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### 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. Contact us for a free subscription.

### Volunteers needed right away!

The Transbay needs editorial and production staff, perhaps combined in the same person. If you have writing and digital print skills, please contact us at [mail@transbaycalendar.org](mailto:mail@transbaycalendar.org).

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# May 2010

## GUERRILLA RECORDING



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### Sunday May 23

Flux 53 • 8pm \$10  
**THE DECONSTRUCTION ORCHESTRA**  
Josh Allen's massive ensemble returns! Plus: Josh in duo with human thunderstorm William Winant.

### Monday May 24

Kingman's Ivy Room • 9pm donations  
Active Music Series presents a Quartet (Matt Nelson, tenor sax; Gene Baker, organ; Lisa Mezzacappa, bass; Kjell Nordeson, drums), a Trio (Tom Djil, trumpet + electronics; Scott Walton, bass; Tim Perkis, electronics), and a Septet (Jordan Glenn's Mama Long Legs)

### Thursday May 27

Luggage Store New Music Series • 8pm \$6-10  
Outsound Presents Full Moon Concerts - Flower Moon: New music in bloom.  
Angela Hsu and Jim Kaiser

REVIEW BY AMAR CHAUDHARY / CATSYNTH | APRIL 20 @ MERIDIAN GALLERY

## resonant world: John Cage and Morris Graves

This past Sunday I attended resonant world: an afternoon of music by John Cage for the exhibit The Visionary Art of Morris Graves at the Meridian Gallery here in San Francisco.

Morris Graves was an influential artist in the 20th century, based primarily in the Pacific Northwest. The exhibition features about 50 works spread over several decades of his career and two floors of the gallery. Many of his works, which were mostly on paper, had a very simple quality, but often with some recognizable object or concept at its core. I was particularly drawn to a few of his works, including *Minnow*, *Irish Animal*, *Waning Moon* and *Roadside Plants and Machine Age Noise*. Graves' work is often described as having Asian and mystical influences, which were apparent in *Minnow* and many others, but in works like *Irish Animal* a noticed a humorous quality, something approaching graphic art.

John Cage became a longtime friend and admirer of Graves after the two met in 1935. He described Graves' work as "Invitations", or invitationals to attend to the ordinary details that are "ordinarily ignored". Although the pieces in the program were not directly a response to Graves' art, they do fit the spare nature of some of his works, and the focus on simple details, as well as the space of the gallery in which those works were presented.

The first piece, *Atlas Eclipticalis* featured the saxophone trio of Philip Greenlief, Jon Raskin and Steve Adams. The title refers to the path of the

Sun through the constellations of the zodiac, which Cage used as a source for the score of the piece, using tracing paper to determine the placement of dots and then adding a five-line music staff. The trio's performance was derived entirely from this score. The result was a very sparse musical texture, with large areas of silence punctuated by individual isolated notes from each of the saxophones. There were also moments where the performers played together, forming interesting beating patterns as the simultaneous tones interacted with the room as well as perfect octaves and minor chords that were a bit startling (but quite effective) within the context of the whole piece.

*Atlas Eclipticalis* was followed by a performance of *Three* for "three players having a variety of recorders." Conveniently, we happened to have three players who each had a variety of recorders, the **Three Trapped Tigers (David Barnett and Tom Bickley with special guest Judy Linsenberg)**. The recorders ranged in size from the familiar C soprano recorders and alto and tenor sizes seen in renaissance ensembles, to very "modernist" F contra-bass recorders composed of wooden rectangular sections with black buttons and levers – I am guessing these were Paetzold recorders.

The piece unfolded as a series of chords – the timing of individual notes was left up to the performers – with frequent pauses and changes of instruments. The large number of recorders and frequent changes suggested a solo pipe organ performance as much as a wind ensemble.

Throughout the afternoon, simultaneous to an in between the musical performances, there was a reading of Series RE: *Morris Graves*, a "long poem derived by John Cage from his own recollections, conversations with Graves and friends" and other sources as described in the program notes. The poem was read by **Dave Cowen**. I did follow the recommendation to explore the space during the musical performances, including viewing the artwork with the music resonating down the stairs from the floor above, and pausing at partitioned area where the reading occurred. (Note: in the above photo featuring Cowen's reading, one can also see Graves' *Roadside Plants and Machine Age Noise*.)

