

to Chicago and New York, and beyond. For more visit [www.scottamendola.com](http://www.scottamendola.com).

**Devin Hoff** works the double bass, the bass guitar, and writes songs. He grew up in Colorado, where he did not learn to fish, hunt, ski, or camp, and he did not go to college. Since the early 1990s he has been living in the San Francisco Bay Area. He is a member of The Nels Cline Singers, Good For Cows, Plays Monk, and the Devin Hoff Platform. In addition, he regularly works with other great musicians, such as Carla Bozulich, Ben Goldberg, Odessa Chen, John Dieterich, Jewlia Eisenberg, Howard Wiley, Steven Bernstein, Carla Kihlstedt, Tony Malaby, Julian Lage, Ron Miles, Mary Halvorson, Jessica Pavone, and many others. Devin has played on hundreds of recordings and thousands of shows throughout the world. In his spare time he collects (and reads) anarchist books, threatens to become a writer, and volunteers with worthy independent organizations such as the Prisoners Literature Project, the Kate Sharpley Library, and AK Press. He is not now, nor has he ever been, a retired hockey player.

Joel Hamilton, who was introduced to Don Preston by Alex Cline, is admired by keyboardist Preston for his ability to make sense out of the composer's often difficult, constantly changing music. Joel has performed with Eddie Daniels, Edgar Meyer, Clare Fischer, Dave Koz, Gary Foster and Dave Grusin. Joel Hamilton has recorded CDs with Mare Winningham, Paul Carman, Vinny Golia, Jeff Gauthier, Jim Self and others as well as having been featured on a number of film scores. In 1982 and 1983 he won fellowships to the Aspen Music Festival where he studied with Stuart Sankey. Joel can be seen currently performing as part of the Gregg Bendian Trio, the Jeff Gauthier Goatette and the Brad Dutz Quartet.

**David Witham** has toured and recorded with artists such as George Benson, Michael and Randy Brecker, Patti Austin, k.d. lang, Jose Feliciano, Eddie Harris, Charles McPherson, and Joao Bosco, to name only a few. Born in Greenwood, Indiana in 1957, Witham began musical studies at age 7 with Louise Knudsen, and later continued with Alan Broadbent and Jaki Byard. He graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music in 1980, winning awards for excellence in both jazz and contemporary classical music. After touring the world with various pop artists in the '80s, Witham became Musical Director for George Benson in 1989. Around this time, through bassist Eric von Essen, Witham hooked up with Jeff Gauthier and many of the other musicians on the Los Angeles new music scene. "I kind of felt like I was wandering the desert at that time " recalls Witham. "When I met these musicians, I really felt like I was home again. " In addition to a long-standing association with the Jeff Gauthier Goatette, Witham also records, composes, and performs with the Ernie Watts Quartet, Jay Anderson, Luis Conte, and his own groups. Witham is also involved in the Los Angeles recording scene, playing and composing for film, television, and album projects, including Jim Carrey's "The Mask ", documentaries for PBS, and educational videos. David's 2007 CD *Spinning the Circle* is available on Cryptogramophone.

#### 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

## CRYPTONIGHTS

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March 28, 2009

8:30 pm

presented by

REDCAT

Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater

California Institute of the Arts

CALARTS

REDCAT

# CRYPTONIGHTS

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## The Herb Alpert Creative Music Series

March 28, 2009 | 8:30pm

### PROGRAM

#### The Jeff Gauthier Goatette

Jeff Gauthier – violin, effects

Nels Cline – guitars, effects

David Witham – piano, keyboards, effects

Joel Hamilton – bass

Alex Cline – drums, percussion

### INTERMISSION

#### The Nels Cline Singers

Nels Cline – guitars, voice, Megamouth, effects

Devin Hoff – basses

Scott Amendola – drums, percussion, 'live' electronics/loops/treatments

Funded in part with generous support from Abby Sher.

**Cryptogramophone Records** celebrates its ten-year anniversary with two concerts at REDCAT. Tonight, violinist Jeff Gauthier presents his Goatette, an ensemble that varies between 4 and 5 musicians, depending on the availability of the guitarist. The Nels Cline Singers round out the two-night series in triumphant fashion. Tonight we're also celebrating the release of Nels Cline's first solo CD called *Coward*, on Cryptogramophone.

### ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

**Jeff Gauthier** is a violinist, composer, producer, and label owner who has been named a *Down Beat* "Rising Star" as violinist and producer for several years running. He has worked with many prominent musicians in a variety of creative contexts during a career that has spanned over 30 years. As an improvising violinist he has performed and/or recorded with ensembles led by Scott Amendola, Alex Cline, Mark Dresser, Vinny Golia, Yusef Lateef, Stuart Liebig, Adam Rudolph, Todd Sickafoose 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 a recipient of two NEA grants, and performed twice as soloist with the Milwaukee Symphony. In a former life as a classical violinist, Gauthier performed regularly 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. He performed on the 2000 Grammy Award-winning CD *Credo*, by Krzysztof Penderecki with the Oregon Bach Festival Orchestra and Chorus.

As founder of Cryptogramophone Records and a producer of jazz and new music recordings, Gauthier has worked with such luminaries as Alan Broadbent, Alex Cline, Nels Cline, Mark Dresser, Peter Erskine, Bill Frisell, Bennie Maupin, Myra Melford, Jimmy Rowles, Stacy Rowles, Alan Pasqua, Don Preston, Jenny Scheinman, Scott Amendola, and many others, having produced CDs for Cryptogramophone, Delos and Nine Winds Records. Gauthier also founded and co-produced the long running Cryptonight new music concert series at the Club Tropical in Los Angeles, and the Inner Ear concert series in Culver City. Currently he co-curates (with David Witham) the First Fridays series at the Museum of Neon Art in Downtown LA, and is assisting with the production of the 2009 Angel City Jazz Festival.

It is a little-known fact that Jeff Gauthier is a graduate of California Institute of the Arts.

**Nels Cline** was born in Los Angeles in 1956. After almost 30 years of playing guitar in rock, jazz, and free/avant-garde music on well over 100 recordings and with groups all over the world, people now know him mostly as the "lead" guitarist in the rock band Wilco. He continues to collaborate with improvisers and songwriters, and his first all-solo recording, *Coward*, was released this year on Cryptogramophone. His trio, The Nels Cline Singers, has been together for almost eight years and has just recorded its fourth effort, which has yet to be titled. Their first three records are also on Cryptogramophone.

Cline's earliest musical influences included Roger McGuinn, Jimi Hendrix, Jeff Beck, John Fahey, and Duane Allman. Cline claims his most valuable music training came from his work with bassist/multi-instrumentalist Eric von Essen, with whom he performed as a duo from 1977 until von Essen's untimely death in 1997. In the late 1970s, Cline formed the influential chamber-jazz group Quartet Music with von Essen, his brother, percussionist Alex Cline, and violinist Jeff Gauthier.

Cline's first appearance on an album was woodwind player Vinny Golia's 1978 record, *Openhearted*, and his first work as a bandleader was 1988's *Angelica* with New York City alto saxophonist Tim Berne. Since then, Cline has performed on over 100 albums in the jazz, pop, rock, country, and experimental music genres. Some of the musicians he has performed and/or recorded with include: Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Rickie Lee Jones, Julius Hemphill, Charlie Haden, Tim Berne, Mark Dresser, Bobby Bradford, Elliott Sharp, Thurston Moore, Gregg Bendian, Mark Isham, The Geraldine Fibbers, Thurston Moore, Mike Watt, Devin Sarno, Zeena Parkins, Wadada Leo Smith, Henry Kaiser, The Scott Amendola Band, Banyan, The Jeff Gauthier Goatette, and Carla Bozulich.

Mr. Cline still resides in the L.A. area, and when not touring, his hobbies include attempting to finish books recommended to him by smart visionary individuals, and cooking food without recipes.

**Scott Amendola** - Music writer Derk Richardson's oft-quoted observation that "If Scott Amendola didn't exist the San Francisco music scene would have to invent him," is truer than ever. But what's become evident in recent years is that the extraordinarily resourceful drummer has evolved into a paragon of self-invention, a bandleader, composer and invaluable creative collaborator at the center of a vast array of improvisational ensembles. While rooted in the San Francisco Bay Area scene, Amendola has woven a dense and far-reaching web of bandstand relationships that tie him to influential figures in jazz, blues, groove, rock and new music. An organizer by nature, he has become a creative nexus for a community of musicians stretching from Los Angeles and Seattle