Press Release
May 2007

Noise! 2007
May 10, 11, & 12, Ontological Hysteric Theater, Manhattan

free103point9 is pleased to organize Noise! 2007. Founded in 2005, and presented annually as part of the Ontological’s “Incubator” program, Noise! is a three-night multi-arts event designed to promote interest in new forms of sound art. The festival will feature short compositions and performances by established and emerging artists.

Each evening opens with a Radio 4x4 as the audience enters the theater. free103point9’s Radio 4x4 is a collaborative radio transmission happening. Four simultaneous audio performances are separately sent through FM transmitters to radios positioned throughout a performance space. Each radio receives only one of the signals, so that the audience becomes an active collaborator in the performance, "mixing" the audio feeds by moving about the space among the four signals.

Thursday, May 10, 10 p.m. Curated by Giancarlo Bracchi.
Opening Radio 4x4 with Radio Ruido + DJ North Guinea Hills + Tom Roe + Todd Cavallo.
Maria Chavez
Hell’s Hills
Giancarlo Bracchi
Talibam!

Friday, May 11, 11 p.m. Curated by Kyle Lapidus.
Opening Radio 4x4 with Nick Lesley + Stanley Ruiz + Fritz Welch + Giancarlo Bracchi.
Gunung Sari
The Peesesseye
Bruce McClure

Saturday, May 12, 10 p.m. Curated by Radio Ruido
Opening Radio 4x4 with Bryan Eubanks + Micheal Garofalo + Patrick McCarthy + Jeremy Slater.
The Holy Experiment
Uncle Woody Sullender
George Steeltoe Ensemble

Audio and video of all performances will be streamed live on free103point9 Online Radio (www.free103point9.org).

About the artists:

Giancarlo Bracchi (aka Mangoon) creates decaying wastelands of sound through processed howls, guttural zombie moans, feedbacking guitar and flushing toilets. "(Mangoon) combines speaker-punishing electronics and percussion with throat-shredding vocals. There are moments here that could pass for the drummer from The Trashmen leading Neubauten through a junkyard re-think of "Surfin’ Bird", while other parts are so unequivocally blunt they could take your face off. This is some supremely diseased lo-fi grudge: if you dig Lux Interior as much as Richard Rupenus, this is a great one to strap to your mug." - David Keenan

Todd Cavallo
Born in Lima, Peru in 1980, Maria Chavez became a club DJ in Houston, Texas at the age of 17, and eventually met her mentor David Dove (Director of the Pauline Oliveros Foundation-Houston) who convinced her to improvise on the turntables and since then has been totally dedicated to improvised music. Maria has a degree in Audio Engineering and is working full time on her experimental music. She calls it "improvised/abstract turntablism", and it consists of all electro-acoustic sounds from only vinyl and needle. She melts and mutates all forms of vinyl and has a collection of eight broken styluses (and counting) that all get different sounds.

Bryan Ebanks is originally from the Pacific Northwest of the US. He works with the Soprano Saxophone and an electronic instrument incorporating open-circuits and samplers. He began playing music in Portland, Oregon and has presented concerts across the US and Europe in real-time and improvised settings. He has played extensively with Joseph Foster, Andrew Lafkas, Jean-Paul Jenkins, Doug Theriault, and Leif Sundstrom in the duo God. His music is mostly collaborative, and he also works solo in live settings and sound installations. He has released recordings on Rasblutto, a label he co-founded in 2001, as well as Jyrek, Creative Sources, Super Unity, EMR, and Little Enjoyer.

Artists Michael Garofalo and Patrick McCarthy began performing as Latitude/Longitude in 2004. Teasing melodies out of prepared and alternately tuned guitars while electronics murmur in a nest of instrument cables at their feet, the duo weave electro-acoustic dream songs from cross-circuit chaos. Latitude/Longitude continue to work with diverse sonic materials: test oscillators, homemade cassette tape and field recordings, radio transmissions (FM/AM/SW/CB), and toy electronics (broken and functional), as well as more traditional instruments, such as pedal steel guitar, banjo, mbira, and voice.

In 1999 The George Steeltoe Ensemble began experimenting in free jazz and other improvisational forms through weekly "church" sessions at the Lexington, KY home of Brian and Elisa Osborne. Since its inception the Ensemble has taken many shapes, performing throughout the Midwest and South and participating actively in New York's free music community. Currently the Ensemble is comprised of a rotating field of multi-instrumental improvisers and performing artists, and performances have combined music with improv dance, performance art, and street parades.

Gunung Sari is an experimental electronic noise duo composed of Nick Lesley and Stanley Ruiz. based in Brooklyn, New York. The name means "Mountain's Essence" in Bahasa Indonesia - a tribute to their love of Gamelan music and the ceremonies and rituals that go along with it. Their music is a hybrid of improvised electronics bordering on noise. They use analog electronics, homebrew rudimentary synths, handcrafted wearable noisemakers, hacked radios, and percussions. At times they also do live audio-video processing using the computer.

"I caught up with the ragtag ambient/noise/improv/drone collective known as Hells Hills at a local NYC coffee shop. The quintet has been performing their strange music around the city for the better part of two years and are steadily gathering steam. I found them evocative, enigmatic and sheepishly grim." - Javier Kensky for Ethereal Streetdust Magazine.

