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# ELECTRON SALON

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 8, 2002**

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## **Video and Sound artists perform at the ELECTRON SALON**

April 30, 2002  
Rio Theatre, Santa Cruz

<p><b>Grand Finale of the Santa Cruz Digital Arts Festival</b></p>
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ELECTRON SALON features both local and visiting artists in an evening of free sound and visual experimentation.

For this second concert, the visual band FXTC grows and presents a new visual instrument, Kazoo. The four musical sets welcome experimentation on unusual instruments such as voice and tuba, and unexpected mélanges between jazz and electronics with Los Angeles based Arc Libre Trio. ELECTRON SALON is also very honored to feature the coming out of Miss Pinky, the new virtual scratch kit developed for djs and turntablists by Santa Cruz technology guru Scott Wardle. Local artists include soprano singer Nancy Levan, Luke Dahl, and Kevin Dineen of Run-Return. The “salon atmosphere” is provided courtesy of dj-ot.

ELECTRON SALON is brought to you by the creative team behind Woodstockhausen, an annual tradition since 1998 also known as the “tiny festival of esoteric music”.

This concert takes place on Tuesday April 30<sup>th</sup> at 8PM at the Rio Theatre, 1205 Soquel Avenue, Santa Cruz. Tickets are \$10 at the door (no one will be turned away for lack of funds).

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## ELection SALon

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### THE CONCEPT OF ELECTRON SALON

*"As far as consistency of thought goes, I prefer inconsistency." --John Cage*

In the teeming little metropolis of Santa Cruz, perhaps better known for its rambling campy boardwalk, daily Silicon Valley commuter clog, Machiavellian surfers, and abundance of folk-singing guitar heroes, a thriving secret experimental music movement is making its first public noise! Join us for a series of concerts featuring the highly experimental work of local and visiting media artists, when the creative forces behind **Woodstockhausen** and the Santa Cruz **Looping Festivals** coalesce to bring you "**ELection SALon**".

These concerts will offer everything from poly-rhythmic loops played on household implements, to homebrew computer music and circuit-bending, to the sounds of live amplified post-garbanzo bean digestion. We shall hearken back to Frank Zappa's assertion that *"You can't do that on stage any more"* and prove him wrong.

*"I think he should learn from the art of transformation, so that what you find sounds completely new, as I sometimes say, like an apple on the moon." -- Stockhausen on Scanner*

*"When it gets too abstract...I find it very difficult to digest..." -- Scanner on Stockhausen*

**Wayne Jackson**  
conceiver and impleMentor of Woodstockhausen



## PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

**dj~ot**

[jmjot@pacbell.net](mailto:jmjot@pacbell.net)



**Jean-Marc Jot** (a.k.a. **dj~ot**) has spent a large part of his adult life researching and developing digital algorithms and tools for the spatialization and artificial reverberation of sounds. He worked at IRCAM in Paris from 1992 to 1998, where he developed the Spat~ software using Max/MSP and collaborated in a number of musical productions and recordings. He has been one of the organizers of Woodstockhausen since its start in 1998, contributing particularly to the multi-channel sound system design.

**FXTC**

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**FXTC** is a visual band consisting of four technology wackos.

**Alan Peevers** and **Alan Seefeldt** have both been working in recent years at the Creative Advanced Technology Center on a number of audio-related research and development projects, including analysis/synthesis for musical signal processing, real-time software synthesis and effects, and non-linear audio processing. They originated Creative's 3d visualization technology known as **Oozic** (formerly LAVA!). Together with Mike Barnes, they have presented LAVA! across the country, including Woodstockhausen 1999, the Key Club in LA, the Oscars 2000 event in LA, DMX, CNN, and numerous other events.

**Mark Buchanan** is a Digital Artist & Visual-Instrument Designer. He has been designing Visual Instruments for 15 years. His latest creation is the Fractal Based Real-Time Visual Instrument, affectionately known as **Kazoo**. His Visual Performance career has included performances with The Grateful Dead, Peter Gabriel, Billy Idol, The Tonight Show, Quincy Jones, Herbie Hancock and many more. He is currently employed at the Creative Advanced Technology Center, working on the Oozic Reactor 3D Music Visualizer and other projects.

**Gaben Chancellor** is a cross-media designer, digital animator/videographer and creative director for the cross-media design shop, ContentX. His award winning media design career has included projects with B.B. King, Allen Strange, Queensryche, Apple Computers, Newmans Own Organics, Novell and many others. He specializes in live video art and performance, 3d animation, experimental videography and contemporary interactivity in CDROM and DVD.

