

the transbay

Creative Music Calendar

MARCH 2009

FROM MATT DAVIGNON, SO PATIENT, SO UNDERSTANDING

top ten live instruments/setup that turned my ears into hearts in 2008

In no particular order:

1. **Conure's noise pedals.** Lots of musicians in the Bay Area are doing the no-input noise pedal thing. Conure is my fave so far. He brings a sense of composition, textural detail, and restraint, floating delicately on the threshold between a "swollen" sound and feedback shrieks.
2. **Moe!'s suspended tape.** When Moe did his solo set at the "Batterie!" concert Royce Gallery, he had his drum heads

about this thing

The Transbay Creative Music Calendar is a volunteer-produced free monthly journal for non-commercial creative new music in the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition to our comprehensive listing of upcoming events, we publish articles and reviews about local music and the people who create it. We talk about a wide range of modern music, including: experimental, improvised, noise, electronic, free-jazz, outrock, 21st century compositions, and sonic art. Each month, 1,000 copies of the Transbay are mailed to individuals and hand-delivered to over 45 performance venues and public locations throughout the Bay Area.

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taped to the room's support pillar, and was rubbing the tape to get drones from the heads. Very nice!

3. **Andy Strain & Kevin Shea Adams's "Painting with Trombone" setup.** I've seen it at the Chapel of the Chimes and the Luggage Store. It was great both times and is constantly getting better. Kevin processes the sounds of Andy's trombone both with audio effects and visuals against a screen. Meanwhile, Andy improvises while "painting" using a LED light sensor attached to the instrument.
4. **Phillip Greenleaf's sax.** Phillip brings a strong argument for simply knowing how to play your instrument very well, and learning how to incorporate new sounds, textures and contexts to his instrument. He's a joy to hear every time, and is probably one of the easiest musicians to group with electronic players (who are prone to focusing on multiphonics and textures).
5. **Keith Evans' film contraptions.** Most recently seen at *Music by the Eye/ful* at Luggage Store. Keith builds unique video installations, which usually go something like this: Project archival footage of trains or bacteria-eaten film onto a rotating tin cylinder. Shine candles and flashlights on the cylinder too. Film the results with a video camera (while waving colored transparencies and other objects in front of it) and project the video camera's output to the screen that the audience sees. A perfect accompaniment for spooky texture music.
6. **Ben Bracken's guitars.** Such a simple idea, yet so effective: Ben brought three guitars and a cymbal to his performance at Luggage Store, with multiple amplifiers. The guitars simply sat on a stand in front of the amplifier speakers, which Ben sent signals through, to excite the strings. Mix and process the results for some lovely drones.

7. **Tujiko Noriko - how to karaoke laptop.** I normally hate karaoke performances of new music. Though I'm a fan of Noriko's glitchy songs, I had a fear that she might simply hit "play" and restrict herself to singing onstage. She was clearly manipulating the sounds of her pre-recorded laptop tracks as she sung her lyrics, and then between, would smoothly transition that into much more hands-on sound manipulation that you'd expect from a laptop-only performance bringing us gracefully into a madness of digital sampler/synth blooms. After all the folding/unrolling/fizzling is complete, a quiet thank you.
8. **Larnie Fox's Crank Ensemble.** It's a privilege to be a member of this group, but I can include it here since it wasn't my idea. The Crank Ensemble features a dozen hand built crank-operated instruments, performed 6 at a time by a small guided-improv ensemble. The conductor also sits at the mixer board, so he can control levels of the instruments. The instruments feature materials like springs, rubber bands, resonating metal strips, etc., and be performed with cranking, hand plucking, smacking, etc. A surprising diversity of sounds ensues.
9. **Daryl Shawn's lo-fi guitar manipulation.** Instead of taking the easy way out of a laptop computer or fx pedals, Daryl manipulates the sounds of his nylon stringed guitar with a simple 4-track cassette recorder and a multispeed cassette dictaphone, producing lovely patterns swimming in analog lo-pass clipping, pitch bending and dropouts.
10. **Kevin Spears' electric kalimbas.** Kevin made us all clap hands for way too long at the Santa Cruz Live Looping Festival, but he delivered a memorably rockin' set using 3 different contact mic'ed kalimbas, with an array of guitar pedals. ❖

the san francisco bay area monthly publication for
experimental/improvised/noise/electronic/freejazz/outrock/21st century transgenred music and sonic art

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Creative Music Calendar

Sunday March 1

Musicians Union Hall • 7:30pm \$10/8
Outsound Presents SIMM Series
7:30pm **Steven Baker** - Inventor of sonic drone instruments
8:30pm **Paolo Angeli** (Barcelona) - 'Giant' Sardinian prepared guitar

ODC Dance Commons • 8pm \$10
sfSound Presents a microFestival of New and Improvised Music
Domenico Sciajno/Gene Coleman/Marina Peterson Trio (electronics, bass clarinet & cello from Italy and U.S.) and **sfSoundGroup**.

