# Nous Play, Inc. presents NOUS PLAY: Elements 1



Two Moon Art House & Cafe 315 Fourth Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11215

February 6, 2014 @ 8:30 pm

## Welcome to NOUS PLAY:Elements!

As working composers, we are continuing in our mission of creating and producing live contemporary music and weaving it with fascinating stories, movement, visuals, and media.

This is a largely collaborative effort that currently involves the artistry of 16 incredibly talented artists; some from past productions and some for the first time. We are honored to present our work to all of you.

*Elements 1* features 9 compositions inspired by the element: Sky. The Nous Play artists created incredible works with imaginative collaborations and a variety of intertwining of artistic disciplines.

We want to thank everyone involved. We are so lucky to be in New York and have access to incredibly talented artists from all over the world. We have learned a lot and look forward to future collaborations.

After tonight's show, we have four more Elements concerts. Please contact us if you have ideas or are interested in participating.

And as you may already know, we have entered a new phase in our growth cycle. We have recently incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in New York. We are working on our corporate identity for Nous Play, Inc. We owe this big step to our attorney Brendan O'Leary and Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts.

So again, welcome. We're proud of what you are about to hear and see. We hope you enjoy the show.

Ann Warren, Chris Kadis Moscato, Robert Morton, Manuela Lechler, Allan Markowitz, Nancy Greening

Nous Play Artist Leaders welcome back alumni artists:

Telma Bernardo performed in Coq tôt.

Emma DeGrand stage manager for Coq tôt.

<u>Christopher Dickson</u> composed music for **Dziewczyna**, and **Satie's** Birthday Party.

<u>Aleksandra Miglowiec</u> performed in TRans:trANS, Age of Pain(e), Satie's Birthday Party, and Dziewczyna.

Kyoko Oyobe performed in Age of Pain(e).

Christopher Poeschl performed in Coq tôt and Age of Pain(e).

Kamaria Williams performed in Coq tôt.

An Interesting Group of Artists! Adrienne Adams was born in 1906. She was a teacher in a rural school in Oklahoma and had a long career as an artist, illustrator, and author of children's books. She died in 2002. Telma Bernardo, Because there is this steam inside of me that cannot bear the unsaid - whether beauty, pain or love - I am an actor, that's why! Feel the waves of my diving sigh. Emma DeGrand, I write short stories, long stories, plays, and burlesque adaptations, but I secretly always wanted to be a poet. Christopher Dickson, I think of my life as an ongoing morphing groove. Sometimes I love the groove, sometimes I like the groove, there are times when the groove is inside, times when it's outside. From time to time I write it down so other people can hear the groove. It's just like that... Nancy Greening loves directing and writing plays. Her favorite work represents to her the notion that the inner life can transform the world, and the inner life can be shared. Jay Kauffman, I play guitar because I love it. I write music because it's an adventure. I'm always surprised at the compelling strands of beauty that I discover out there/in there, some of which I'm able to convince to return home with me. Manuela Lechler, I love music. We are connected through sound waves, and we all share in the creative spirit. Allan Markowitz, I love the story of why the French say, "Merde" instead of "Break a leg." I never played any role (at all) on Law & Order. I do play Malegueña, Chopsticks, and sometimes Bach's Preludes. Aleksandra Miglowiec is flutist, whose favorite things to do include experiencing other cultures and perspectives, finding unifying threads in seemingly opposing traditions, and melting into the realm of musical co-creation. Robert Morton, I am a geek. There, I said it. I love to figure out the art of new programs and gadgets. I like the word obsession. I still yearn to discover the espresso ottimo, bend the perfect blues note on my Fender, compose the Eiffel Tower in some imaginative way, capture the morning light, and see it with my own eyes! Chris Kadis **Moscato**, His passion is world music fusion, but his work often relies heavily on processed sounds. He creates music because he sees the effect it has on people as a universal language that musicians and non-musicians can understand and be moved by. Kyoko Oyobe, I am a piano player, composer, arranger, and band leader. I love cooking. I think that cooking food and composing music are very similar. And eating the food and playing the music are very similar... I love sharing them with people! Christopher Poeschl, A Midwestern transplant, Chris is a Brooklyn boy with a passion for classical dance and exuberant storytelling. When he's not onstage, Chris enjoys gourmet cooking, Downton Abbey, and full-contact origami. Halina Poświatowska is famous for her lyrical poetry and for her intellectual and passionate yet unsentimental poetry on the themes of death, love, existence, as well as her mordant treatment of life, living, being, and the sensual gualities of loving, grieving and desiring. She died at the age of 32 in 1967. **Jan Wahl** is an author primarily known for his award winning children's books. He sometimes refers to himself as Dr. Mouse, a nickname given him by a young fan. His brother Phil Wahl was the real-life inspiration for the character played by Bill Murray in Lost In Translation. He lives in Columbus, Ohio. Ann Warren walks through the streets of NYC and takes the clangs of construction, the sporadic beep beep of horns, the whirring of some type of unidentified machine that never seems to stop, then mixes in some occasional cabbie shouts, the bass thump thump from a car passing in the night, the bar or stadium cheers for Derek Jeter's home run and..., and is surrounded by music! Kamaria Williams, I've been writing poetry since I was seven and I FINALLY get to share it with you all! "If the doors of perception were cleansed every thing would appear ...as it is, infinite." William Blake