The Holy Experiment is the solo performance of Brooke Hamre Gillespie. Gillespie writes. "My work is intended to reach not only those in the immediate area who listen, but consciousness is given to the sounds and vibrations produced with insight into the idea that all vibration is interactive and that a sound originated on earth eventually makes its way through the cosmos -intergalactically, evolutionary, and inter-dimensionally reaching all interplanetary and interstellar life. Sound is the medicine of the PRESENT for NOW and the FUTURE."

Nick Lesley is a multimedia artist and musician. His work focuses on the physicality of sound and the relationships the body can have with the invisible forces of electronic manipulation. Lesley performs frequently as an improvising musician. He performs as part of the ensembles Necking, Gunung Sari, and Jazzhandzz, and is the founder of the Orbis Tertius Ensemble.

Patrick McCarthy (see Michael Garofalo.)

Filmmaker Bruce McClure does some unbelievable things with projectors. Using small perforated metal plates, film loops, specially modified projectors (up to four at a time), and other tinkered bits, McClure creates abstracted Rorschachs of light and dark, Rothko-like patterns and textures, swirling and pulsing shapes and shadows, and other visual phantasmagoria which will please the eye and boggle the brain. His work has been screened at the Whitney Biennial, the London Film Festival, the Walter Reade Theater at Lincoln Center, the Ann Arbor Film Festival, and many other venues and festivals across the U.S. and Europe.

Aaron Halley, aka DJ North Guinea Hills, started djing in Florida while in various noise/improv combos before emerging in the New York music scene through DJ Olive and Toshio Kajiwara's weekly event, Phonomena. His groups run the gamut from primitive dadaist hip hop to realizations of works by Bernard Parmegiani and Steve Reich to free psyche folk.

The Peesesseye and its many offshoots (Phantom Limb & Bison, Pee in My Face With Surgery, collaborations with Tetuzi Akiyama and Stephen O'Malley, releases on Utech, Chocolate Monk, Archive, etc.) have been slinging mud and clawing at the foundations of the experimental noise underground for over five years. Family Vineyard honcho Eric Weddle recently wrote in Signal to Noise that "Commuting Between the Surface & the Underworld, Peesesseye's new and fourth full-length, is arguably the most remarkable smorgasbord of back porch minimalism, sound poetry and urban decay of recent memory."
Radio Ruido encompasses radio projects initiated by artist Tom Mulligan. Working both solo and in collaboration, these projects entail both composed installations as well as various improvised live sound situations. Often site-specific in content, they seek to challenge conventional concepts of radio as well as exploring and challenging the physicality of the performance space.

Tom Roe is a sound transmission artist sometimes known as DJ Dizzy. He co-founded microradio stations 87X in Tampa, Florida and free103point9 in Brooklyn, New York. Roe performs with transmitters and receivers using multiple bands (FM, CB, walkie-talkie), as well as prepared CDs, vinyl records, and various electronics. He creates radio soundscapes using locally available frequencies, often to the beat of manipulated pop song samples.

Stanley Ruiz (see Gunung Sari.)

Jeremy Slater is a sound artist who also works with video and sound in performance and installation settings. He uses his laptop computer to create a variety of sound, image, and interactive work. Slater was one a 1999 recipient of the Computer Art Fellowship from New York Foundation of the Arts (NYFA) and has exhibited and performed nationally and internationally.

Talibam!’s Matt Mottel has been hanging around NYC clubs since he was 16, and dropping electric mind bombs with his synthesizer in those venues nearly as long. Kevin Shea’s drumming and stage gymnastics have been gazed at with wide wonder through his membership in bands like Storm & Stress (Touch & Go), Coptic Light (No Quarter), and People (I and Ear). Ed Bear completes the trio playing the baritone saxophone like Ron Asheton.

Uncle Woody Sullender performs improvised banjo music, playing with and against the cultural baggage of the instrument. While alluding to the “traditional” musics of his home states of Virginia and North Carolina, he explores a diverse plane of plucked string music from around the world as well as incorporating punk, noise, and free jazz. He has performed with Pauline Oliveros, Fred Lonberg-Holm, Michael Zerang, Kyle Buckmann, Carol Genetti, Jason Ajemian, Chris Forsyth, members of the Vandermark 5, TV Pow, and Cheer Accident, among others.

Fritz Welch began singing at the Hallelujah Bacon Church of Decatur Georgia at the tender age of a heathen actionist goatherd. He has spent many hours avoiding work and death while playing drums and exploring other sculptural possibilities. In this practice the fundamental determinance of line and volume is accumulated in a collision of stripped down abundance and never ending ocular vibration.

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About free103point9
free103point9 is a non-profit arts organization focused on establishing and cultivating Transmission Arts. This genre includes experimental practices in radio art, video art, light sculpture, and installation and performance utilizing the electromagnetic spectrum. With locations in upstate and Brooklyn, New York, free103point9 activities support and promote artists exploring transmission frequencies for creative expression. free103point9 programs include public performances and exhibitions, an experimental music series, an online radio station and distribution label, an education initiative, and an artist residency program and study center. www.free103point9.org

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