

**CHRISTOPHER WALCZAK**

*Composer*

**DOCTORAL LECTURE  
RECITAL**

*Tuesday, November 15, 2011*

*7:30 p.m.*

*Room 1131*

RICE UNIVERSITY

the  
Shepherd  
School  
of Music

## PROGRAM

Lecture: *The compositional process of **Beating the System***

***Beating the System*** (2011)

Christopher Walczak  
(b. 1970)

Danny Goldman, clarinet

Sonja Harasim, violin

Eric Siu, violin

Whitney Bullock, viola

Lachezar Kostov, cello

David Connor, double bass

Robert J. Garza, percussion

### PROGRAM NOTE

*I composed **Beating the System** in the spring of 2011. The piece was informed by two relatively modern theories in music: rational reconstructions of the tonal system and transformational theory. The former emerged from a group of Princeton composers in the 1960's and 70's (Peter Westergaard, J. K. Randall, Benjamin Boretz, Stephen Dembski), and deals with the breaking down of the core components of the tonal system, and reassembling them in order to compositionally utilize the functional aspects of such a magnificent structure. The latter is a theory introduced by David Lewin which emphasizes the change or transformation of musical materials rather than the materials themselves, and suggests a spatial environment in which the transformations of a given piece of music navigate through.*

*This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Doctor of Musical Arts.*

*Mr. Walczak is a student of Arthur Gottschalk.*