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RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE

**PERCUSSIONIST / COMPOSER LUKAS LIGETI  
- LIVE AT WOOD STREET GALLERIES -**

PITTSBURGH, PA: **RADICAL RIFFS: Contemporary Music Series**, a project of The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, presents a solo performance by acclaimed percussionist / composer Lukas Ligeti of New York City. Following his performance Ligeti joins an improvised trio with Pittsburgh master African percussionist **Elie Kihonia** and Mid-Eastern percussion specialist **Nick Ragheb** on Friday, November 7, 2008, 7:30pm at Wood Street Galleries, 601 Wood Street (Downtown). \$8 suggested donation; \$6 suggested student donation.

**Lukas Ligeti** is developing a unique style, drawing upon Downtown New York experimentalism, contemporary classical music, jazz, electronica, and world music -- particularly from Africa. His first solo CD "Mystery System" (Tzadik Records) has been hailed as "the future of music" (Jan P. Dennis, amazon.com). Ligeti, son of renowned avant-garde composer György Ligeti (1923-2006), was born in Vienna, Austria. Like his father, Ligeti thrives on the fringes of experimental musical ideas and practices, but his compositions focus on percussion and crafting rhythms and drones that place his music in the realm of post-minimalism. He travels frequently to Africa and has performed with musicians from Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Mozambique. His experimental collaborations with African musicians have been hailed as "a new dimension in the dialogue between Africa and the West" (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung). He has composed works for Bang on a Can, The Kronos Quartet, and the Vienna Saxophone Quartet. His music has been played by the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre National de Lyon, London Sinfonietta, Amadinda Percussion Group, and many others. Ligeti is touring in support of his new solo CD "Afrikan Machinery" (Tzadik Records). For this concert, Ligeti will be playing a "Marimba Lumina", an electronic instrument that's connected to a computer and played with special mallets.

**Elie Kihonia** is originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire) but now lives in Pittsburgh. He is a master musician who plays both African and western instruments. Elie Kihonia is the founder of Afrika Yetu and the UMOJA African Arts Company. He has performed in Africa, Europe, South America, and throughout the United States.

**Nick Ragheb**, a Pittsburgh native, is a teacher and performer of Turkish and mid-Eastern percussion (the darbuka and the bendir frame drum) in Pittsburgh and Istanbul, Turkey. He has studied with both Turkish and Israeli master drummers.

For more information call Wood Street Galleries at (412)  
471-5605 (END)