

"Gorgeously ambient." —**NEW YORK MAGAZINE**

"Immerses the listener in suspended wonderment, as if time itself had paused inside a string of jingle bells." —**NEW YORK TIMES**

"It's the caroling of the future." —**SAN FRANCISCO WEEKLY**

"Kline's score, like toy chimes floating on the cold air, brings magic to the long, dark winter nights." —**NEW YORK POST**

NPR on Unsilent Night: One of the great American symphonies?



Wave Farm programs are made possible, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; the National Endowment for the Arts; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; the Greene County Legislature through the County Initiative Program, administered in Greene County by the Greene County Council on the Arts; the Alexander and Marjorie Hover Foundation; the Foundation for Contemporary Arts; the T. Backer Fund; the Joseph Family Charitable Trust; and hundreds of other generous individual donors.



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