

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

April 4–5: Gamelan Burat Wangi

April 8–12: Caden Manson/Big Art Group: *SOS*

April 15–17: Dance by Neil Greenberg: *Really Queer Dance with Harps*

April 22–26: Marc Bamuthi Joseph/The Living Word Project: *the break/s: amixtape*
for stage

May 12: Bach's Circle

For more information visit www.redcat.org

CRYPTONIGHTS

March 27, 2009
8:30pm

presented by

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater

California Institute of the Arts

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CRYPTONIGHTS

The Herb Alpert Creative Music Series

March 27, 2009, 8:30pm

PROGRAM

The Alex Cline Continuation Quintet

Jeff Gauthier – violin

Maggie Parkins – cello

Myra Melford – piano

Scott Walton – bass

Alex Cline – drums, percussion, kantele

INTERMISSION

Myra Melford and Be Bread

Cuong Vu – trumpet

Ben Goldberg – clarinets

Myra Melford – piano, harmonium

Stomu Takeishi – bass guitar

Matt Wilson – drums

Oguri – Special Guest

Funded in part with generous support from Abby Sher.

Cryptogramophone Records celebrates its ten-year anniversary with two concerts at REDCAT. Tonight, drummer/percussionist/composer Alex Cline presents his Continuation Quintet, and pianist/composer Myra Melford leads her ensemble Be Bread. Tomorrow night: The Nels Cline Singers and The Jeff Gauthier Goatette.

Stomu Takeishi is at his best when jumping headlong into another daring improvisation—taking chances and breaking the rules.

Cuong Vu has lent his talents to a wide range of artists including Pat Metheny, Laurie Anderson, David Bowie, Dave Douglas, Myra Melford, Cibo Matto, Mitchell Froom, and Chris Speed. Since moving to New York in 1994, Cuong has been actively leading various groups, and has toured extensively throughout the world while giving clinics and master classes throughout the US and Europe. Born in Saigon, Vietnam, he immigrated to Seattle at the age of 6 and began playing the trumpet at the age of 11. He was awarded a full scholarship at the New England Conservatory of Music where he received his Bachelor of Music in Jazz studies with a distinction in performance. Among his many awards and honors, he was awarded the Colbert Award for Excellence: The Downtown Arts Project Emerging Artist Award. In 2002 and 2006, Cuong was a recipient of the Grammy for Best Contemporary Jazz Album as a member of the Pat Metheny Group. Cuong has recently joined the faculty of the University of Washington's School of Music as an assistant professor of jazz studies and is a "Yamaha Performing Artist".

Scott Walton has performed with luminaries from across the stylistic spectrum of jazz and improvised music, including George Lewis, Vinny Golia, Wadada Leo Smith, and John Carter. Active projects include Cosmologic, the Alex Cline Ensemble, and the Jim McAuley/Scott Walton duo. As a pianist he has commissioned and premiered works by numerous composers, and has collaborated in web-networked multimedia performances. Walton is featured on recent CD releases: Alex Cline's *Continuation*, Cosmologic's *Eyes in the Back of My Head*, Ibsin/Gauthier/Walton's *Venice Suite*, and Harris Eisenstadt's *The All Seeing Eye*. He is a member of the San Diego-based Trummerflora Collective.

Matt Wilson has won numerous awards including the Jazz Journalists Association Drummer of the Year (twice), and #1 Rising Star Drummer in *Down Beat's* Critics Poll. As part of the lauded Jazz Composers Collective, Wilson works with Ted Nash, Ben Allison, and Frank Kimbrough and is featured every spring at the annual Collective festival at New York's Jazz Standard club. In addition, Wilson has worked with Dewey Redman, Andrew Hill, Jane Ira Bloom, Ray Anderson, Buster Williams and The Herbie Nichols Project (a Collective project), Bill Mays, Dena DeRose, Denny Zeitlin, Charlie Haden and saxophonist Lee Konitz.