# NOUS PLAY: ELEMENTS 1

February 6, 2014

Nous Play, Inc., Allan Markowitz, Producer

Artistic Leadership Group Nancy Greening, Manuela Lechler, Robert Morton, Chris Kadis Moscato, Ann Warren

9 compositions inspired by the element: Sky

with contemporary intertwining of artistic disciplines and imaginative collaborations by composers, musicians, poets, actors, and video artists.

> Program Running Time: Approximately 65 minutes

## The Brave One

Music by Kyoko Oyobe Piano-Kyoko Oyobe Duration: approx 5 min

# The Cabbage Moon

Music by Manuela Lechler Text by Jan Wahl, Illustrations by Adrienne Adams Voice-Christopher Poeschl, Piano-Kyoko Oyobe, Saxophone-Manuela Lechler, Projections-Robert Morton Duration: approx 20 min

## Saz in a Cage

Music by Christopher Kadis Moscato Recorded Sound, Saz Baglama with electronics-Chris Moscato *Duration: approx 5 min* 

## Valentines Day News, Prince Charming Clues

Poem by Kamaria Williams Voice-Kamaria Williams Duration: approx 3 min

## Share With Me

and

## He Said

Music by Christopher Dickson

Poems by Halina Poświatowska, Translated by Aleksandra Miglowiec Voice-Telma Bernardo, Guitar-Jay Kauffman, Saxophone-Manuela Lechler Projections-Robert Morton *Duration: approx 5 min* 

# A Request

Poem by Emma DeGrand Music by Ann Warren Voice - Emma DeGrand, Clarinet with electronics-Ann Warren Projections-Robert Morton **Duration: approx 4 min** 

# **Circle Dance**

Music by Jay Kauffman Guitar-Jay Kauffman *Duration: approx 8 min* 

# Elements 1: Sky

# Duet for Saz Baglama and Prepared Double Bass (Amplified)

Music by Chris Kadis Moscato and Ann Warren Saz Baglama-Chris Moscato, Prepared Bass-Ann Warren Projections-Robert Morton *Duration: approx 5 min* 

# Ascension

Music by Manuela Lechler Piano-Kyoko Oyobe, Saxophone-Manuela Lechler *Duration: approx 7 min* 

As you walk in and look around, you'll see that we use technology. We don't hide it! Sometimes technology malfunctions - at the worst possible times, including performances!!! If we experience such a situation, we will address it immediately and inform you. And of course, we apologize in advance for any delays or inconvenience.

#### Composition Notes (in program order) from the composers.

The <u>Brave One</u> (Kyoko Oyobe) I saw a movie called The Brave One. I sympathized a lot about the sudden death of the heroine's fiancé. I understood that the message from the movie was that you can be strong for your loved ones. I put the message into the melody in my composition. The <u>Cabbage Moon</u> (Manuela Lechler) is a story about love and nature. The princess Adelgitha and her dog Jenny are coming to the rescue of the moon, that has been threatened by the greedy Squink...

