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12. – 16. Červenec 2011, /July 12th – 16th, 2011
Trafčka Arena, Praha 9, Česká republika /Czech Republic

ECHOFLUXX

Festival experimentální hudby a nových médií
Experimental music and new media festival



Úterý/Tuesday, 19.00
Phill Niblock (US),
Katherine Liberovskaya (CA) and Al Margolis (US)

Středa/Wednesday, 19.00
Stanislav Abrahám (CZ),
Michal Rataj (CZ) and Ivan Boreš (CZ),
Peter Szely (AT)

Čtvrtek/Thursday, 19.00
Martin Janíček (CZ) and Petr Ferenc (CZ),
Martin Blažíček (CZ) and Krystof Topolski (PL)

Pátek/Friday, 19.00
Anja Kaufmann (CH) and Frances Sanders (UK),
George Cremaschi (US),
Hana Železná (CZ)

Sobota/Saturday, 19.00
Petra Dubach and Mario van Horrik (NL),
Hearn Gadbois (US/CZ)

BIOGRAPHIES

Phill Niblock (US) is a New York-based minimalist composer and multi-media musician and director of Experimental Intermedia, a foundation born in the flames of 1968's barricade-hopping. He has been a maverick presence on the fringes of the avant garde ever since. In the history books Niblock is the forgotten Minimalist. That's as maybe: no one ever said the history books were infallible anyway. His influence has had more impact on younger composers such as Susan Stenger, Lois V Vierk, David First, and Glenn Branca. He's even worked with Sonic Youth's Thurston Moore and Lee Renaldo on "Guitar two, for four" which is actually for five guitarists. This is Minimalism in the classic sense of the word, if that makes sense. Niblock constructs big 24-track digitally-processed monolithic microtonal drones. The result is sound without melody or rhythm. Movement is slow, geologically slow. Changes are almost imperceptible, and his music has a tendency of creeping up on you. The vocal pieces are like some of Ligeti's choral works, but a little more phased. And this isn't choral work. "A Y U (as yet untitled)" is sampled from just one voice, the baritone Thomas Buckner. The results are pitch shifted and processed intense drones, one live and one studio edited. Unlike Ligeti, this isn't just for voice or hurdy gurdy. Like Stockhausen's electronic pieces, *Musique Concrete*, or even Fripp and Eno's *No Pussyfooting*, the role of the producer/composer in "Hurdy Hurry" and "A Y U" is just as important as the role of the performer. He says: "What I am doing with my music is to produce something without rhythm or melody, by using many microtones that cause movements very, very slowly." The stills in the booklet are from slides taken in China, while Niblock was making films which are painstaking studies of manual labour, giving a poetic dignity to sheer gruelling slog of fishermen at work, rice-planters, log-splitters, water-hole dredgers and other back-breaking toilers. Since 1968 Phill has also put on over 1000 concerts in his loft space, including Ryoji Ikeda, Zbigniew Karkowski, Jim O'Rourke.

Katherine Liberovskaya (CA) is a video and media artist based in Montreal, Canada, and New York City. She has been working predominantly in experimental video since the late eighties. Over the years, she has produced many single-channel videos, video installation works and video performances which have been presented at a wide variety of artistic venues and events around the world. As of recent years her work - in single-channel and installation video as well as performance - mainly revolves around collaborations with new music composers/sound artists, notably Phill Niblock, Al Margolis/If, Bwana, Hitoshi Kojo, Zanana, Anne Wellmer, David First and David Watson.

Petra Dubach & Mario van Horrik (NL) have been working together artistically since 1994. The starting point for their work is the idea that movement and sound are identical and without movement (vibration) nothing can be heard. This idea is worked in every thinkable form: installations, works in progress on location, performances, concerts, etc. Because of the temporary character of the media sound and movement, their works, up to now, have always been presented during a limited period of time. So there are no objects for sale. Besides using the media movement, sound and image, they also have an interest in using new media and technology, that are often invented especially for our projects.

Hearn Gadbois (US/CZ) is a professional percussionist, teacher and composer with 35 year experience in New York, Japan, Europa and Asia. His mastery in techniques of goblet drums combined with foot percussions brought him interesting collaborations with many different artists (Yoko Ono, Patti Smith Meredith Monk, Susan Deyhim, Gabrielle Roth, the Khan family) and dance companies all over the world. He designs and hand carves his instruments. In Czech Republic he is collaborating with Pavel Fajt, Vladimir Vaclavek, Shahab Tolouie and Rena Milgrom. His teaching method and art is sought at Prague HAMU and International percussionist symposium Trstenice. In 2002 he released his solo album "Joinery" and Instructional CD for School of rhythm.

SUPPORT

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PRODUCTION

Echofluxx was produced by Efemera of Prague, Dan Senn and Anja Kaufmann (Co-Directors), Stanislav Abrahám (Technical Director), Ryan O'Rourke, (Technical Assistant).