In 2000–1, she studied North Indian music on the harmonium in Calcutta, reflecting her interest in expanding her sound palette beyond the piano and in incorporating non-Western elements into her compositions. Since returning to North America she has recorded and performed extensively as a soloist, in duet with reed player Marty Ehrlich, in larger ensembles such as The Tent, Trio M and Be Bread, and with multi-media and Butoh artists. As a composer, she has received numerous commissions and grants.

In 2004, she also moved into academia, joining the music faculty at the University of California, Berkeley, where she has developed and taught a series of courses in contemporary jazz and improvisation-based music for performers and composers in addition to lecturing on innovations in jazz since the 1960s and other topics in contemporary improvised music.

Maggie Parkins is equally at home in chamber music, orchestral music and the avant-garde. An advocate for new and experimental music, Ms. Parkins, with the Eclipse String Quartet, has commissioned or premiered numerous works from composers including Carla Kihlstedt, David Jaffe and Phillippe Bodin. Maggie is also a member of the Mojave Piano Trio and the Robin Cox Ensemble. She has performed with groups including the Jazz Passengers and the Anthony Braxton Ensemble, has recorded extensively with harpist Zeena Parkins, accordianist Guy Klusevsek and guitarist Elliott Sharp. As an orchestral performer, she has performed under the batons of Seiji Ozawa and Leonard Bernstein. She was a prizewinner in the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition with the Stonybrook Piano Trio. Ms. Parkins has performed at festivals such as the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, the Banff Centre, Festival, Internacional Festival de Musica de Cadaques and Tanglewood. She studied at the Eastman School of Music and received her D.M.A. from SUNY at Stony Brook. She has taught cello and chamber music at UC Irvine since 1997.

Stomu Takeishi was born in Mito, Japan in 1964. He came to the US in 1983 to attend Berklee College of Music. He has performed around the world with Don Cherry, Henry Threadgill, Dave Liebmann, Mick Goodrick, Paul Motian, Myra Melford, Cuong Vu, Badal Roy, David Tronzo, Erik Friedlander, Tony Malaby and many others. Over the twenty years that he has resided in the US, Stomu Takeishi's reputation as a talented and innovative bass player has earned him features in many international jazz festivals. Like a white-water rafter going over the falls,

PROGRAM NOTES

The Alex Cline Continuation Quintet

Combining composition and improvisation, Alex Cline's music blends subtle and breathtaking shifts in timbre, texture and mood that bespeak dance, meditation and the way in which polarities merge to form the infinite simplicity invoked in every moment. The following poem is printed in the liner notes for Cline's newest CD entitled *Continuation*, the release of which is being celebrated tonight:

An Orchid Stem

The wonderful transmission
Heart to heart
Is just an orchid branch
And a cup of morning tea.
The unending deep silence
—Thây Giac Thanh

(from *Scattered Memories*, 2006 by Thây Giac Thanh with permission of Parallax Press, Berkeley, CA)

Myra Melford and Be Bread

Myra Melford calls her ensemble Be Bread, from a poem by the Sufi poet Rumi called "The Image of Your Body" (also the title of Melford's 2007 Cryptogramophone release). Of this CD Melford has written, "One of the things I notice about this music is the layers of simultaneous activity, not unlike life in modern-day India: a continual bombardment of the senses and a mingling of the peace of the ancient with the hustle of the present. In Calcutta, in particular, the commotion can be overwhelming, yet at the same time I experienced incredible joy and a certain calmness at the heart of it all."

The Image of Your Body

You've made it out of the city,
That image of your body, trembling with traffic
And fear slips behind.
Your face arrives in the redbud trees, and the tulips.

You're still restless.
Climb up the ladder to the roof.
You're by yourself a lot,
Become the one that when you walk in,
Luck shifts to the one who needs it.
If you've not been fed, be bread.