The final performance featured selections from Cage's Song Books (Solos for Voice 3-92) interpreted by members of the **Cornelius Cardew Choir**. The songs derive from a variety of written sources, with some using graphical-score notation (a current favorite technique of mine) or text-based instructions. From these scores, performers are free to interpret and improvise their actual performances. Some of the songs were purely vocal and melodic, others were more theatrical, while others combined electronics with other elements. Among the moments that stood out were **Tom Bickley and Brad Fischer** enjoying tea, **Sarah Rose Stiles** pouring a cognac into a glass with contact microphones, projection of slides "relevant to Thoreau" behind a theatrical performance, a graphical score directing the pressing of keys on an amplified manual typewriter (performed by **Eric Theise**), and the use of the text from that typewriter in another song. There was also a large orange stuffed fish on a table. •

## Coming up in July! 2010 Outsound New Music Summit

Presented by the Board of Directors of Outsound Presents and an assortment of volunteers at the San Francisco Community Music Center, 544 Capp Street, San Francisco, CA.

Pre-concert talk and Q&A session 7:15 -7:30 pm  
Performance starts @ 8:15 pm

**Wednesday July 21st, 2010 – Blurred Lines**  
The Films of Martha Colburn featuring pianist Thollem McDonas  
60X60 International Video Mix by the Vox Novus organization

**Thursday July 22nd, 2010 – Sound in a blink**  
Joshua Allen trio feat. Tomothy Orr & Randy Hunt  
Emily Hay /Motoko Honda duo  
Alex Cline / G.E. Stinson duo

**Friday July 23rd, 2010 - MultiVox**  
Reconnaissance Fly  
The Cornelius Cardew Choir  
Amy X Neuburg

**Saturday, July 24th, 2010 – SoundScapes**  
Phogmasheeen  
Head Boggle  
Kadet Kuhne  
Chen Santa Maria

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

MAY 2010

# the transbay Creative Music Calendar

## Saturday May 1

Totally Intense Fractal Mindgaze Hut • 9pm \$5-10  
Dominique Leone (avant pop), Ash Reiter (indie) and the trio of Jacob Zimmerman, Eric Glick-Rieman and Mike Carreira (improv)

## Sunday May 2

Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAM/PFA) • 5pm free  
Brent Green: Perpetual and furious refrain  
MATRIX 232

SIMM Series • 7:30pm \$10/8  
7:30pm Emergency String Ensemble w/Rent Romus recording his string album live  
8:30pm Noertker's Moxie Chamber Ensemble performs Blue Rider (Annelise Zamula - flute, Amber Lamprecht - oboe, Bill Noertker - contrabass)

Flux 53 • 8pm \$10  
**THE DECONSTRUCTION ORCHESTRA**  
Josh Allen's massive ensemble returns! Plus: Josh in duo with local-via-Sweden drummer Kjell Nordeson.

## Tuesday May 4

Tuesdays at Tom's Place • 7:30pm donation  
Karen Stackpole, Tom Djil and Ron Heglin

## Wednesday May 5

Berkeley Arts Festival • 8pm \$10  
John Schott and longtime colleagues Steve Adams, saxophone; Darren Johnston - trumpet; Dan Seamans, bass; and John Hanes, drums, turn an empty warehouse in downtown Berkeley into a Jazz cellar, an original blues research woodshed.

## Thursday May 6

Luggage Store New Music Series • 8pm \$6-10  
8pm Alexander Vogel Philip Greenlief and Aaron Bennett trio  
9pm Tatsuya Nakatani is a contemporary percussionist, originally from Osaka, Japan. He performs creative music around the world. He has created a totally unique sound which defies category or genre. He utilizes the drum set, bowed gongs, cymbals, singing bowls and metal objects...

