

FRONT MUSIC



VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

AT THE WESTERN FRONT

June 21 – 28

All shows at 5:30 PM

(except EDAM dance performances)

Info 604-872-5200/888-438-5200

EDAM: THE ECHO CASE

June 21, 22 8 PM

Vancouver's EDAM Dance presents the 10th annual reunion of this group of extraordinary improvising dancers and musicians. Compelling, intelligent, funny and empathic work from dancers Peter Bingham, Marc Boivin, Andrew Harwood, musicians Ron Samworth, Coat Cooke and lighting designer Robert Meister.

AB BAARS TRIO

June 21

This is one of the most exceptional trios from the lively improvised Dutch music scene. Saxophonist Ab Baars has extracted a musical language from American bop and free jazz and 20th century composers like Stravinsky and Messiaen that reflects intelligence and a quirky sense of humour. The trio, which includes percussionist Martin van Duynhoven and bassist Wilbert de Joode, has played together for years and it shows. This extraordinary group speaks as three individuals with one voice. Their Western Front performance finds them playing North American Indian songs (see disc on Geestgronden).

TONY WILSON QUARTET

François Houle, clarinet, Jesse Zubot, violin, Dave Fay, saxophones, Tony Wilson, guitar

June 22

MARILYN LERNER AND PEGGY LEE

June 23

A remarkable new duo featuring two of Canada's most exciting improvising artists—cellist Peggy Lee (Talking Pictures, Now Orchestra) and pianist Marilyn (Queen Mab). A truly extraordinary match, both artists combine technical mastery, depth of expression, compositional abilities, and a deep vocabulary.

THE ELECTRICKS

June 24

An astounding new group of stellar European improvisers. The Electricks (an all acoustic band) began as a collaboration between German Axel Dörner trumpet/slide trumpet who has worked with artists like Alex von Schlippenbach, Evan Parker and Thomas Lehn, and Sture Ericson saxophones/bass clarinet. Ericson, a member of the famous Swedish free group 'Positions Alpha' has worked with artists like Barry Guy and Phil Minton. They soon joined forces with drummer Raymond Strid and the amazing bassist Ingebrigt Haker Flaten. Stockholm's Raymond Strid is simply one of the most amazing drummers on the planet, balancing an intuitive compositional sense and an astonishing array of colours and sounds. Norwegian bassist Ingebrigt Haker Flaten, although still a young player, is already a favourite with players like Mats Gustafson, Ken Vandermark and Joe McPhee.

TORSTEN MÜLLER, (BASS)/PEGGY LEE (CELLO) /JESSE ZUBOT (VIOLIN)

June 25

WHO TRIO

June 26

The remarkable trio of Swiss pianist Michel Wintsch, American drummer Gerry Hemingway, and Swiss bassist Bänz Oester began touring and recording together in 1998. Their sound and conception, shaped by the diverse compositional sensibilities of the trio members, has evolved into intriguing and compelling music. Sharing a willingness to

listen and to deeply dig into the uncharted terrain of improvisation, their music has a definable group sound, and a transparency that allows the listener to experience the most delicate and subtle details. With a wide-ranging field of interests, it's not unusual to hear this conventional jazz instrumentation rock like Massive Attack, cook like Fela Kuti, swing like Count Basie, and bump and grind like Buddy Guy. Their two outstanding CDs on Leo Records, *Identity* and *Sharing the Thirst*, showcase their cleverly structured and unpredictable compositions.

ROB ARMUS "AROS"

June 27

When former Vancouverite, saxophonist/composer Rob Armus moved to Amsterdam in 1992, he soon established a reputation as a strong soloist and collaborator on the improvised music scene. His newest project, *Aros*, based on his musical partnership with Austrian classical pianist Marion von Tilzer, was formed with the objective of combining jazz and improvised music with classical and new music forms. The band performs Armus' and von Tilzer's original compositions and it's not unusual to hear tango, jazz, old and new music and African rhythms mixing with improvisation. The fact that members of *Aros* come from classical and jazz backgrounds has created an ideal environment for melding the two genres. With Sven Schuster bass, Alan Purvis percussion, John Korsrud trumpet, Oene van Geel violin/viola. Check out their new record *Aros* (Bvhaast).

GEBHARD ULLMAN CLARINET TRIO

June 28

Led by clarinetist/saxophonist Gebhard Ullman, this marvelous trio also features clarinetists Juergen Kupke and Theo Nabicht. Ullman, one of the busiest players on the European scene, leading a number of projects and collaborating with artists such as Paul Bley, Steve Arguelles, and Lauren Newton, has achieved something very special with this trio—fun music with serious intentions. The music moves between formal German classical song form, European "free" music values, blues and gospel, new composition and a little *Tin Pan Alley*. The three musicians bring together these varied forms so that they follow one another like an integrated suite of music. This is truly extraordinary music that must be heard to be believed.