Efemera-Ephemera.org

Frances Sanders (UK) was born in Scotland and was a postgraduate scholar in Drawing and Painting at Edinburgh College of Art. **Dmitri Berzon** is a Russian born artist who studied Fine Art in London. They are both practising artists who have worked in a variety of media; Frances is a figurative painter and printmaker and Dmitri makes works in time-based media, video and photography. Since establishing their studios in the Czech Republic they have worked together on a number of projects including small format film making, installations and, more recently, live drawing performances using the Tagtool. They have held exhibitions in London separately and together of painting and drawing as well as participating in festivals with their live drawing performances; they have also made sculpture and installations in England and the Czech Republic.

George Cremaschi (US) was born in New York City, and studied music and composition there. He has played with, and composed for, dancers, rock bands, installation artists, improvisers, poets, film, folk musicians, theater groups, orchestras, and pop divas. He has worked with a long list of fantastic artists: Greg Goodman, Matthew Ostrowski, Nicolas Collins, Evan Parker, Matt Ingalls, Trinh T. Minh-Ha, Tim Perkis, Liz Allbee, Mats Gustafsson, Kai Fagaschinski, Lê Quan Ninh, Gino Robair, Rova Saxophone Quartet, Frédéric Blondy, Christof Kurzmann, Saadet Türköz, dieb13, Andrea Parkins, Paul Lovens, Marshall Allen, Butch Morris, sfSound, Moe Staiano and many others. As an interpreter, he has performed works by Morton Feldman, James Tenney, John Cage, Iannis Xenakis, Cornelius Cardew, Roscoe Mitchell, Christian Wolff, Wadada Leo Smith, Krzysztof Penderecki, Jon Raskin, Ana-Maria Avram, Louis Andriessen and Matthew Goodheart among many others. He has appeared on over 30 recordings on the Apestaartje, Evolving Ear, Black Saint, Leo, Beak Doctor, Emanem, Rastascan, Music & Arts, Nine Winds and 482 Music labels.

Hana Železná (CZ) works in film, video and video with connections to theater, music and performance. She studied art at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Prague. She studied documentary filmmaking at FAMU (2002-2009) and that at various creative workshops (Ruzickova, Janek, Třeščíková, Vachek). In 2009, completed an internship in Sub-Urban Video Lounge, Rotterdam. Since graduation she has worked as a radio writer for Czech Radio. While moving to different media (film, video, animation...), she is greatly concerned with visual properties of the image carrier as compared to the formal aspect of expressing intensely personal issues. Her work contains elements of distortion of the surface carriers, including decay and loss of image while copying. She uses degraded media surfaces rather as part of a wider dramaturgical framework in which blends personal references, formal procedures and specific properties of the medium. Her work has been presented at festivals including Arts Cottbus (DE) Kurtz Film FestHamburg (DE), Kurzfilmatge Oberhausen (DE), Illumination (FI), Short Ends London (UK), Shadow fest (NL), Next Reel (U.S.) and Sub-Urban video Lounge, Rotterdam(NL).

Al Margolis (US) was one of the prime movers in the legendary cassette underground scene of the 1980s (between 1984 and 1991 his Sound Of Pig label released over 300 cassettes of music by the likes of Merzbow, Costes, Amy Denio, John Hudak and Jim O'Rourke) and is the eminence grise behind twenty years of music under the name If, Bwana. He is the man behind the Pogus label, as well as label manager for Deep Listening, XI Records, and Mutable Music. He has recorded and/or performed with Pauline Oliveros, Ione, Joan Osborne, Adam Bohman, Ellen Christi, Fred Lonberg-Holm, Jane Scarpantoni, Ulrich Krieger, David First, Dave Prescott, Hal McGee, Sarah Weaver, Hudson Valley Soundpainting Ensemble, and Amoeba (Raft) Boy, among others.

Stanislav Abrahám (CZ) is an audiovisual performer, crossing over from pure sound art to more conceptual works. In addition to sound production, focuses on multimedia installations, video and intervention in public space. The starting point of his work is the pursuit of fulfilling the principles intermediality, as it was conceived by Dick Higgins in the sixties. He studies the Media Studies at FAMU (Film Academy) in Prague, professionally devoted to the recording studio and audio post-production in the audiovisual field.

Michal Rataj (CZ) is assistant professor of electroacoustic music at the Academy of Performing Arts, Prague. He studied musicology (Charles University, Prague) and composition (Academy of Performing Arts, Prague) with prof. Ivan Kurz and prof. Milan Slavický. He also went to study in Egham (UK) and Berlin (D) and as a Fulbright Scholar he conducted research in Center For New Music And Audio Technologies at University of California, Berkeley, CA in the academic year 2007 - 2008. He works also as a radio producer for acoustic arts at Czech Radio. He is a member of the EBU Ars Acustica Group, his music has been broadcast worldwide and performed throughout Europe and in the USA.

