

virtuoso flute players. He recently recorded baroque music on Baroque flute (for Quill Classics), but is equally at home in the avant-garde, lately in ensembles with vocalists Beth Griffith, his wife Mary Hurlbut, jazz improvisers Lenore von Stein, and guitarist Bern Nix. Andrew Bolotowsky lives in New York City.

>www.naxos.com/artistinfo/andrew_bolotowsky

Recorded Nola Studios, NYC, 2002; Marilyn Ries, mix and mastering engineer. Thanks to the Gaudeamus Foundation. ©2009 Tallapoosa Music, ASCAP.

6. Elizabeth Brown

Loons, from *Isle Royale Shakuhachi Duets* (4:43)

Elizabeth Brown, shakuhachi

Isle Royale Shakuhachi Duets (2005) were written during an artist residency in Isle Royale National Park, a US Biosphere Reserve in the middle of Lake Superior. Each movement is modeled on traditional Kinko School shakuhachi gestures, and uses the slightly overlapping phrase form of the famous shakuhachi duet *Shika no Tone*. The piece is dedicated to Ralph Samuelson, who performed the premiere with the composer at Roulette in New York City in 2006.

Elizabeth Brown combines a composing career with a diverse performing life, playing flute, shakuhachi, theremin, and dan bau (Vietnamese monochord) in a wide variety of musical circles. Her chamber music, shaped by this unique group of instruments and experiences, has been called luminous, dreamlike and hallucinatory. Brown's music has been heard in Japan, the Soviet Union, Colombia, Australia, and Vietnam, as well as across the US and Europe. She has received grants, awards and commissions from Orpheus, St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble, Newband, the Guggenheim Foundation, the Asian Cultural

Council, the Japan/US Friendship Commission, the Cary Trust, the Barlow Foundation, and NYFA.

>www.elizabethbrowncomposer.com

Recorded by the composer on July 9th, 2005 in Brooklyn, NY.

7. Daniel Goode

Tuba Thrush (14:52)

The Flexible Orchestra: Tara Simoncic, cond.

Tuba Thrush is a scoring of the harmony of one individual Hermit Thrush I made from my field recording of 1981 on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. The orchestra equals the sound of one "giant" thrush, a "tuba thrush." The unique structure of each individual's song of the species becomes in my mind a repeated chord progression, a "natural passacaglia," but with a twist: the bird orders its phrases with certain combinations coming more often than others. At the risk of jargon, I would call this a "weighted permutational passacaglia." It is a wonderful form! I first noticed this when listening to the hermit thrush in the woods of Cape Breton. I marveled at how each phrase when it returned was exactly the same. And I started to hear the combinations that returned more often than others. Sometimes I even anticipated what would come next. I've made many compositions of the melodies of the hermit and wood thrushes, like *Eight Thrushes, Accordion and Bagpipe* (on *Eight Thrushes in New York* on Frog Peak Records). This is the first realization I've made just of the harmony of a hermit thrush.

Daniel Goode, composer and clarinetist, was born in New York. His solo, ensemble and intermedia works have been performed worldwide. He is co-founder/director of the DownTown Ensemble, formed in 1983. He has been a performer and composer with Gamelan Son of Lion since 1976. He was a 2004 Fellowship recipient from the New

York Foundation for the Arts. The same year he founded the Flexible Orchestra, a new concept of orchestra. He has premiered four works for it since then, which are among the Flexible Orchestra's twenty-one new works.

>www.danielsgoode.com

Tara Simoncic conceived of the Flexible Orchestra in 1999, and made it a reality in 2004. It is a re-forming of the symphony orchestra so that a group of, say 15-20 musicians through strategic instrumentation has an orchestral sound: both the "mass" and the variety. For example: 10 trombones, 2 clarinets, 2 double basses, piano, percussion (the 2007 orchestra).

>http://eamusic.dartmouth.edu/~larry/flexible_orchestra/

Recorded by Ben Manley on Oct.16, 2009 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, NYC. Funding: New York State Council on the Arts, The Rosenberg Foundation, and private contributors.

