stand with sperry kihlstedt robair

Review of the July 13, 1997 Beanbender's show: Herd of the Ether Space / Matthew Sperry, Carla Kihlstedt and Gino Robair

Some disagreement about the Herd: good or bad? I enjoyed segments of their show, especially those in which keyboardist Robert Silverman used (entirely digital) psychedelic effects, like slow panning of a filter - much as Sun Ra did in the late-70's/early 80's, as a sort of anchor above which there was skronking from 2 guitarists, one drummer and a multi-instrumentalist named Mark (who had a daughter who led the audience in an unplanned “Hooray for Daddy!” bit which was of course a highlight). At times I was reminded of the shifting kaleidoscopic guitar-based jams by Pluto, though not as rhythmically compelling. Also, I suppose I can admit to being disappointed by the two full-time guitarists (at one point Robert and Mark picked up guitars for a 4-guitar jam which I would have liked with either more assertive drums or none at all). They seemed, like the drummer, to be a little uncertain of where they were at times. Nonetheless, the group managed to make some odd polyphonic music with feet firmly planted all over the place, and I liked that.

The Sperry/Kihlstedt/Robair trio could stand among any musicians involved in this music. Stand and do what, I don’t know, but there’s no doubt that they could stand, and stand well, upon the musical feet which are theirs to do with as they may, whether we’re talking about music, dance, or gardening. I particularly liked those moments in which Kihlstedt would step out from a backdrop of abstraction and play some flourishy fiddle. Also, I liked that Sperry (at the insistence of Beanbender’s money-hungry capitalist management sell-out goons) sang a commercial for the baked goods which were for sale at the refreshment table (which included some brownies which are in fact quite delicious; you ought to buy some next time!).

edgetone piles it on, man

While the media spew the sad tale of catastrophic economic collapse and abomination tearing at the social fabric, the new music community seems to be committing acts of insane proliferation. No, not children. Record releases. Six of them in a single day from Edgetone Records on April 28 as if the label’s life depended on it, or was just about to go to an ashram in India for a year. The releases include new work from stable artists Noertker’s Moxie, 15 Degrees Below Zero and label owner Rent Romus’ projects Tri-Cornered Tent Show and Lords of Outland. Two surprises: Lift from gal*in_dog with Charlotte Hug and Mudwagon Compilation Vol. 1 advertised as blackmetalfreejazzimprov, a genre in search of a space bar maybe, but with some notable contributions from not-to-be-missed Soft Teeth (Jacob Felix Heule - drums, Ava Mendoza - guitar) and Wiggwaum, minus, we think, the visuals. All is revealed at edgetonerecords.com.

Hey! A new venue!

5x5x5 at tom’s place

The First Tuesdays at Temescal series got the boot (no!) in April compelling organizers to... go home. Now known as First Tuesdays at Tom’s Place, the May 5 iteration was appropriately headlined by John Shiurba’s 5x5 with a packed audience of appropriately 25 that actually got bigger, maybe even a prime number, by the time they took over the sun room. Tight. Loose. Open. Closed. Dense. Damn. Two opening sets of solo extended technique from Kyle Bruckman and Matt Ingalls seared all brain pans.
the transbay
Creative Music Calendar

Monday June 1
Makeout Room • 8pm
Rubber City with David Slusser, saxophone / Ralph Carney, reeds / Richard Saunders, bass / Chris Ackerman, drums
Marie Abé Group with Marie Abé, accordion / Dina Maccabee, violin / John Hanes, drums / Lisa Mezzacappa, bass
Centipede with David James, guitar / David Boyce, saxophone / Eli Crews, electric bass / Lisa Marie Abé Group
Dina Maccabee, violin / John Hanes, drums / Lisa Marie Abé Group

Tuesday June 2
Studio 1510 • 8pm $6-100
2009 Matthew Sperry Memorial Festival
Lesli Dalaba in trio with Fred Frith and Jason Hoopes and in duo with Gail Brand

Thursday June 4
Luggage Store Gallery • 8pm $6-100
Full Moon Concerts - Strong Moon
2009 Matthew Sperry Memorial Festival
Treasure Mouth Karaoke Band and OrcheSperry Large Ensemble

Friday June 5
Hillside Club • 8pm $15
2009 Matthew Sperry Memorial Festival
Gail Brand with Gino Robair, Morgan Guberman, John Shiurba, Tim Perkis and Tom Djll

Saturday June 6
Golden Trapper Keeper Lodge • Noon Donation
Godwaffe Noise Pancakes
Swan Welder, E Yard, Liver Cancer

Sunday June 7
Musicians Union Hall • 7:30pm $10/8
Outsound Presents SIMM Series
7:30pm Between Ravens and Crows
8:30pm After the End of the World Coretet
20th anniversary celebration with Annelise Zamula - tenor saxophone, flute / Ara Anderson - trumpet / Bill Noertker - contrabass / Dave Mihaly - drums