Ivan Boreš (CZ) was self-taught until the age of 25. He then studied for four-years at the Conservatoire in České Budějovice specializing in guitar under the tutelage of Emanuel Kúmell and then in music composition with Radek Rejšek and Jiří Churáček. He also studied for four years in the class of prof. Štěpán Rak at Academy of Performing Arts, Prague. Most of his concerts consist of his own music for quitter. His piece Nocturno op.2 won the Composer competition of PRO GUITARRA in 2007. He is an active guitarist performing chamber as well as solo synchronical compositions often using a quarter-tone and fretless guitars. Currently he is publishing a complete guitar recital which is called the "Obraz prvý."

Peter Szely (AT) works in the fields of (sound)installation, sound architecture, intermedia art, radio art, concerts, compositions, sound environments for theatre, performances as well as media and acoustic interventions in public space in China, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, The Netherlands, Norway, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Switzerland, Slovenia, The Czech Republic, USA. Since September 2003 he has been hosting in collaboration with Georg Weckwerth „Tonspur - für einen öffentlichen Raum“, a ongoing series of sound works by prestigious international and Austrian participants at q21, Museumsquartier Vienna.

Martin Janíček (CZ), sound artist, sculptor and musician, develops musical instruments from the inherent qualities of various materials. These are often interactive, minimalistic, and site-specific in nature. His performances and exhibitions have been seen world-wide including the following: Residence v Phoenix Studios, Brighton, England, 2005, Orbis Pictus aneb... 2006-2010, Labyrint světla - Čistička odpadních vod Praha, 2009, Kompozice pro pořad Radioatelier, ČR3 Vltava Kompozice a nahrávky pro Kunstradio, společně s Mia Zabelka, Franz Hautzinger, Zahra Mani, Martin Sievert OR3, Vídeň, Rakousko (Vienna), WKCR New York, společně s Michaeliem Deliou a Jessie Stiles, Živý hudební doprovod k němému filmu W. Pabsta Einer Seele, společně s M. Zabelka, F. Hautzinger, Z. Mani, video editace: Mia Makela Konzerthaus Wien, 2009, Soutěž NMIC, Atlanta, USA, 2010, Koncert v Českém národním domě, před Philleem Niblockem a B. Westbrookem, New York, 2010, Výstava Kaligrafie hlasu, Makráč, Praha, 2010, Moving silence, minifestival krátkých filmů s živým doprovodem galerie, Školská 28, Praha, 2010

Petr Ferenc (CZ) is a Prague-based turntablist, music journalist and promoter best known from the HIS Voice magazine and a band called *Birds Build Nests Underground* that links turntable improvisation with real-time 8mm, 16mm and 35mm film manipulation. He also plays turntables in other rock, *kosmische* and improvised projects such as Radio Royal. In the duo with Martin Janíček he uses pre-recorded drones to accompany the sound of Martin's unique instruments while in other duos and when playing solo, he explores a **no records no effects** approach.

Martin Blažíček (CZ) was born 1976, czech film / video maker, media artist. Graduated at Film academy in Prague (FAMU). Inspired by structural film of 60.-70. created a number of films on 8 and 16mm format since 1997. Since 2000 performed film and video live with various a-v projects, such as Ultra (2000-02) and Mikroloops (2007-11). Since mid-00s performed live improvised video based on wide range of inner / outer interactivity of sound, image and physical objects. He previously cooperated with Martin Ježek, Tonic Train, Guyla Nemes, Beth Custer, and others. In 2007-09 curated NoLab at Roxy / Nod Experimental space Prague, since 2010 curated ScreenLab at Školská 28 Gallery Prague. Founding member of Mediabase.cz project. He's published texts on music, film and media arts in Cinepur, A2, Film a doba and other journals. He teaches at the Center for Audiovisual studies at the Film academy of performing arts.

Krystof Topolski (PL) is a Polish experimental musician working with electronic music, percussion, audio art and multimedia. He performs under the pseudonym Arszyn, leads contemporary music workshops, and has also worked as curator at the "Łażnia" center for contemporary art. Topolski composes music for percussion, electronic and electroacoustic music. He is active in improvisation, live electronica and audio installations. He is co-founder of the Pracownia Ludzie Gdańsk project (1998-2000) and the Ludzie ensemble, where he played percussion and electronics. Topolski has also been a member of the bands Kobiety, Night Come, Red Rooster, Dzieci Kapitana Klossa and RogulusXSzwelas Project. He appears in many other solo projects under the pseudonym Arszyn.

Anja Kaufmann (CH) is an electronic composer and artist who expresses the definition of her observations and interests within sound systems which find their forms in installations, software, compositions, live plays and performances. Anja was born in Switzerland where she studied New Media. Influenced also by a biological approach, her works are concept-based and investigate such notions as scientific phenomena, social studies, and interdisciplinary information architecture. A realisation with Roman Häfeli is RadioSolarKompass, a programmed internet radio, which plays radio streams from all over the world depending on the Sunrise. Experimental electronica plays an important part in interpreting and processing her creations. The most intimate moments are shown in live plays, when she combines the elements in a personal eclecticism of minimal, slow beats, distortion, field recordings and voice processing.