

Since 1988 he has released fourteen CDs as both a composer and a performer on Justin Time Records and, more recently, on the Ambiances magnétiques label. His most recent CDs are: *SCAT*, a collaboration with Australia's Topology Ensemble, *GO [guitar obsession]*, a solo project (2006), *Playing Guitar: Symphony #1* (2004), recorded with the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, and his one-act multimedia chamber opera *Three Cities in the Life of Dr. Norman Bethune* (2005), recorded with the Bradyworks ensemble and baritone Michael Donovan. His most recent major orchestral work is *The Choreography of Time: Symphony #2* (for saxophone quartet and orchestra), commissioned for the 2005 Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra New Music Festival.

Brady regularly tours North America, Europe, Asia and Australia as an electric guitar soloist, performing his own music as well as new works which he commissions from other composers in his effort to create a new voice for the electric guitar. He has performed at many leading venues including The South Bank Centre and the ICA (London), The Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival (UK), the Bang on a Can Festival (NY), and De Ijsbreker (Amsterdam), Radio-France (Paris), the Barcelona Contemporary Music Festival and BKA (Berlin). He has recorded extensively for Radio-Canada, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the British Broadcasting Corporation, Netherlands Public Radio, Radio-France, Spanish National Radio and National Public Radio in the USA. In 1999 his Strange Attractors World Tour took him to 10 countries for a total of 23 concerts. He was named "one of the thirty most important guitarists in the world for the future of instrument" by the prestigious American magazine *Guitar Player* in 1997.

His new music ensemble Bradyworks has toured Canada five times (1991, 1994, 2000, 2004, 2006), performed in the United States, and records regularly for both the CBC and Radio-Canada. The ensemble released its first CD in 1991, entitled *Inventions*, and released its second recording, *Revolutionary Songs*, in 1996 to coincide with its performance at the Festival international de musique actuelle de Victoriaville. In the autumn of 2003 the group released its third CD, entitled *Unison Rituals*, and presented its first European tour, including a radio performance for the BBC Radio 3 programme "Hear and Now", along with concerts in Aberdeen, Dublin and Cork. The ensemble recently presented Brady's two chamber operas in highly successful productions: *Three Cities in the Life of Dr. Norman Bethune* (Montreal, 2003; Toronto, 2005), and *The Salome Dancer* (Kitchener, 2005).

In January 2004 he was awarded the Prix OPUS for "Composer of the Year" by the Conseil québécois de la musique, for the outstanding quality of his work as a creative artist. In November 2006 he was awarded the Jan V. Matejcek Prize by SOCAN. In 2008 he was named composer-in-residence for the Orchestre symphonique de Laval, where he will work with conductor Alain Trudel in developing new works and new ideas around creative concert music.

In addition to his work as a composer and guitarist, from 1994 to 2004 he served as the Artistic Director of Innovations en concert, a company which he founded. It is one of Montreal's main new music producers, and during his tenure as director he produced over 100 concerts of contemporary music from across Canada and around the world. He also writes frequently for *Musicworks* magazine, and has served on the boards of Codes d'accès, The Canadian League of Composers and the Music Gallery. He is currently the President of the Canadian New Music Network.

Special thanks to Lauren Pratt for believing, to Stuart Fox for his extraordinary efforts at organizing this Los Angeles performance, and to all the L.A. players who said "yes" when they got the call.

## UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

January 24: Wolfgang von Schweinitz

January 28–February 1: Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes *Monsters and Prodigies: The History of the Castrati*

February 6–7: CEAIT Festival featuring Yasunao Tone and Marina Rosenfeld

# TIM BRADY

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January 23, 2009

8:30 pm

presented by

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater

California Institute of the Arts

CALARTS



# TIM BRADY

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January 23, 2009, 8:30pm

## PROGRAM

**GO** (1984/2006) U.S. premiere

***Invention #8: ...of Julie's Dance...*** (1990)

***Red Melisma*** (2000)

***20 Quarter Inch Jacks*** (2002)

1. Opening 2. Waves 3. Lassus 4. Metal 5. Harmonic Fields 6. An Alphabet of Guitarists 7. Big Chords 8. Closing

James Cabeza de Vaca, Blaire Chodor, Jack Cimo, Scott Collins, Stephen Decker, Stuart Fox, Trevor Gabriel, Josh Gerowitz, Max Gualtieri, Dmitry Koudymov, Ken Lasaine, Tom McNalley, John Mullen, Lars Panaro, Anna Perez, Ken Rosser, Nathan Tenney, Kevin Tiernan, Bryan Tysinger, Jeremy Zuckerman; Tim Brady, conductor

## INTERMISSION

***O is for Ostinato*** (2007) U.S. premiere

***Frame 22: Switch*** (2006)

1. Seconds 2. Liquid 3. Leaps 4. Singularity 5. Melismatic

***Memory Riot*** (2005)

Funded in part with generous support from Abby Sher.

## PROGRAM NOTES

**GO** (1984/2006)

Solos and loops for electric guitar, based around the note B, chromatic scales in contrary motion, and a hint of a minor blues.

***Invention #8: ...of Julie's Dance...*** (1990)

*Invention #8* is taken from a larger multi-media work entitled *Inventions*, created in 1989 in collaboration with choreographer Julie West. The piece takes various ideas from a longer duo for solo electric guitar and solo dancer and distills them into a short piece which focuses on trills and sustained notes, augmented by the use of distortion, volume pedal and digital delay.

***Red Melisma*** (2000)

A *melisma* is an ornate vocal phrase, full of subtle pitch bends and tonal shadings. I'm not quite sure why this one is red, but it is.

***20 Quarter Inch Jacks*** (2002)

Honest, this wasn't my idea! It's not my fault! *20 Quarter Inch Jacks* was commissioned in 2002 by the Festival international Les Coups de Théâtre, a festival of the arts for young artists, held every two years in Montreal. The idea was to bring together 20 young performers—specifically electric guitarists, with all the cultural associations that the instrument has!—and to use the work to create a sense of unity in diversity. The initial production used students from three very different parts of the city, with very different socio-economic backgrounds. The beauty of making music worked its usual magic and we all had a blast creating and performing the piece, playing to packed houses for three nights at the Festival.

The work divides into eight distinct sections, each one focusing on a different aspect of what the electric guitar can do (yes, it can do more than play loud...). The titles are pretty self-explanatory. For the record: it's Rémi Boucher's fault (director of the Coups de Théâtre festival)—it was his idea! He made me do it, honest!

***Frame 22: Switch*** (2006)

Guitar with live electronics: a work in five short movements, built around the rapid "switch" from one sound to another.

***Memory Riot*** (2005)

In three sections—fast / slow / fast—it's about the beat, and how you use it.

## ABOUT TIM BRADY

Known for his radiant orchestrations, his dramatic structures and his innovative guitar work, Canadian Tim Brady is a composer and guitarist who has created music in a wide range of genres ranging from chamber and orchestral music to electroacoustic works, chamber opera, contemporary dance scores, jazz and free improvisation. His work has been commissioned and performed by numerous ensembles and orchestras in North America and Europe including the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Société de musique contemporaine du Québec, New Music Concerts, INA-GRM (Radio-France), the English Guitar Quartet, the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, Esprit Orchestra (CBC), the Philadelphia-based Relâche ensemble, the Australian group Topology, and the British string ensemble The Smith Quartet.