8. David Simons

CIPHER (10:53)

The Downtown Ensemble: David Simons, zheng; Skip LaPlante, styrobab; Stephanie Griffin, viola; Alex Waterman, cello

CIPHER was written for string quartet in 1992. There are 17 musical gestures, each represented by a number. For example number 1 is "long downwards gliss", while number 12 is "sustain one note and whistle the same". There are no specific pitches indicated, but there are a few rhythmic motifs. It is up to the improvisational skills of the players and group interaction to decipher the music. A symbol next to the number indicates how you interpret the gesture: play it once; sustain it the entire length of the system; repeat; or repeat with different pitches. Each player's part is different, of course. The ensemble moves through the numbers together (2-14 seconds each)

sometimes exactly, sometimes overlapping. *CIPHER* could be performed by any type of string quartet. This was the premiere performance – the piece waited 16 years to get played!

David Simons is a composer and performer specializing in percussion, theremin, electronics, homemade instruments, and World music. Recordings of his works include 2 CDs on Tzadik *Prismatic Hearing* (2004) and *Fung Sha Noon* (2009); the opera *The Birth of George* (Tellus/Harvestworks) with Lisa Karrer (2003); 3 CDs for Gamelan Son of Lion (including *Sonogram* 2008 on in-nova), and on albums by God is My Co-Pilot, Stockhausen, Shelley Hirsch, Music for Homemade Instruments, Denman Maroney, Laura Andel, and many others. David's work in music for theater and dance has brought him to Europe, Asia, Guantanamo, Honolulu, and Bali. He has been awarded a Rockefeller Bellagio residency, NYFA fellowships, commissions, and travel awards. Simons' composition *Odentity* for the Harry Partch instruments was premiered by Newband in 2007. Recent premieres include the 2009 *GONG(hump)ing Ceremony* for gamelan. David is a graduate of California Institute of the Arts. His writings on music and sound are published in *Radiotexte* (Semiotexte#16), *EAR* magazine, and *Soundings*.

>www.simons-karrer.com

The DOWNTOWN ENSEMBLE was founded in 1983 by its co-directors Daniel Goode and William Hellermann in response to a perceived need for music of open (unspecified) instrumentation ranging from the completely notated to the minimally notated. This particular concert featured music by Betsey Biggs, Skip LaPlante and David Simons, with featured performers Stephanie Griffin and Alex Waterman. The SoundArt Foundation has produced and presented many premieres at the Renee Weiler Auditorium at Greenwich House, 46 Barrow Street in New York City's historic West Village.

>www.soundart.org

Engineer: Ben Manley. Producer: Downtown Ensemble. Recorded June 25, 2008 in concert at Greenwich House Music School, NYC.

9. JG Thirlwell

10 Ton Shadow (4:06)

JG Thirlwell is a composer/producer/performer based in Brooklyn who works under many pseudonyms including Foetus, Steroid Maximus, Manorexia, Baby Zizanie Clint Ruin and Wiseblood. If there is a common thread to his varied musical styles it is a dramatic intensity and an evocative, cinematic quality. He is also widely recognized for his remix and production work; mixing everyone from Nine Inch Nails to Excepter. He is also celebrated for his graphic design, which adorns his album sleeves. As of 2010 he has released thirty albums.

JG has composed commissions for Kronos Quartet, Bang On A Can and League of Electronic Musical Urban Robots and is a member of the "freq_out" sound-art collective, who create on-site sound and light installations. He also scores "The Venture Brothers", a hit cartoon show on Adult Swim/Cartoon Network.

>www.foetus.org

Composed, produced, performed and recorded by JG Thirlwell at Self Immolation Studios, Brooklyn, 2010.

Published by Ectopic Music.

10. Anne LeBaron, Wadada Leo Smith, Peter van Bergen

An Even Loan (11:51)

Anne LeBaron, harp; Wadada Leo Smith, trumpet; Peter van Bergen, woodwinds

An Even Loan emerged from an impromptu gathering in May 2007. The setting: Roy O. Disney Hall, at CalArts in

Valencia, California. The title of this music is anagrammatic, the source being the middle names of the three musicians: Anne (her first name being Alice); Leo, and Van. It also refers to the borrowed instrument played by Wadada Leo Smith. The piece showcases a spectrum of crisscrossing sonorities that each player has developed and refined over their collective years of explorations.

