

09 BRUCE ODLAND

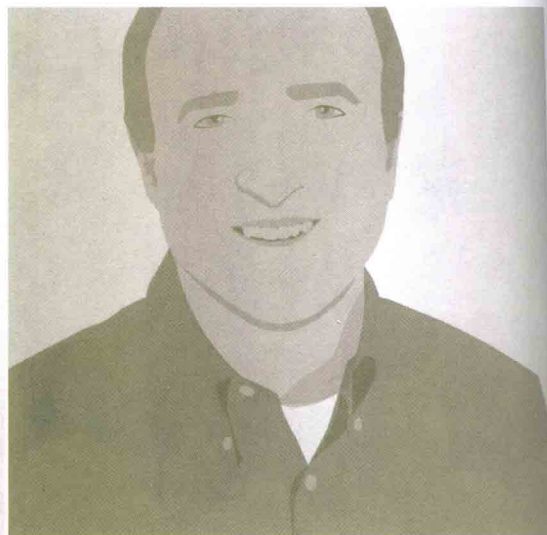
Composer and sound artist, developing a hearing perspective of the world

**CAMPAIGN SLOGAN:** Sound judgment **PLATFORM:** Noise-pollution, democracy, and responsible design **CONSTITUENTS:** Mass transit riders **PLEDGE** I would require an 'eyes-closed' test on all designs to see what sounds they contribute to our shared sound space. The soundfield a product generates would be considered part of its design. Refrigerators, for instance, wouldn't be allowed to dominate the soundscape of kitchens with disturbing, un-harmonious hums, and air conditioners wouldn't be allowed to obliterate the sounds of nature. It would no longer be acceptable to design a brake for a bus without caring that a high-frequency sound knife deafens 100 pedestrians with each stop. Appearance would not be the sole arbiter of design success. Since sound is already an unintended result of design, it must be responsibly integrated into design. By doing this, we could restore the balance of the senses, and restore humanity to the fragmented texture of modern life. For if we're willing to sacrifice our hearing at the altar of visual culture, in what other unseen sacrifice are we also participants?

10 DAVID ORR

Director of Environmental Studies, Oberlin College

**CAMPAIGN SLOGAN:** Harmony, loveliness, and sustainability for all **PLATFORM:** Redefined design **CONSTITUENTS:** Ecologists **PLEDGE:** The concept of design needs to be rescued from those who reduce it to the art of making things. It's about the art and science of making our presence in the world in ways that are fair, decent, lovely, sustainable, and spiritual, which is to say beautiful in the largest sense of the word. I'd propose to return to the questions posed by the founders of this country in drafting the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. They thought of themselves as designers, and it is appropriate that we reconsider their work in light of the design facts revealed by evolution and ecology. They must have suspected that we are kin to all life enmeshed in the web of nature, and that health, healing, wholeness, and holiness are one and indivisible. The one change I propose is to expand on their single mention of posterity in the preamble to the Constitution in order to grant all future generations the right to a decent environment.



11 LEON BOTSTEIN

President of Bard College and music director of the American Symphony Orchestra and Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra

**CAMPAIGN SLOGAN:** Elect no one! **PLATFORM:** Get government out of the equation **CONSTITUENTS:** Proponents of public art **PLEDGE:** Firstly, I wouldn't take the position. And if I absolutely was pressed into service I would take the position and then immediately abolish it. The way to accomplish things is not to get the federal government involved. However, if forced I would use the position as a vehicle to find more resources for working artists. Nothing could improve the way we look or what we see more than supporting working artists or the way to see art. I would definitely use the office as a conduit for support for art that does not exist, like a mini-WPA. And I am referring to a diversity of art, including the performing arts. Our streets should come alive with troupes, buskers, jesters, and jugglers. One would like to see more opportunity outside the museum to see the work of artists. Public spaces, schools, libraries, hospitals, care facilities, public transportation, government buildings — they should all be places for performances to take place. We need art to interrupt the grinding monotony of our daily lives.\*

