

Gyan Riley won his first guitar in a raffle when he was 12 years old. Shortly after learning all of the songs in his cassette collection by ear, he became the first full-scholarship graduate guitar student at the San Francisco Conservatory. Gyan's diverse work now focuses on his own compositions, improvisation, and contemporary classical repertoire. Gyan has been commissioned by the Kronos Quartet, New Music USA, the Carnegie Hall Corporation, the American Composers Forum, and the New York Guitar Festival. He has performed with Zakir Hussain, Lou Reed, John Zorn, the Kronos Quartet, Lee Ranaldo (of Sonic Youth), Iva Bittova, Julian Lage, the Bang-On-A-Can All-Stars, Bryce Dessner, Nico Muhly, Secret Chiefs 3, the San Francisco Symphony, the Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra, and his father, the composer/pianist/vocalist Terry Riley. Various tours have taken him throughout Europe, Canada, Latin America, Asia, and the US, both as a soloist and in various ensembles. Gyan resides in New York City and frequently performs with the duo [*Probosci*](#), the trio [*Eviyan*](#), the electric guitar quartet [*Dither*](#), guitarist Julian Lage, and his father Terry Riley. Terry and Gyan recently scored a new film by writer/director François Girard (*The Red Violin*) entitled *Hochelaga, Terre des Âmes*, premiering at the 2017 Toronto Film Festival. Gyan has four solo CD titles and many ensemble/collaborative recordings, most recently working with the [Tzadik Records](#) label in New York.

"Beautiful and enigmatic" ... "an alluringly intimate vibe created from the first note." *The New York Times*

"Gyan Riley is a one-man American-music machine, amicably ranging across the fields of jazz, world music, and post-minimalism." *The New Yorker*