

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BROADCASTING THE MUSIC COMMERCIAL RADIO TRIED TO HIDE FROM YOU:  
AMERICAN MUSIC CENTER LAUNCHES ADVENTUROUS INTERNET RADIO STATION ON MARCH 16**

**EXCLUSIVE: Meredith Monk and Björk** in the studio together for the first time

New York, NY – The American Music Center is pleased to announce the launch of Counterstream Radio ([counterstreamradio.org](http://counterstreamradio.org)), a showcase for new music by United States composers, on **March 16 at 3 p.m. EDT.**

To mark the official station launch, Counterstream Radio will broadcast an exclusive conversation between two extraordinary vocal artists: Meredith Monk and Björk.

It was during her days playing drums in an Icelandic punk band that the then 16-year-old Björk first heard Monk's *Dolmen Music* and was entranced. Years later, after she covered Monk's "Gotham Lullaby" on a world tour with the Brodsky Quartet, the two women struck up a correspondence, but they never had the opportunity to meet in person. Never, that is, until the American Music Center invited them into the studio in 2005 to record this special presentation, hosted by pianist and radio producer Sarah Cahill.

Monk, the pioneering songstress whose multifaceted performance art has captivated audiences for two generations, and Björk, the Icelandic pop star who has become the darling of "serious" composers and critics everywhere, compare their working processes and their inspirations for creating such unique music for the human voice during this hour-long program of conversation and music.

Following this debut broadcast on March 16, listeners will be able to tune in to Counterstream Radio and hear influential music of many pedigrees 24 hours a day. Drawing from the American Music Center's substantial recordings library, the station will stream programming remarkable for its depth and eclecticism—including the works of composers such as Elliott Carter, John Cage, Bill Frisell, Kid 606, Abbey Lincoln, Milton Babbitt, Philip Glass, Morton Feldman, Laurie Anderson, and hundreds more.

Counterstream radio is supported in part by a major grant from the New York State Music Fund, an innovative program created by the Office of the New York State Attorney General to make contemporary music of all genres more available and accessible to diverse audiences and communities within New York State. The fund grew out of settlements with major recording companies investigated for violating state and federal laws prohibiting "pay for play" (also called "payola").

**Links to Counterstream Radio**

[www.counterstreamradio.org](http://www.counterstreamradio.org)

[www.live365.com/stations/amcenter](http://www.live365.com/stations/amcenter)

[www.myspace.com/counterstreamradio](http://www.myspace.com/counterstreamradio)

**About the American Music Center**

Since its founding in 1939 by six composers including Aaron Copland, the **American Music Center** has been *building a national community for new American music*. AMC advocates for the community through NewMusicBox, its award-winning web magazine, and Counterstream Radio, a 24-hour online station

broadcasting music by a broad range of United States composers. AMC supports the community by administering \$1.5 million in grants to individuals and organizations each year, and by offering professional development programs for artists. AMC connects the community with an array of information services designed to facilitate performances, including a vast, searchable online database of more than 40,000 works by American composers, publications and directories compiling opportunities in new music and other information useful to industry professionals, and benefits and services for nearly 2,500 members in all fifty states and around the world.

### **About the Funders**

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The Counterstream Radio exclusive conversation between Meredith Monk and Björk was produced by the Classical Music Initiative, a service of American Public Media. It is funded in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art, and with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency, through a grant to the American Music Center.