



For Immediate Release:

JACK CURTIS DUBOWSKY ENSEMBLE

Performs Live Music to Experimental Film
Part of the Mission Creek Music and Arts Festival
Featuring films by John and James Whitney and contemporary experimental filmmakers.

DATE: Friday July 17, 2009, 7pm

VENUE: Artists' Television Access (ATA)
992 Valencia Street San Francisco CA 94110
(415) 824-3890
<http://atasite.org>

COST: \$7

HIGH RES PHOTOS: <http://www.destijlmusic.com/jcde.html>

The **Jack Curtis Dubowsky Ensemble**, a groundbreaking new music ensemble led by classical and film composer Jack Curtis Dubowsky, performs live musical soundtracks to experimental films including underground classics by John and James Whitney, and new works by Jeffery Cravath, Phil Maxwell (UK), Hazuan Hashim (UK), Ben Coopersmith (NYC), and Samara Halperin.

The **Jack Curtis Dubowsky Ensemble** combines acoustic instruments, electronic hardware, audiovisuals, composed material and structured improvisation. The Ensemble, founded by classical and film composer Dubowsky, treats analog synth as a rare and unpredictable performance instrument. Our music, abstract, calm, spacious, free form, transcendental, contemporary, electroacoustic mystical psychedelia, is performed and recorded live with no overdubs or sequencing.

Jack Curtis Dubowsky Ensemble Member Bios

Composer, keyboardist, and bassist **Jack Curtis Dubowsky** received his MM in Composition from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and also studied at the Aspen School. Jack studied conducting with Sonja Neblett, and composition with David Conte, Conrad Susa, Elinor Armer, and Michael Czajkowski. Jack has composed four chamber operas, music for five feature films, television, and concert performance. Jack's choral music has been performed internationally by groups including San Francisco Choral Artists, Desert Voices, Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco, and Mount Eden Chorus. Jack's orchestral music has been performed by the Castro Valley

Chamber Orchestra. Jack's chamber music has been performed by Snopea Chamber Ensemble, Organic Sound Experiment, Collaborata, and Paradigm Brass. Jack has received grants from Meet the Composer, Zellerbach Family Fund, Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, and American Composers Forum. Jack has produced recordings by The Winsome Griffles, Glen Meadmore, and the Virgin Whore Complex. Jack's award winning "Mr Jones" parody is a highlight of the Momus album *Stars Forever*.

Erika Johnson began studying percussion in her hometown of Olympia, Washington. Ms. Johnson has received a Bachelor of Music in Percussion Performance from Indiana University-Bloomington and a Master of Music in percussion from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She has held the position of Principal Timpani in the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra and has played for numerous professional ensembles. Ms. Johnson was a concerto competition winner performing *Deja vu* by Michael Colgrass on timpani with the Indiana University Concert Orchestra. She was also a Founder's Day Honors Scholar from 1994 to 1998 and has received such awards as the Indiana University Percussion Ensemble award, the Jorge Estebanez Scholarship, and San Francisco Conservatory of Music Departmental Awards for Percussion and the New Music Ensemble. Her teachers have included Gerald Carlyss (Philadelphia Orchestra) and Jack Van Geem (San Francisco Symphony). Currently, Ms. Johnson freelances in the Bay Area and enjoys arranging popular music for percussion.

LINKS

<http://www.destijlmusic.com/jcde.html>
<http://www.myspace.com/jcdensemble>
<http://www.cdbaby.com/jackcurtisidubowsky>
<http://atasite.org>
<http://www.classical-composers.org/comp/dubowsky>
<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0239554/>
<http://www.mcmf.org/>

PHOTO CREDITS

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ONLINE PRESSKIT + HIGH RESOLUTION PHOTOS

<http://www.destijlmusic.com/jcde.html>

ABOUT THE FILMS

Five Film Exercises / Yantra / Lapis / Matrix / Permutation / John and James Whitney

John and James Whitney were brothers who did groundbreaking work in experimental film and analog animation using mechanical equipment they designed and built themselves. Their work spans from the 40s to the 1970s. The Five Film Exercises experimented with using notation and serial techniques for both sound on film audio-musical composition and the visual composition as well, and were completed in accordance with a written audio-visual "score." The brothers worked together and independently, and created a highly regarded and influential body of work.

Life of Will Mezzo / Jeffrey Cravath

The mundane contrasts the fanciful as a young man daydreams or hallucinates through his day. We met this young upcoming filmmaker at one of our programs at ATA earlier this year.

Astroland / Plastic Fantastic #1 / Sorry, Brenda / Samara Halperin

Astroland - (work in progress) 16mm film. A non-narrative portrait of Coney Island.

Plastic Fantastic #1 - A stop motion animated video that asks, do hot dogs dream?

Sorry, Brenda - Super-8 film transferred to Video. An experimental exploration of the homoerotic subtext of *Beverly Hills 90210*.

Samara Halperin's shorts have been making audiences laugh, cry and scream in screenings from Australia to Saskatchewan since 1989. Samara is from New York City and lives in Oakland, CA where she makes movies and teaches film and video making. Samara is currently working on "Times Square Tumbleweed," the sequel to her award winning film, "Tumbleweed Town." Samara's work has been featured on LOGO Television's "The Click List, Best In Short Film."

Motion Pictures / Ben Coopersmith

Ben Coopersmith is a photographer who lives in New York City. He grew up photographing in the fog-subdued light of his native San Francisco, then attended Parsons School of Design before building his practice in portraiture and concept work. He currently teaches digital photography and retouching at New York University, and has exhibited internationally. "Motion Pictures" explores the active motion of both figures and light, blurring the age-old boundary between photography and painting with both technique and serendipity.

Island Sunrise / Tom Graeff

In 1956 Los Angeles filmmaker Tom Graeff made the cult B-movie science fiction classic *Teenagers from Outer Space*. When the repressive 1950s morphed into the swinging 60s, Graeff's threw himself into the social, religious, and sexual revolutions around him. Low-budget auteur, gay liberation pioneer, eccentric rabble rouser, religious fanatic sent to save the world—Tom Graeff was all of these. Unknown in his own lifetime and largely forgotten today, Graeff's fascinating, doomed journey is the ultimate Hollywood story—filled with ambition, delusion, sex, scandal, hope, and failure.

New York City / Hazuan Hashim & Phil Maxwell

New York City journeys through streets exploring people and culture. From tradesmen to cleaners, shoppers to taxi drivers, infrastructure and architecture, the film portrays the city and its inhabitants: 'isolation' on the street, friends and families along Broadway downtown to Battery Park, leisure in a Greenwich Village pub. The film uses a mix of video footage and still photography.

Documentary filmmakers and video artists Hazuan Hashim and Phil Maxwell started working together in 1996. Credits include collaborations with composers Michael Nyman, Deirdre Gribbin, dancers Mavin Khoo and Seeta Patel, and painter Alice Sielle. They are working on a documentary about the history of London's East End.

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