Monday March 2

CNMAT • 8pm \$5
OpenSound West Improvisation Series
A concert of experimental improvisation featuring **Gene Coleman** (bass clarinet), **Domenico Sciajno** (bass + electronics), **Marina Peterson** (cello), and **Ken Ueno** (voice).

Tuesday March 3

Temescal Arts Center • 8:30pm Donation
First Tuesdays @ Temescal: We Like Flutes
The Amen Seat [Maryclare Brzytwa & Jon Liedecker]
Lisa Mezzacappa, Kjell Nordeson, Darren Johnston & Aram Shelton
Phil Gelb & Ma Jie

Thursday March 5

Jewish Community Center • 8pm \$25-\$150
The 14th Other Minds Music Festival
The Tavern by Ben Johnston, Amsterdam Cello Octet performs Mauricio Kagel and Arvo Part, Bent Sorensen performed by the Trio Con Brio Copenhagen, and Del Sol String Quartet in a work by Chinary Ung.

Luggage Store Gallery • 8pm \$6-10
Outsound Presents New Music Series
Full Moon Concerts - Storm Moon
8pm - Ronnie Cramer (Denver), solo guitar/electronics
9pm - Lumpner/Splitter

Friday March 6

Jewish Community Center • 8pm \$25-\$150
The 14th Other Minds Music Festival
world premiere by LA composer Catherine Lamb, work for large ensemble by Chico Mello, and the Del Sol String Quartet performs Linda Catlin Smith (Canada) and Dobromila Jaskot (Poland).

Saturday March 7

Jewish Community Center • 8pm \$25-\$150
The 14th Other Minds Music Festival
John Schneider performs Harry Partch, Chico Mello, Chinary Ung, and the world premiere of Michael Harrison's Tone Clouds for just-intonation piano and Del Sol String Quartet.

Sunday March 8

Mills College Concert Hall • 3pm \$20 gen /\$12 sr
Mills Music Festival 2009: Arditti Quartet

Tuesday March 10

Yoshi's San Francisco • 8pm & 10pm \$20
John Zorn's Yoshi's Residency
Secret Chiefs 3 play the music of Masada Book II

Wednesday March 11

Meridian Gallery • 7:30pm \$10 / \$5
Meridian Music: Composers in Performance
Lisa Sangita Moskow - electric sarod and voice

Yoshi's San Francisco • 8pm & 10pm \$45
John Zorn's Yoshi's Residency
Masada String Trio

Thursday March 12

Luggage Store Gallery • 8pm \$6-10
Outsound Presents New Music Series
8pm: **Jameson Swanagon** - guitar
9pm: **The pmocatat (pre-recorded music onto cds and tapes and things) Ensemble**

Yoshi's San Francisco • 8pm & 10pm \$50
John Zorn's Yoshi's Residency
Masada
featuring all four original members John Zorn: Saxophone, Composer, Joey Baron: Drums, Greg Cohen: Bass and special guest trumpeter, who, by definition would be Dave Douglas, but because of the encoded meaning of "special guest" in musical parlance, may not actually be Dave Douglas

Friday March 13

Yoshi's San Francisco • 8pm & 10pm \$50
John Zorn's Yoshi's Residency
Bar Kokhba
with Cyro Baptista: Percussion, Joey Baron: Drums, Greg Cohen: Bass, Mark Feldman: Violin, Erik Friedlander: Cello, Marc Ribot: Guitar

Saturday March 14

Yoshi's San Francisco • 8pm & 10pm \$50
John Zorn's Yoshi's Residency
The Dreamers
Joey Baron: Drums, Trevor Dunn: Bass, Marc Ribot: Guitars, Jamie Saft: Keyboards, Kenny Wollesen: Vibes, John Zorn: Alto Sax, Cyro Baptista: Percussion

Sunday March 15

Yoshi's San Francisco • 7pm & 9pm \$50
John Zorn's Yoshi's Residency
Electric Masada
Cyro Baptista: Percussion, Joey Baron: Drums, Trevor Dunn: Bass, Ikue Mori: Electronics, Marc Ribot: Guitar, Jamie Saft: Keyboards, Kenny Wollesen: Drums, John Zorn: Alto Sax

Monday March 16

Ivy Room • 9pm FREE
Experimental Improv Hootenanny & Social Club
Bruce Bennett et alia; curated sets by **John Shiurba** and **Amar Chaudhary**; interludes by **Errol Stewart** and **David Slusser**

Tuesday March 17

21 Grand • 8:30pm \$10-15
8:30pm **Blast of Silence** - Phillip Greenleaf (alto saxophone), Trevor Dunn (bass), Kjell Nordeson (drums)
9:30pm **The Good Life** - Trevor Dunn (bass), Nels Cline (guitar), Ben Goldberg (clarinet), Scott Amendola (drums) playing the music of Ornette Coleman, Jimmy Giuffre, and more.

