

Le Weekend 2009

29, 30 & 31 May
TOLBOOTH

STIRLING'S NO LIMITS MUSIC FESTIVAL

artist biogs

FRI 29 MAY

NEIL DAVIDSON

Neil Davidson is a guitarist based in Glasgow. His performing work ranges from collaborative compositions for classical players to numerous improvisational encounters with musicians from around the world. Currently researching a PhD at Glasgow University on improvisation, performance and philosophies of the event and body, he also teaches there. He plays regularly with the Glasgow Improvisers Orchestra, in a performance and research project with Aileen Campbell and in the Aporias trio with Tatsuya Nakatani and Raymond MacDonald. He has recently embarked on a collaboration with theatre director/performer Maria Gil.

RAYMOND MACDONALD

Raymond leads the Glasgow Caledonian Music Psychology Research Group. After completing his PhD at the University of Glasgow, investigating therapeutic applications of music, he worked as Artistic Director for a music company, Sounds of Progress, specialising in working with people who have special needs.

As a saxophonist and composer his recorded output can be heard on over 30 CDs and he performs internationally with some of the world's leading improvising musicians including Evan Parker, Keith Tippett, George Lewis and Barry Guy. He co-leads The George Burt / Raymond MacDonald Quartet and is a founder member and key player in The Glasgow Improvisers Orchestra (the premier league of the international improvisation scene - Sueddeutsche Zeitung).

EARLY SONGS

Early Songs is the pseudonym of sole member and multi-instrumentalist, David Scott. After scoring several short films in 2003, David began making his own instrumental, guitar-based music. Stirred from sleep by the finger-style guitar of Mississippi John Hurt, the many marvellous sounds of the Penguin Cafe Orchestra and the places visited by the Dirty Three, Early Songs awoke one morning in 2004 to begin its own journey.

NEW

A new improv trio from drummer Steve Noble (Derek Bailey/Steve Buckley...), bassist John Edwards (Evan Parker/Tony Bevan...) and guitarist Alex Ward (Thurston Moore/Butch Morris...), N.E.W. marries the unbridled instrumental creativity of free jazz with the chaos and abrasion of noise-rock.

CARLA BOZULICH & EVANGELISTA

Carla Bozulich is an American musician based in Los Angeles, known for her work as the lead singer of The Geraldine Fibbers and as a founding member of Ethyl Meatplow. Her 2006 album, Evangelista, was released by Constellation Records, and is their first release by a non-Canadian artist. In the past year, she has also named her ever-evolving touring group "Evangelista" despite the fact that the only other constant musician is bassist Tara Barnes. In keeping with this change, her most recent album, Hello, Voyager was released under the band name Evangelista. In addition to singing and composing music, she is known to play guitar and work with samples and sound experimentation. She was born in New York City.

For more information and images contact Eddie White / white@stirling.gov.uk / 01786 27 4007



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BRIAN IRVINE

Born in Belfast Brian Irvine's huge body of work includes orchestral works, chamber music, operas, film scores as well as solo and ensemble pieces. His work has involved commissions and collaborations with many international artists ranging from opera companies and orchestras to DJs and Japanese rock guitar virtuosos. His music is a wild untamed concoction of all things.

BILLY LETFORD

Billy Letford lives in Stirling. He has performed his work in various places including The Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow and the 08:43 train from Stirling (more than once).

KRISTIAN ST. CLAIR

Writer, Director, and Producer Kristian St. Clair graduated with a degree in broadcast journalism from the University of Washington. He has worked on numerous local TV productions, including Bill Nye the Science Guy. He currently works for Amazon.com. This is his first film.

THE DUCK BAKER TRIO

Duck Baker is one of the most highly regarded fingerstyle guitarists of his generation. His repertoire ranges from traditional Irish music through old-time mountain music and bluegrass to blues, gospel, ragtime, swing and modern jazz.

BILL THOMPSON

Bill Thompson has been an active composer, performer, and sound artist for over ten years in the United States and United Kingdom. His works include acoustic, electro-acoustic, live electronic, tape, and digital media, including sound installation and video. Performing across the U.S. and U.K. he has been featured on various radio stations and webcasts including resonance fm, fieldworks, quiet american's one minute vacations, soundtransit, and the bbc.