—Rumi

(from *Open Secret: Versions of Rumi* by John Moyne and Coleman Barks;
Threshold Books, Putney, VT)

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

Alex Cline is a percussionist-composer who has been a mainstay on the jazz and new music scenes of Los Angeles for over thirty-five years, his endeavors having established for him a career international in scope. Combining colorful and sensitive percussion sounds with a drumming foundation based in the jazz tradition, Cline is recognized for his contributions to the music of such artists as Vinny Golia, Julius Hemphill, Bobby Bradford, Tim Berne, Richard Grossman, John Carter, Don Preston, Horace Tapscott, Gregg Bendian, Joseph Jarman, Wadada Leo Smith, Charlie Haden, and countless others, having toured extensively in North America and Europe and having appeared on almost a hundred recordings. His work as a composer and bandleader has been documented on four recordings with his group, the Alex Cline Ensemble: *The Lamp and The Star* (ECM), *Montsalvat* (Nine Winds), *Sparks Fly Upward*, and *The Constant Flame* (both on Cryptogramophone), all receiving considerable critical acclaim. His newest Cryptogramophone CD, *Continuation*, has just been released. Alex has spearheaded some notable improvisational group collaborations as well, such as the trio Cline-Gauthier-Stinson and the quartet Cloud Plate (with Kaoru, Miya Masaoka, and G.E. Stinson), both of which have released CDs. He has also been heard on numerous film soundtracks and in collaboration with many dancers and visual artists. Alex's current musical associations include those with the Arthur Blythe Quintet, the Jeff Gauthier Goatette, Steuart Liebig's Seconda Prattica, the Tom McNalley Trio, George McMullen, Philip Gelb, and Open Gate Theatre.

Jeff Gauthier has been named a *Down Beat* "Rising Star" violinist and producer for several years running. As an improvising violinist he has performed and/or recorded with ensembles led by Scott Amendola, Alex Cline, Mark Dresser, Vinny Golia, Yusef Lateef, Steuart Liebig, Adam Rudolph, Todd Sicksafoose and many others. The Jeff Gauthier Goatette has recorded five CDs including *Internal Memo* and *The Present* for Nine Winds, and *Mask, One and the Same*, and *House of Return* for Cryptogramophone. As a member of the ensemble Quartet Music, he recorded four albums, was recipient of two NEA grants, and performed twice as soloist with the Milwaukee Symphony. He has performed with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Music Center Opera, Los Angeles Master Chorale, Long Beach Symphony, the Oregon Bach Festival and the Carmel Bach Festival. Gauthier is a graduate of California Institute of the Arts.

Ben Goldberg grew up in Denver, Colorado. He received his undergraduate music degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a Master of Arts in composition from Mills College. He was a pupil of the eminent clarinetist Rosario Mazzeo, and studied with Steve Lacy and Joe Lovano. In addition to composing for and playing in the Ben Goldberg Quintet, he currently performs in the following groups: Tin Hat, plays monk, Myra Melford's Be Bread, Nels Cline's New Monastery, and Go Home, a new quartet with Charlie Hunter, Ron Miles, and Scott Amendola. The 11-piece Brainchild performs Goldberg's on-the-spot compositions. Ben's group New Klezmer Trio, "Kicked open the door for radical experiments with Ashkenazi roots music" (*San Francisco Chronicle*). Ben's upcoming releases include a quintet recording of recent compositions featuring Joshua Redman and Ron Miles, and the initial record by the group Go Home. Ben has worked with John Zorn, Bill Frisell, Roswell Rudd, Wayne Horvitz, Don Byron, Mark Feldman, Ellery Eskelin, Zeena Parkins, Mark Dresser, Vijay Iyer, Miya Masaoka, Jenny Scheinman, Steven Bernstein, Cuong Vu, Larry Ochs, and Adam Levy.

Myra Melford is an improvising pianist and composer and a sonic explorer whose career has been defined by a restless curiosity and openness to collaborative creativity. Since her debut album in 1990 she has appeared on more than 30 recordings, including 19 as leader or co-leader, and performed around the world in a wide variety of settings. Together, this work has established her as a distinctive voice with what Duke Ellington scholar Reuben Jackson called "a commitment to refreshing, often surprising uses of melody, harmony and ensemble playing."