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# HOLLAND-FLAMAND KULTFESZT BUDAPEST 2008

## The Night of the Unexpected

Edwin van der Heide, Evan Parker & Joel Ryan, Terrie Ex & Han Bennink, Tomoko Mukaiyama, Xavier van Wersch & Tigrics

01-03-2008 / 19:00

Trafó - House of Contemporary Arts

Night of the Unexpected is a one-night festival, an experience, an evening full of surprises ranging across styles and genres, from experimental techno to composed music. It departs from our expectations and playfully questions existing habits; it surrounds the audience with concerts, performances and sound installations from today's most innovative composers and musicians. The performance is a statement about current developments in new music and showcases cutting edge techniques and international approaches to sound that have developed from the most unusual sources, from indie-pop to sound art and improvised music.

### LSP by Edwin van der Heide

Laser beams slice through the air in this light and sound performance by the new Dutch media artist Edwin van der Heide. LSP (Laser Sound Projection) explores the relationship between sound and three-dimensional images by means of laser projection. With lasers, it is possible to create three-dimensional changing environments that surround the audience. Here, the image is created by projecting a laser on a thin layer of smoke or fog. Image and sound originate from the same real-time computer-generated source. This results in a performance where image and sound play equally important roles. The environment challenges the audience to change their perspective continuously.

LSP sets the audience in a continuously changing virtual world. Around you coloured lines curl in the air, planes of laser light shift in space. Deep bass tones and sound-patterns and rhythms, stemming from the same code as the laser projections, leave a physical impact. These performances have rapidly made Edwin van der Heide an internationally renowned multi-media artist.

### Tomoko Mukaiyama

Tomoko Mukaiyama's unique approach to the piano (in which she employs her voice and body as well as her hands) has inspired many composers, including Frederic Rzewski, Louis Andriessen and Alexander Raskatov; many pieces have been composed and dedicated to her. Her original style of expression, using video and sculptural installations, has opened new musical frontiers. Her performances often have the form of a collage in which she integrates a variety of pieces in a virtuosic performance.

Mukaiyama has performed with well-known ensembles and orchestras such as Ensemble Modern and Ensemble Intercontemporain. She has collaborated with cinematographers, designers, architects, dancers and photographers, such as Ian Kerkhof, Marina Abramovic, Merzbow and Kim Ito.

### Evan Parker & Joel Ryan

-It might not just be air that is passing through his instrument.

Evan Parker is legendary in the free jazz and electronic music scene. He is perhaps best known as Derek Bailey's partner. His lengthy discography can be read [here](#). Joel Ryan, who uses a laptop to modify Parker's saxophone, said this about their duo:

*"The difficulty of trying to explain to someone what it is that Evan and I are doing before they've heard us became very clear a few years ago at a meeting with some well-read music journalists at the Hara Museum in Japan. After quite a few minutes of getting nowhere, I felt like I had to make a radical statement, such as that in this music we were experimenting with an alternative medium for sound, that the instrument was no longer a soprano saxophone and it might not just be air that is passing through Evan's lips and Evan's horn.*

*The simplest picture to imagine is to give a player a new instrument by transmuting the sound of his acoustic instrument numerically with a computer and having him hear the result so quickly that he feels he is playing something new. The twist is that this new horn is simulated; it exists only for a few seconds or milliseconds in the digital realm. But this simulated instrument is made real because it is attached to Evan's and my hands as we coax sounds out of the air. (The fact that the whole room is coupled to this process through the microphone and speakers makes a particularly vivid kind of spatialised sound.) No matter how far this new source diverges from expectation in the sound it produces, it still allows players to call upon all their tricks of fingering, of breathing, of embouchure. And then all this mutates in time. The instrument is fluid: skeins of predictable actions gather on waves of attention; we think we have it and a few moments later it skitters away in a direction that didn't seem to exist a moment ago.*

*Though stately at time, this is an exploratory voyage, the possibilities still seem endless."*

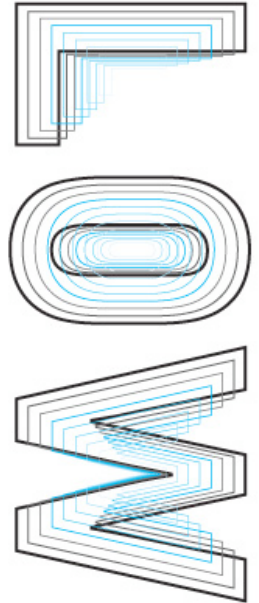
### Terrie Ex & Han Bennink

Guitar player Terrie Ex and percussionist Han Bennink produce exciting, funny, overwhelming, noisy music. Bennink is one of Holland's most prominent and inventive improvisers. He has performed with many great jazz artists, ranging from Eric Dolphy to Dave Douglas, Mike Patton and Peter Brötzmann, and is among others part of the ICP Orchestra. His percussion performances are always unpredictable and intense. In them the whole stage becomes his instrument.

Starting out as a punk band, the Ex (led by Terrie Ex) have erased the boundaries between such different styles as improvised music, non-western music and punk. Their recent performances with the


15 February – 12 March



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M	18	25	03	10
T	19	26	04	11
W	20	27	05	12
T	21	28	06	
F	15	22	29	07
S	16	23	01	08
S	17	24	02	09

legendary Ethiopian saxophonist Getatchew Mekuria showcased the Ex with various guests. Terrie's guitar playing is intuitive and far from traditional.

#### **Xavier van Wersch & Tigrics**

Van Wersch studied sonology in the Hague; a notable feature found in all of his compositions, concerts and installations is controlled chaos. His interests centre on the concept of man and machine as a hybrid system, and the relationship of the two in that system. He often builds his instruments and installations from elements that are otherwise useless or out of order. In 2006 he established the re.Bug Foundation for Electronic Art with the aim of initiating projects at the crossroads of technology, art and nature. He has performed at Sonic Acts (Amsterdam), State X New Forms (the Hague), Transmediale (Berlin), UltraHang (Budapest), B-Link (Belgrade), Simultan (Timișoara), KIMAF (Kiev), Garage-g (Stralsund), Les Chants Mécaniques (Lille), Touch (Amsterdam) and Adventures (the Hague).

Tigrics (Róbert Bereznai) has been a musician since the mid-1990s. His first ambient trio, Rianás (Bereznai, Péter Márton [Prell] and Marci Mezei), already showed his musical character, the eternal antagonist who doesn't give a damn about mass musical trends and current underground fashion. Tigrics impresses as an artist who will not compromise and cares to meet only his own expectations; nevertheless, his most recent music is more easily grasped than his music from the Rianás days. Spleen, playfulness and at the same time dead earnestness characterise his rhythm-oriented compositions.

As opposed to most of his Hungarian colleagues, Tigrics is not merely someone who is committed to a genre that he chose when he was a teenager. He is an open-minded listener with impeccable taste and a sound musical education, something clearly felt in his compositions. Today Tigrics is a success story of underground electronics, a performer with several records who regularly appears on Budapest stages and receives invitations from all corners of Europe.