Wednesday March 18

Red Poppy Art House • 7pm \$10
Rova:Arts presents Improv21
Vinny Golia = The Large Ensemble Experience
onstage lecture and dialogue, musical demonstration and performance, and audience question-and-answer forum.

Thursday March 19

Luggage Store Gallery • 8pm \$6-10
Outsound Presents New Music Series
Music by the Eyeful: Inventions in Visual Audio
Jean-Luc Sinclair / Bridget Batch (NY) and **Agnes Szlag**

Saturday March 21

Trinity Chamber Concerts • 8pm \$12/\$8
Two Cherries presents
Annie Lewandowski (voice and prepared piano)
Maryclare Brzytwa (flute, prepared piano and electronics)

Sunday March 22

Musicians Union Hall • 7:30pm \$10/\$8
Outsound Presents SIMM Series
7:30pm **The Spirit Moves US** (Jim Ryan / Bob Marsh / Spirit)
8:30pm **Bloom Project** (Thollem McDonas & Rent Romus) CD Release of "Sudden Aurora" Edgetone Records

venue information

Tuesday March 24

Compound Gallery • 8pm \$10 suggested donation
Compound Gallery Experimental Music Series
Scott R. Looney & Scot Gresham-Lancaster Duo
Dryer/Heule/Lindsay Trio

Uptown • 9pm free, donations yeah
Avant Garde Night
 moved this month to the 4th Tuesday
line-up TBA

Wednesday March 25

Yoshi's Oakland • 8pm \$18
Cryptonight
Myra Melford and Be Bread
Alex Cline Continuation Quintet

Thursday March 26

Luggage Store Gallery • 8pm \$6-10
Outsound Presents New Music Series
 8pm: **Animal Vegetable Television**
 9pm: **YoYo MaMa**
 9:30pm: **Aaron Drake** (Los Angeles)

Yoshi's Oakland • 8pm \$18
Cryptonight
The Nels Cline Singers
The Jeff Gauthier Goatette

Saturday March 28

Community Music Center • 8pm \$15/\$10
 Composer/pianist **David Rhodes** and the
Capricollis String Quartet premiere Rhodes' new
 and unusual work.

Sunday March 29

Dance Mission Theater • 2pm Sliding \$10-35
The Switchboard Music Festival
 a non-stop, 8-hour marathon concert with
 performances by the ADORNO Ensemble,
 Classical Revolution, Edmund Welles, Japonize
 Elephants, Melody of China, Moe! Staiano, Pamela
 Z, Paul Drescher and Joel Davel, Ted Brinkley and
 Neptune's Rogue Apothecary, and Zoyres; and
 music composed by Mason Bates, Ryan Brown,
 Jonathan Russell, Max Stoffregen, Ken Thomson,
 and DaMonday Waitkus.

Musicians Union Hall • 7:30pm \$10 / \$8
Outsound Presents SIMM Series
 7:30pm **Kanoko Nishi** - piano / **William Winant**
 - percussion / **Corey Fogel** - drumset
 8:30pm **Noertker's Moxie**: Annelise Zamula - tenor
 sax, flute / Bill Noertker - contrabass / others TBA

21 Grand
 416 25th Street, Oakland [near Broadway]

Community Music Center
 544 Capp Street, SF [btwn 20th and 21st]

Compound Gallery
 6604 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland

CNMAT
 1750 Arch Street, Berkeley

Dance Mission Theater
 3316 24th Street, SF [at Mission]

Ivy Room
 858 San Pablo Avenue, Albany

Jewish Community Center
 3200 California Street, SF [at Presidio]

Luggage Store Gallery
 1007 Market Street, SF [at 6th]

Meridian Gallery
 535 Powell Street, SF

Mills College Concert Hall
 5000 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland

Musicians' Union Hall
 116 9th Street, SF [at Mission]

ODC Dance Commons
 351 Shotwell, SF [near 17th]

Red Poppy Art House
 2698 Folsom Street, SF

Temescal Arts Center
 511 48th Street, Oakland [at Shattuck]

Trinity Church
 2320 Dana Street, Berkeley [Durant/Bancroft]

Uptown
 1928 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland

Yoshi's Oakland
 510 Embarcadero, Oakland

Yoshi's San Francisco
 1330 Fillmore Street, SF



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2009

Fri Feb 27
Kai Fagaschinski
& Michael
Thieke (clarinet
duo from Berlin)

Sat Feb 28
Lê Quan Ninh & Michel Doneda Duo
(percussion and saxophone from France)

Sun Mar 1
Domenico Sciajno/Gene Coleman/
Marina Peterson Trio
(electronics, bass clarinet & cello
from Italy and U.S.)

ODC
Dance
Commons
351
Shotwell
SF

8p & \$10 each night sfsound.org

deadline for april issue is

mar 10

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in the april issue

top
10 stouts jacob
felix heule
consumed in
2008