Anne LeBaron's compositions embrace an exotic array of subjects ranging from the mysterious Singing Dunes of Kazakhstan, and probes into physical and cultural forms of extinction, to the controversial cross-dressing Papessa Joanna. Widely recognized for her work in instrumental, electronic, and performance realms, she has received numerous awards and prizes, including a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, the Alpert Award in the Arts, a Fulbright Full Fellowship, an award from the Rockefeller MAP Fund. Her works have recently been performed in Sweden, Dresden, New York, Detroit, and Los Angeles.

>www.annelebaron.com

Ishmael Wadada Leo Smith, trumpeter and multi-instrumentalist, composer and improviser, has been active in creative contemporary music for over forty years. His systemic music language, Ankhshramation, is significant in his development as an artist and educator. Mr. Smith currently has three ensembles: Golden Quartet, Silver Orchestra, and Organic. His compositions have also been performed by other contemporary music ensembles: AACM-Orchestra, Kronos Quartet, Da Capo Chamber Player, New Century Players, San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, Contemporary Chamber Players (University of Chicago), S.E.M. Ensemble, among others.

>http://music.calarts.edu/~wls/

Peter J.A. van Bergen is known worldwide as a composer, improviser, and performer of contemporary music, his instruments being woodwinds, live electronics & computer. He is also a prolific organizer: Director of the International Institute for Improvisation, and Director of

the LOOS Foundation. He has received several commissions and long-term stipends from the Dutch Fund for Composition and the City of Amsterdam. Besides all his compositions for the LOOS Ensemble, he has written for soloists, ASKO Ensemble, De Volharding, Maarten Altena Ensemble, Holz Fuer Europa, Pianoduo Post & Mulder, and Zengea Karimba Ensemble (ZIM).

>www.petervanbergen.nl/

11. Eric John Eigner

Music for Faucet (2:16)

Eric John Eigner, faucet

This piece of music is credited to an amazing bathroom faucet in my old apartment in Bed-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn where I spent many a moment improvising pieces by manipulating the hot and cold water-knobs. This temperamental faucet would not always allow me to perform upon it as the temperature and water pressure in the pipes had to seemingly be just right to bring the faucet to life with sound. I controlled pitch and rhythm by adjusting the flow of the hot and cold water, and the opening of the valves. At these opportune moments, I amused myself (and likely exasperated my neighbors) by playing the faucet. When I decided to move, though impossible, I wanted to bring the faucet with me.

Eric John Eigner spent his formative years in Minneapolis, MN, where he was heavily involved in music for theatre, and dance, rock, jazz, and experimental bands. Eigner migrated to New York in 1994 to further develop his work. He plays drumset and Table-top Percussion and has released three CD's from his Mysterium Project on Eavesdrop Records, a label he created as a platform for contemporary work. Eigner works in a number of diverse Soundpainting projects and has performed with the Walter Thompson Orchestra, the Tours Soundpainting Orchestra,

and ZAHA. Eigner is currently working on two solo recordings as well as a duet recording with guitarist Bruce Holmberg. He has played with Steve Swell, Reuben Radding, Kenny Wollesen, CAVensemble, Mark Stewart, Sabir Mateen, Butch Morris, Anthony Braxton, John King, Daniel Carter, Nate Wooley, Burnt Sugar, and Steve Dalachinsky. Eigner has worked in a number of other bands, from Steve Albini produced Pillow Theory, to Earthdriver, a band made up of a wide variety of international talent, joining forces to create a unified musical and social statement. He is also a painter and photographer.

>www.mysteriumproject.com

12. Monteith McCollum

Flight (from the film "Hybrid") (3:56)

Monteith McCollum, violin and viola

Monteith McCollum is an independent filmmaker and musician. He has made several films that have received international recognition. His best-known work, *Hybrid*, received the IFP/Direct TV Truer Than Fiction Spirit Award and the NYFA Prize. Monteith has also been the recipient of a Rockefeller Fellowship, NEA Creative Arts Grant, and Kodak Film Stock awards. In 2008 he received a NYFA Fellowship for Music Composition. He continues to create his compositions in a barn full of instruments and objects that he can play both proficiently and remedially.

>www.thirtymilesfromanywhere.com

- Cover art: Sergio Sericolo

- Total time: 73:29