Wednesday June 10
21 Grand • 8pm $6-10
Matt Davignon/Daryl Shawn Cylinder (Darren Johnston, trumpet, Aram Shelton, bass clarinet and alto saxophone, Lisa Mezzacappa, acoustic bass, Kjell Nordeson, drums)
Great American Music Hall • 8pm $19
Secret Chiefs 3; Kayo Dot

Thursday June 11
Luggage Store Gallery • 8pm $6-10
Outsound Presents New Music Series
Curated by Greedmink
Commode Minstrels in Bullface, Midnigth, Amphibious Gestures, Headboggle

Friday June 12
Golden Trapper Keeper Lodge • 8pm Donation
Club Sandwich Presents
Aures (members of Trees/Tecumseh), Heule/Dryer Quartet, Travis Johns

Saturday June 13
Old First Concerts • 8pm $15/12
San Francisco Composers Chamber Orchestra

Sunday June 14
Musicians Union Hall • 7:30pm $10/8
Outsound Presents SIMM Series
7:30 pm Erica Eller with Damon Smith, Weasel Walter and a “dedication to anything that is lost, blanketed, hidden, absent, or forgotten”
8:30 pm Emily Hay and Motoko Honda (LA)

Monday June 15
Ivy Room • 9pm FREE
Experimental/Improv Hootenanny & Social Club
All Ones (w/ Ralph Carney), Emily Hay/Motoko Honda, Buny Numpkins, Bass is the Place

Tuesday June 16
The Uptown • 8pm Donation
21 Grand Presents
Avant Garde Night at the Uptown
top of Theresa Wong
Kaiser, Matthew Waldron

Thursday June 18
Luggage Store Gallery • 8pm $6-10
Outsound Presents New Music Series
The Auricle (electric ukulele; french horn & violin)
ThreeTwentyTwo + guest (Chris Broderick - reeds; Angela Hsu - violin; plus Jen Baker - trombone.)

Friday June 19
Herbst Theatre • 8pm $20-$60
10th Anniversary SFJAZZ Spring Season
Hiromi’s Sonicbloom with David Ficuzynski
NOHspace • 8pm $12-15 and again on June 20
Pretty, a demon play in the Noh tradition with live musical score performed by Ava Mendoza, Suki O’Kane and Moel Staiano

Tuesday June 23
21 Grand • 8pm $6-10
Club Sandwich presents
Strip Mall Seizures, KIT, Father Murphy, Baadd

Compoud Gallery • 8pm $10 suggested donation
Compoud Gallery Experimental Music Series
Polly Moller solo flutes, candles, Tarot cards; Duo of Theresa Wong cello/voice and Kanoko Nishi koto; Trio of Jen Baker trombone; Jorrit Dijkstra reeds, Lisa Mezzacappa doublebass

Thursday June 25
Luggage Store Gallery • 8pm $6-10
Outsound Presents New Music Series
Elm (Jon from Barn Owl), Astral Sleep, James Kaiser, Matthew Waldron

Friday June 26
Flux 53 • 5pm art opening 8pm performance $10 suggested no one turned away
The Spirit Moves Us with Jim Ryan (flute/sax/ kalimba), Bob Marsh (cello), Spirit (percussion)
The Left Coast Improv Group with Doug Carroll, Michael Cooke, Ron Heglin, Jeff Hobbs, Darren Johnson, Scott R. Looney, Bob Marsh, Tom Nunn, Jim Ryan, Leif Shackelford, Karen Stackpole, Andrew Voigt – featuring dancing by Eponine Cuervo-Moll

Saturday June 27
R5 Records • 2pm free
In the Flow Fest
2:00 Instagram
3:00 Kevin Corcoran solo percussion
3:30 Jacob Felix Heule
4:30 Lucio Menegon, Suki O’Kane

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.

www.transbaycalendar.org
venue information

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

Compound Gallery
6604 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland

Flux 53
5306 Foothill Boulevard, Oakland [at Fairfax]

Golden Trapper Keeper Lodge
1687 Hayes, San Francisco [at Central]

Herbst Theatre
401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

Hillside Club
2286 Cedar Street, Berkeley

Ivy Room
858 San Pablo Avenue, Albany

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

Make-Out Room
3225 22nd Street, San Francisco

Musicians’ Union Hall
116 9th Street, San Francisco [at Mission]

NOHspace
2850 Mariposa Street, San Francisco [at Alabama]

Old First Concerts
1751 Sacramento Street, San Francisco

R5 Records
2500 16th Street, Sacramento

Studio 1510
1510 8th Street, Oakland

Uptown
1928 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland

the persistent caveat
Schedules are subject to change, and the reasons can be totally appalling, flying in the face of human reason. Please confirm details provided in this publication by visiting transbaycalendar.org.

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