**IDIOSYNCRASY (2001)**  
**Live voice/electronic/visual**

[seungyonlee@yahoo.com](mailto:seungyonlee@yahoo.com)



**Idiosyncrasy** is a real-time interaction composition for a Mezzo-soprano and video images that was premiered in 2001 at IRCAM (Paris, France). Korean composer **Seungyon-Seny Lee** holds a DMA in composition from Stanford University. The piece will be performed by Santa Cruz singer **Nancy Levan**.

The composition draws on 3 poems in 3 different languages (Japanese, Korean and French), both using the essential meaning of the words and liberating their phonetics from the lexical hindrances of a given time and place. Psychoanalytic issues have driven the composer to portray the individual mirror image of Self and Other through the fundamental emotions of human being, which include at least these four: **Pleasure**, **Anger**, **Lament**, and **Joy** (Hee-Ro-Ae-Rok) in the piece. At last, the intention behind the visuals is to explore what makes it possible to think in certain ways, and to not think in other ways: in a sense of color, how much blue can be made the tone of dark-grass-green with yellow, and how much of the same blue can be made yellowish green with the same yellow?

**Seungyon-Seny Lee** was born in Seoul, Korea. She has studied composition with Lukas Foss and Richard Cornell at Boston University, where she received an M.M. degree. She also studied with Barry Vercoe at MIT's Media Lab. In the D.M.A Program at Stanford University, she studied with Jonathan Harvey, and Chris Chafe. Her Instrumental pieces and her collaborating multimedia projects which include animation, documentary film, dance, video and installation art have been performed in U.S., Europe and Korea at festivals such as Internationale Musikinstitut Darmstadt, XIII CIM l'Aquila, CCRMA, Cantor Center of visual Arts at Stanford, Sundance Film Festival in San Francisco, Centre Culturel Franco-Japonais in Paris, Seoul International Computer Music Festival, Primavera en la Havana in Cuba, Florida Electroacoustic Music Festival, and Agora Festival at IRCAM in Paris.

**Nancy Levan** is a *chanteuse extraordinaire*. Possessing a beautiful mezzo soprano voice, she has been actively involved with original music projects, multimedia projects, dance projects and word projects in the Santa Cruz area for over a dozen years. She was a seminal member of Bruce Lee's Company of Strangers. She performed with local avant-garde luminaries in the well received Antonin Artaud project and is currently both a member of Santa Cruz dance legend and Sara Wilbourne's vocal/dance/improvisational project PLAN B. She is best known for her all original musical project, the extremely popular and critically acclaimed, DRESDEN. She has an extraordinary elegance and is known for her graceful stage presentation.

### ESCO & MISS PINKY

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[www.mspinky.com](http://www.mspinky.com)



Crossing the line between experimental and popular music, **Esco** blends acoustic instruments with electronic beats and textures. **Luke Dahl**, on electric piano and electronics, and **Kevin Dineen** on percussion and electronics are joined by **Scott Wardle** on the transdimensional turntable **Ms Pinky**.

**Luke Dahl** is a Santa Cruz based pianist and electronic musician who combines a background in digital audio engineering with studies in jazz and classical music.

**Kevin Dineen**, a NYC émigré, is mostly known as a modern experimental jazz improviser through his Santa Cruz band Run-Return. A talented percussionist, he excels at minimalistic, pensive and experimental (not the noisy kind) musical themes, where vibraphones and live drums occasionally pepper the music.

**Scott Wardle** plays the "*interdimensional wrecked system*", a.k.a. **Ms Pinky**. Just as a cyborg incorporates parts of living tissue with machine, **Ms Pinky** couples the tangible world of the analogue turntable mechanism to the ethereal realm of digital signal processing. The bridge between the two worlds is a special vinyl record with a digital modem signal recorded on it in place of music.

Software running on a personal computer translates the tones from this record into control signals that drive the playback, processing, and synthesis of digital audio.

### TOM HEASLEY and DANA MASSIE

<http://www.hypnos.com/heasley>  
<http://bayimproviser.com/TomHeasley>  
<http://www.loopers-delight.com/cgi-bin/profiles.cgi>  
<http://kalvos.org/heasley.html>



**Tom Heasley** is an internationally active composer, performer, tubaist, improviser and recording artist whose compositions for electro-acoustic tuba create “a rich and sonorous aural experience that flies in the face of all the dumb clichés about what tuba music is.” From cathedrals to bars, from barns to conservatories, Heasley is...*the ambient tubaist*. For part of his set, Tom is joined by looping guitarist **Dana Massie**.

Following the May 2001 release of his first CD, *Where the Earth Meets the Sky* (Hypnos), **Heasley** toured for nearly three months, performing almost 30 solo concerts throughout North America. With the April 2002 release of his second CD – *On the Sensations of Tone (Innova)* - Heasley shows himself to be redefining one of the world's least popular instruments, and finds himself increasingly in demand as a result. “*If only John Philip Sousa were alive to hear it, marching music might be different today.*” His music has recently been featured on National Public Radio, BBC Radio, Public Radio International, John Schaefer's New Sounds on WNYC, *Hearts Of Space*, John Diliberto's Echoes and many other radio programs around the world.