<u>Saz in a Cage</u> (Chris Kadis Moscato) is a piece that was first designed for the celebration of the centennial of John Cage's birth in Chelsea, NYC. The sound designed backing track was conceived via a MAX/MSP patch that creates dynamic tonality chords; microtonal but palatable to the ear. Originally conceived with chance operations à la John Cage, the backing track has been recorded for this performance. The live saz part is electronically processed via an FX pedal and is inspired by a video of a bird in a cage gazing at the night sky.

Valentines Day News, Prince Charming Clues (Kamaria Williams) Stating universal truths since 1990!

<u>Share With Me/He Said</u> (Christopher Dickson) In 1956 Elzbieta, a 4-year old Polish girl watches as soviet tanks surround the city of Warsaw. On the day of a large protest there, her father was arrested. Elzbieta spends her life searching for the answer to what happened to him with no success. In 1977, still with still no answers, she marries a wonderful man. Two short poems by Halina Poświatowska to set music that were first performed during the wedding scene of **Dziewczyna**.

<u>A Request</u> (Emma DeGrand) This is a frustrated letter I wrote to the moon because I felt I was receiving undeserved and unnecessary special attention from it. The moon-a processed clarinet tries to explain.

The <u>Circle Dance</u> (Jay Kauffman) is a rondo that spins musical adventures out from a theme in 3/4. When I played this once for a dancer before it had an official name, she improvised in circles around me. The adventures hint at flamenco, middle-eastern, and south-american folk music, and always circle playfully back to the theme, changing it in the ears of the listener.

*Elements 1: Sky, A Duet for Amplified Saz Baglama and Prepared* <u>Double Bass</u> (Chris Kadis Moscato & Ann Warren) creates a tone poem telling the story of the sky in a life crisis. We join the sky on a short journey to explore timbres and rhythms as we move through the cosmos. The saz baglama is a kind of Turkish lute. The double bass is decorated with items found at local stores that sell office supplies or electrical parts and is played with fingers, bow, and a yarn drum mallet.

<u>Ascension</u> (Manuela Lechler) is the magic of the heart, or being lifted up by a feather.



#### Nous Play, Inc. wants to acknowledge the following people and organizations that have contributed money and materials to make another production possible:

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**Nous Play** is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit arts service organization. Contributions for the charitable purposes of **Nous Play** must be made payable to Fractured Atlas and are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Please send contributions to:



Nous Play, Inc. P.O. Box 20686 New York, NY 10011 Checks should be made payable to Fractured Atlas, with **Nous Play** written in the memo line.

# Sign up for our mailing list for announcements about future productions. Go to <u>www.nousplay.com</u> and click on the sign up link.

## and please like us on Facebook



Mark your calendars for the next 4 NOUS PLAY: Elements shows! *First Thursdays* of February, March, April, May 2014

March 6 @ 8:30 pm compositions inspired by the element: Wind
April 3 @ 8:30 pm compositions inspired by the element: Sea
May 1 @ 8:30 pm compositions inspired by the element: Fire and a Sunday show on

May 4 @ 5:00 pm compositions inspired by chemical elements

## and look for our upcoming productions of

Anna Strong's Laundry will be performed during Battle Week in August at Old Stone House in Brooklyn. Details to be announced soon! and

Un Lieu de Vie, an experiential piece that is loosely based on the 1917 Jean Cocteau-Erik Satie-Pablo Picasso collaboration of *Parade*. It represents the collective memory of Erik, an eccentric, memory-starved, and lonely senior citizen who seeks glimpses of the past as he wanders the streets of New York. Through Erik's rumination, we are transported to specific locales at various stages of his life. We experience Erik's memories through the clamor of sounds, sights, and rhythms that embolden him to fulfill his destiny. Details to be announced soon!

#### more information and program updates at www.nousplay.com

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For everyone who will ever fight against all odds for freedom, justice, and peace. Ryba lubi pływać. Fish like to swim! (Dziewczyna)

We never know what's coming next! (Eiffel Tower Wedding Brunch) J'aime la vérité. Mais elle ne m'aime pas. (Jean Cocteau)