Berkeley Arts Festival • 8pm \$10  
John Schott and longtime colleagues Steve Adams, saxophone; Dan Seamans, bass; and John Hanes, drums, turn an empty warehouse in downtown Berkeley into a Jazz cellar, an original blues research woodshed

The Lab • 8pm  
\* Aesop Dekker (Agalloch/Ludicra) and Sean McGrath (Impaled) play with Bran (...) Pos, Rubber (I) Cement \* Elf Ass (Eitrick + Tralphaz fairycore) \* Coagulator

## Friday May 7

Berkeley Arts Festival • 8pm \$10  
See Wed 5/5

Meridian Gallery • 8pm \$10  
Meridian Gallery Presents an Evening of Improvised Music by 2 Duos:  
Lisa Mezzacappa - bass; Noah Phillips - acoustic guitar and Phillip Greenlief - saxophone; Tatsuya Nakitani (Easton, PA) - percussion

BAM/PFA • 7:30pm \$5  
Laetitia Sonami and Vorticella

## Saturday May 8

Totally Intense Fractal Mindgaze Hut • 8pm  
**Tatsuya Nakatani, Jacob Felix Heule, Jordan Glenn** (percussion trio); **Anti-Ear/G.Marauder** (Tyler Harwood/Jason Stamberger) -- mellower rhythmic space tip, have flex in this genre like plasticmans; **Styrofoam Sanchez** -- electroacoustic polystyrene; **Pykrete** -- analog improv

## Sunday May 9

Cafe Royale • 2pm free  
Bird and Beckett Books Presents The Lost Trio, featuring Phillip Greenlief - tenor saxophone; Dan Seamans - bass; Tom Hasset - drums

Flux 53 • 8pm \$10  
**THE DECONSTRUCTION ORCHESTRA**  
Josh Allen's massive ensemble returns! Plus: Josh in duo with veteran drummer Spirit.

BAM/PFA • 3pm \$5  
Music for Mother's Day: Performance by Clerestory, Soul's Light: Music of the Spirit

## Monday May 10

Kingman's Ivy Room • 9pm free  
Amy Friebertshauser; Wormses (Bobby Adams, Tony Dyer, Jacob Felix Heule); Devon McClive (cello); Lemon Bear; DJ Jackson Quinn

## Wednesday May 12

Meridian Gallery • 7:30pm \$10/5  
Meridian Music presents "New Directions in Indian Classical Music," featuring four new works in an ensemble of Voice (Gautam Tejas Ganeshan) + Mridangam Barrel Drum (Anantha R. Krishnan) + Tanpura Drone Lutes (Deepa Preeti Natarajan).

## Thursday May 13

Mama Buzz Cafe • 7pm free  
An evening of SOLOs: clarinetist Matt Ingalls has invited 3 relative newcomers on the scene (Monica Scott, cello; Ken Ueno, voice; and Jacob Zimmerman, saxophone) to showcase their solo work. Ingalls ends the evening with his constantly evolving solo piece exploring extended clarinet techniques in small spaces.

Luggage Store New Music Series • 8pm \$6-10  
8pm Holiday Heart (Ellery Royston and Alexandra Buchanan)  
9pm bLakcPullet Grimoire w/ video projection performing a release set for his newest CD, "Eating whole villages he threw up from the bitter taste of concrete."

## Friday May 14

BAM/PFA • 7:30pm \$5  
The L.A.-based experimental music duo Lucky Dragons transform Gallery B into a total acoustic environment as various electronic interventions play off the architecture of the space. The lineup will also include site-specific collaborations by Bay Area-based Eats Tapes, who expand their practices through altered frequencies.

## Saturday May 15

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts • 8pm \$25  
11th Annual SFJAZZ Spring Season Presents Sexmob with DJ Olive Play Sexotica. Started by slide trumpeter and Berkeley native Steven Bernstein, the band weaves a throbbing, highly danceable tapestry of bop, Dixieland jazz, luscious lounge and funk.

## Sunday May 16

SIMM Series • 7:30pm \$6-10  
7:30pm TBA  
8:30pm titter:  
Tony Dyer, Jacob Felix Heule, Aurora Josephson, Kanoko Nishi

Community Music Center • 8pm \$5-10  
Community Music Center of San Francisco welcomes two extraordinary sets of creative improvised music: Gino Robair - Prepared Solo Grand Piano, and the trio of Tom McNally (Guitar) Scott Walton (Double Bass) and Garth Powell (Drums and Percussion)

Flux 53 • 8pm \$10  
**THE DECONSTRUCTION ORCHESTRA**  
Josh Allen's massive ensemble returns! Plus: Josh in duo with L.A. drummer Miguel Barrera.