JOHN EDWARDS

Since 1995 bassist John Edwards has become a "mainstay" of the London scene, playing with just about everybody, an activity that has seen him clocking up between 150 and 200 gigs a year. He has become regular player with Evan Parker, in many groupings, and with Tony Bevan, Vervan Weston, and Elton Dean, often in collaboration with Mark Sanders on percussion. He has become a more frequent player on the European (and festival) scene, appearing at Taktlos, Ulrichsburg, Nickelsdorf, Budapest, New Zealand and in the USA. He continues to work on solo performances.

TRIO ARCO

Parisian bassist Claude Tchamitchian belongs to the generation of musicians that arose in the early 1990s and redefined the French new jazz in the footsteps of Louis Sclavis. Comfortable in free improvisation settings but still embracing the jazz tradition, Tchamitchian's playing is well-rounded and graceful, melodious yet creative. His main project as a leader is his group Lousadzak and he plays sideman duties for Stéphan Oliva, Eric Watson, Raymond Boni, François Corneloup, Yves Robert and Rémi Charmasson on a regular basis.

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DREW MULHOLLAND & ADRIAN UTLEY

Drew Mulholland - formerly of Mount Vernon Arts Lab, and now holder of the unusual role of composer-in-residence at Glasgow University's geography department. His spooky 2001 orchestral album, *The Séance at Hobs Lane*, a new soundtrack for *Quatermass and the Pit*, was the inspiration for the creation of *Ghost Box*.

Adrian Utley is a jazz guitarist from Bristol, England who is most widely known for his musical direction, guitar work and production of the trip hop band *Portishead*.

Utley not only excels at guitar, but also bass, piano, moog synthesizer and horn and string arrangements.

EDDIE MARCON

In the all-female duo *Coa*, Eddie Corman trades on volume and velocity in a howling rock beast that could well fit the bill soundtracking an apocalyptic horror movie. Both Eddie and Marcon first played together in an early incarnation of *LSD-March*, psych-blasted legends of the Japanese underground. Combining their names to form a new endeavour into Japanese acid folk, Eddie and Marcon as *Eddie Marcon* have been working in much quieter tones to make delicate, gorgeous and esoteric music.

JULIAN HOUSE

House releases music under the alias *The Focus Group* on the label *Ghost Box Music*, which he is co-founder of with Jim Jupp. The releases on the label tend to share a common aesthetic, both in design and sound, which draws heavily on the sound of the BBC Radiophonic Workshop, *musique concrete*, the soundtracks to documentaries from the 1970s, and library music.

MUSCLES OF JOY

Muscles of Joy are Anne-Marie Copestake, Arika Portoeus, Charlotte Prodger, Jenny O'Boyle, Katy Dove, Leigh Ferguson, Sophie Macpherson and Victoria Morton. They have been jamming together for over a year and gradually these improvised sessions have become songs.

THE RADIATION LINE

Central Scotland based drone/ambient/folk/noise/avant-garde collective. They currently have Five limited Edition CDr-EPs; EP1, EP2, *The Dust of Exploded Beliefs May Make a Fine Sunset* and the most recently released - *No Tears for Silver Healers*. Have been known to work and play with other bands, musicians and artists in both the recording and live environment.

TREMBLING BELLS

After serving apprenticeships with some uniquely talented songwriters (Bonnie Prince Billy, Jandek, Baby Dee, Alasdair Roberts, Red Krayola, Richard Youngs, Josephine Foster, Current 93 et al), Alex Neilson has formed a new song-based group who seek to reanimate the psychic landscapes of Great Britain and relocate them to some vague, mythic land where basic human crises are encountered and conquered via a love for canonical rock, traditional folk and Earlie Musik.

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DIMENSION X

The path-treading encounter of Massimo Pupillo (ZU/Thurston Moore/Mike Patton...), Chris Corsano (Björk/Paul Flaherty...) and David Chalmin (Patti Smith/Giovanni Sollima) –rock/noise/experimental improvisers - with the universe of the 50s cult science-fiction radio show Dimension X. Building on many hours of raw, instinctive and live improvised material.

JAZZSTEPS & THE MOODY BOYZ

This year, to bring the 12th panoply of sound that is Le Weekend to a head-spinning, thumping finale we have decided to go outside the comfort zone and take the festival in an entirely different direction.

Dubstep has been baring the sonic wires on the club scene for a few years now but Jazzsteppa bring acoustic instruments into their take of the dark urbanity and technology driven sound. Joined by dubstep legend Tony Thorpe and his Moody Boyz DJ mixes and effects, this should be a fitting end and mark a new beginning for the festival.

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