

THE BUFFALO NEWS  
**ENTERTAINMENT**  
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## Listening Post /Brief reviews of select releases

### Classical

**Phil Kline, John the Revelator: A Mass for Six Voices** performed by choral group Lionheart and instrumental group Ethel with Kline playing organ on "Credo" (Cantaloupe). A friend of filmmaker Jim Jarmusch, photographer Nan Goldin and composer Glenn Branca, downtown composer Phil Kline is one of the more fascinating talents around. He's composed music for boom-boxes and, in "Zippo Songs" created music from the messages of World War II soldiers on their lighters. This evening-long Mass is uniformly beautiful if wildly eclectic, drawing from early American hymns, minimalism, late-Romantic chromaticism and Renaissance music among other sources. All of it is performed with stunning precision and presence by Lionheart with the instrumentalists in Ethel. It is now an amazing trans-Atlantic commonplace to encounter composers whose religious works are bursting *paellas* of wildly spiced musical ingredients. The modern cliché couldn't fit this 49-minute work better: you never saw this coming. ★★ ★ 1/2 ( J. S.)