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](http://transbaycalendar.org).

## Monday May 17

Ivy Room • 9pm free  
Experimental Hootenanny & Social Club featuring Citta di Vitti, Dottie Grossman/Michael Vlatkovich, Z Bug, Strangelet, Stalones Holy Rollers  
comfy couches • delicious beverages • NEVER a cover • many musicians • total surprises • third mondays

## Wednesday May 19

Bottom of the Hill • 9pm \$12 (21+)  
KUSF co-presents the Friends of KUSF benefit, featuring the bands  
Khi Darag Charming Hostess Mitch Marcus Quintet

## Thursday May 20

21 Grand • 8pm \$6-10  
Evander Music Presents Nathan Clevenger CD Release Party! Join us for a performance celebrating the release of The Evening Earth, the new recording by Nathan Clevenger. With performances by Citta di Vitti: Phillip Greenlief - alto saxophone; Lisa Mezzacappa - bass; John Hanes - drums & Nathan Clevenger Group: Mitch Marcus - saxophone; Casey Knudsen - saxophone; Aaron Novik - clarinets; Nathan Clevenger - guitar, compositions; Sam Bevan - bass; Tim Bulkley - drums

Luggage Store New Music Series • 8pm \$6-10  
8:00pm CJ Borosque- electronics/trumpet w/ Travis Johns - inventions, Arachnid Arcade - electronics  
9:00pm Hecanjog / Hey Exit duet

## Friday May 21

Southern Exposure • 8:30pm \$8-15  
Oh Sleep, Directed by Theresa Wong  
An improvised opera inspired by the drama, science and mystery of sleep and dream life with Luciano Chessa, Shayna Dunkelmann, Ellen Fullman, Dohee Lee, Heike Liss, Preshish Moments and Alice Wu

## Saturday May 22

Mama Buzz Cafe • 7:30pm donations accepted  
Light A Fire: Grex (Evangelista/Scampavia): impressionistic harmolodic garage kwela ; Alee Karim: interdisciplinary psych rock ; Chad McKinney: big doom

Southern Exposure • 8:30pm \$8-15  
Oh Sleep, Directed by Theresa Wong see 5/21

*Continued on back...*

# venue information

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

**Amnesia**  
853 Valencia Street, San Francisco

**Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive**  
2625 Bancroft Way, Berkeley

**Berkeley Arts Festival**  
22121 Allston Way, Berkeley

**Bottom of the Hill**  
1750 Arch Street, Berkeley

**Cafe Royale**  
800 Post Street, San Francisco [at Leavenworth]

**Community Music Center**  
1233 17th Street, San Francisco [at Missouri]

**CounterPULSE**  
1310 Mission, San Francisco [at 9th]

**First Church of the Buzzard**  
2601 Adeline, Oakland

**Flux 53**  
5306 Foothill Boulevard, Oakland [at Fairfax]

**Herbst Theatre**  
401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

**Ivy Room**  
860 San Pablo Avenue, Albany

**Kaleidoscope Free Speech Zone**  
3109 24th Street, San Francisco [at Folsome]

**The Lab**  
2948 16th Street, Berkeley

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

**Mama Buzz Cafe**  
2318 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland [at 23rd]

**Meridian Gallery**  
535 Powell Street, San Francisco

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

**ODC Dance Commons**  
351 Shotwell Street, San Francisco

**Old First Concerts**  
1751 Sacramento Street, San Francisco

**Southern Exposure**  
3030 20th Street, San Francisco

**Tom's Place**  
3111 Deakin Street, Berkeley

**Totally Intense Fractal Mindgaze Hut**  
671-B 24th Street, Oakland

**Yerba Buena Center for the Arts**  
701 Mission Street, San Francisco [at 3rd]



**Outsound Presents the Full Moon Concert Series**  
May 27, 2010 – Flower Moon  
New music in bloom, featuring  
angel a hsu & james kaiser  
at the Luggage Store Gallery  
1007 Market Street @ 6th Street  
San Francisco, CA  
Admission: \$6.00 - \$10.00 sliding scale

[www.transbaycalendar.org](http://www.transbaycalendar.org)