In the past, **Heasley** had the good fortune to perform, record or otherwise collaborate with an amazing variety of creative artists, including The Berkeley Symphony, Eugene Chadbourne, Alvin Curran, Stuart Dempster, Charlie Haden, Pauline Oliveros, Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Bobby Bradford, Loren Mazzacane Connors, The Mermen, Milcho Leviev, Oakland Ballet, Don Preston, Robert Rich, Lois V Vierk, Cabrillo Music Festival Orchestra, Frederic Rzewski, Glenn Spearman, Henry Brant, Anne LeBaron, Gerry Hemingway, Jonathan Harvey, Wadada Leo Smith, Malcolm Mooney, John Carter, Oxbow, Marco Eneidi, Tuolumne Brass and Bertram Turetzky.

**Dana Massie** is a co-founder of FluxNetwork, a profitable Santa Cruz startup developing software for digital music generation and distribution using handheld devices, among other gadgets. Dana was the director of the Creative Advanced Technology Center, which developed the Sound Blaster Live for Creative Labs. Previously, Dana worked at E-mu systems for more than 10 years, developing music synthesis and sampling technologies for professional musicians. He is an active member of the ELection SALon and performed on the guitar for several Woodstockhausen festivals.

### ARC LIBRE TRIO

<http://www.onramparts.org/philcurtis/ARCLibre/index.html>  
<http://www.gustavoaguilar.com/>  
<http://www.onramparts.org/philcurtis/index.html>



**Arc Libre Trio** is a creative-musicians collective based in Los Angeles that has come together to promote improvisational music which has its deep roots in free jazz, new music, popular music, and traditional folkloric. By combining these musics and using new technologies, the trio pays homage to the past while forging new ground.

**Gustavo Aguilar**, percussionist, composer, and improviser, has been active in the creative music scene for almost a decade. His commitment to combining pre-composed (notated) and present-composed (improvised) musical elements has earned him the reputation as an "intuitive, methodical mystic." His music has been called "beautiful, introspective and passionate," "thought-provoking and thoroughly fresh." Gustavo has performed and/or recorded with such creative artists as John Bergamo, Roy Campbell, Nels Cline, Vinny Golia, Charlie Haden, Kang Tae Hwan, Park Jae Chun, and Wadada Leo Smith. He holds the position of Composer-in-Residence with GroundWorks Dance/Theater of Cleveland, Ohio - a position he has held since 1997.

**Robert Reigle** (tenor Saxophone). The remarkable thing about Robert Reigle is his ability to illuminate an enormous Sound Universe - uniting jazz, classical, world, early music, and nature sounds. He has recorded five albums; studied music in Korea, India, and Papua New Guinea; and co-edited with Evan Parker an issue of Resonance (London) evaluating the music industry's stance on World Music. Reigle gave both the New York (1986) and New Guinea (1992) premieres of Giacinto Scelsi's "*Tre Pezzi pour Saxophone*," and made the first tenor saxophone recording of that work (on Acoustic Levitation AL-1003). Reigle has studied with Cecil Taylor and Ralph Shapey. He cites as major influences the musics of Papua New Guinea, Albert Ayler, Iannis Xenakis, Tibet, John Sheppard, and Giacinto Scelsi.

**Phil Curtis** a.k.a. DJs Flux, Flex, and Felix (powerbook, guitar, ztar) is a composer and performer of jazz, classical, pop, and electronic music, whose work has been featured in numerous venues for new and experimental music. Performances of his music have been given by Amsterdam's Nieuw Ensemble, the New Century Players, and the New York New Music Ensemble. Phil also works collaboratively, composing music for film, TV, theater, dance, and the web. Films that he has scored have been shown on PBS and featured in numerous film festivals, including the San Diego Film Festival, the Festival Internacional Del Nuevo Cine Latinamerica in Havana, Cuba, and as a part of the traveling exhibit "Muestra de Cine Colombiano Años 90s."



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# Electron SALon

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## RELATED EVENTS

### **Santa Cruz Digital Arts Festival**

[www.santacruzdigitalarts.org](http://www.santacruzdigitalarts.org)

Electron SALon event acts as the grand finale of SCDAF, this month-long festival in April.

The Santa Cruz Digital Arts Festival will present a large variety of artwork created by artists using new digital technologies at venues and virtual venues throughout Santa Cruz County.

### **Woodstockhausen 2002**

[www.woodstockhausen.com](http://www.woodstockhausen.com)

This annual festival for experimental music will be held this summer in Santa Cruz.

