Talking Music: Conversations With John Cage, Philip Glass, Laurie Anderson, And Five Generations Of American Experimental Composers

William Duckworth
Laurie Anderson on electric violin. Photograph: Tristram Kenton for the Guardian. Glass, if anything, takes the subsidiary role. He does play one of his piano studies, though even that has to be embellished by Kodheli, and provides a live, rather Randy Newman-like accompaniment to a recording of Allen Ginsberg reading his anti-war poem Wichita Vortex Sutra, and does the same to a tape of Anderson’s late husband Lou Reed. But it’s left to Anderson to give the evening what substance there is. Her strength has always been the lingering power of her words, which she cocoons in electronica; here Gi...