



GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

DECEMBER 2015 WEDNESDAY 2ND THURSDAY 3RD FRIDAY 4TH SATURDAY 5TH SUNDAY 6TH MONDAY 7TH TUESDAY 8TH

THE COMPOSER JULIA WOLFE has a striking ability to channel three streams of American music—Appalachian vernacular, post-minimalist classical, and rock—into a mighty river. She did so in “Anthracite Fields,” which won the Pulitzer Prize this year, and in “Steel Hammer” (2009), a work that distills the many folklore versions of John Henry—the legendary railroad steel driver who died after winning a contest of strength against a steam-powered hammer—into a compelling, unified image. Scored for three female voices and the Bang on a Can All-Stars, the work has been reinvented as music drama (at BAM’s Harvey Theatre, Dec. 2-6) by the director Anne Bogart; actors from SITI Company (including Eric Berryman, above) perform new texts by the playwrights Kia Corthron, Will Power, Carl Hancock Rux, and Regina Taylor, interspersed between the songs.

PHOTOGRAPH BY RYAN PFLUGER

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