Nous Play, Inc. presents

# NOUS PLAY: Elements 2



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

March 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.

Elements 2 features 9 compositions and performances inspired by the element: Wind. The Nous Play artists created incredible works with imaginative collaborations and a variety of intertwining of artistic disciplines. This is a largely collaborative effort that currently involves the artistry of some very remarkable people; some who have worked with us on past productions, and some for the first time. All of us are honored to present our work to you.

Nous Play artist leaders want to thank the artists involved. One of our key beliefs is that artists need to provide opportunities for other artists and that our composing skills can be applied to development and production. We are proud of the artistic community that we have created and strive to inspire composers of all types to work outside their comfort zones in a safe environment to to explore and create without boundaries. We are so lucky to be in New York and have access to so many talented artists from all over the world. We have learned a lot from working with you and look forward to future collaborations.

And we want to thank our audiences for their continued support. So again, welcome to **Elements 2**. We're proud of what you are about to hear and see. We hope you enjoy the show.

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

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

#### Nous Play Artist Leaders welcome back alumni artists:

<u>Ivy Adrian</u> performed in Folie Pure.

<u>Telma Bernardo</u> performed in **Coq tôt** and **Elements 1.** 

Nathalie Bryant performed in, Satie's Birthday Party, Folie Pure, and Coq

tôt.

**Emma DeGrand** was stage manager for **Coq tôt** and performed in

Elements 1.

<u>Jay Kauffman</u> performed in **Elements 1.** 

Kamaria Williams performed in Coq tôt.

and first time Nous Play artist: Lucas Bass 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.



## **NOUS PLAY: ELEMENTS 2**

March 6, 2014

Artistic Leadership Group

Nancy Greening, Manuela Lechler, Robert Morton, Chris Kadis Moscato, Ann Warren Nous Play, Inc., Allan Markowitz, Producer

9 compositions and performances inspired by the elements: **Wind** (or Air or Isolation)

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

Program

Running Time: Approximately 75 minutes

The Storm
Geometry
Elżbieta Watching
Untitled
Two Preludes
Variations on a Mongolian Folk Song
Tobacco Shop
El Corpus en Sevilla
Chinese Whisper

#### The Storm

Music by Charles David Younger Arranged by Marco Rizo Piano-Ivy Adrian Duration: approx 6 min

The Storm was originally performed as an interlude in composer Charles David Younger's opera, The Girl From Shunem. It engulfs us in the process of storm from winds howling from a distance in dark arpeggios to full force in foreground. Before it recedes, a glimpse of the eye of the storm is at the center of the piece, a calm that floats in celestial C major harmony.

#### Geometry

Video, Music, and Animation by Lucas Bass Recorded Qin Solo by Yao Bingyan Duration: approx 4 min

A short video I made of the spinning dodecahedron, the first in a little series with geometric themes. the dodecahedron is symbolically the universe, and is one of the Platonic Solids. though this one looks as if it might be delicious, it is made of acrylic and is inedible. i plan to make some out of chocolate in the near future which while perhaps Platonic, will not be solid...

### Elżbieta Watching

Text and Soundscape by Ann Warren Elżbieta-Nathalie Bryant Projections-Robert Morton Duration: approx 8 min

Time changes stories. Which version is the truth?

#### Untitled

Poem by Emma DeGrand Music by Ann Warren *Duration: approx 4 min* 

A big surprise!

#### Two Preludes

Music by Jay Kauffman Guitar-Jay Kauffman Duration: approx 4 min

Preludes are relatively short, independent instrumental composition, free in form. The word comes from Middle French, derived from Medieval Latin praeludium, from Latin praeludere to play beforehand for practice, preface, from prae- + ludere to play. First Known Use: 1561

### Variations on a Mongolian Folk Song

Music by Jay Kauffman Guitar-Jay Kauffman Duration: approx 7 min

A composite portrait of my musical experiences in Mongolia. In 1995, I played a few concerts there, and got to jam with some of the local musicians. I make no claims of authenticity in this piece — I simply arranged two tunes that I learned, and tried to make them into something that communicates the freshness and energy of their amazing music. The introduction is based on a popular love song, and the "variations" are based on a song which is about a man and his horse. The sound of galloping can be heard throughout the piece and is present in much of their music.

#### **Tobacco Shop**

Poem by Fernando Pessoa, writing as Álvaro de Campos Translated and Performed by Telma Bernardo Soundscape by Ann Warren Projections-Robert Morton Duration: approx 12 min

Torn between the outside and inside worlds separated by his window, the poet retreats into his conjectures/thoughts. He falls back into his thoughts again and again in an attempt to fit himself into the real world until...

#### El Corpus en Sevilla

Music by Isaac Albéniz Piano-Ivy Adrian Duration: approx 10 min

Impressionistic in style, El Corpus describes a religious procession in Seville, a march accompanied by raucous bands. This gives way to a mournful saeta, the melody evoking Andalusian cante jondo, evoking flamenco guitar accompaniment. A ray of brilliant harmonies follow, like sun and spirit penetrating clouds of mourning. This invites a lively tarantella then a gentle coda of distant church bells.

#### Chinese Whisper

Soundscape by Chris Kadis Moscato Projections-Robert Morton Duration: approx 2 min

is created from field recordings I took while in Asia two summers ago. It contrasts the transient lifestyle that is quickly becoming a part of Asia against the static peaceful life of the older generation. The piece reflects the idea that without stillness we would not know the nature of the wind, an idea that is loosely based of Plato's Allegory of the Cave.

**An Interesting Group of Artists!** 

Ivy Adrian pianist, gains inspiration from works that translate image into sound. She chose *El Corpus* from the Iberia suite and *The Storm* for this March winds eve as both transport us across time and space to atmospheres in which winds of different character engulf us. Lucas Bass first left home at 11 years of age, skipping high school and adolescence altogether, though self-taught and mostly employed in construction, after many hard trials Lucas found he could only fit back into the puzzle through his involvement in the arts. Yao Bingyan (1920-83), son of a blind fortuneteller was a highly respected guqin (an almost sacred status in Chinese musical philosophy) musician using the dapu process - studying the title, preface, and other literary sources related to a piece to supply stories, pictures, and moods to put him in a state of mind induced by imagination. **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. Nathalie Bryant, I live in a world between fantasy and reality. I enjoy traveling, getting lost in strange places, as much as I enjoy snuggling at home reading a book or watching a movie. I day-dream a lot, I think about all the people on this planet, in other places and times, and it makes me wonder... Acting is like trying to walk a mile in someone else's shoes, that's why I love it so much! Alvaro de Campos (Fernando Pessoa) feeling like a foreigner wherever he is, embraces the futuristic movement with its hectic relentless rhythm and continuous change. In an ecstasy of the senses, his relationship with machines is almost erotic, but in the shadows of the assembly line are lurking revealing the emptiness of material things. The darkness of what is to come! Emma DeGrand, I write short stories, long stories, plays, and burlesque adaptations, but I secretly always wanted to be a poet. 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. Isaac Albéniz (1860-1909) notes that in his music, there is less science or grand idea, but more color, sunlight, flavor of olives, and little sins and absurdities. **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. 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. Marco Rizo was a composer for the I Love Lucy and Bob Hope shows. He died in 1998. 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 shouting expletives, 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! Charles David Younger began his studies in music in Mississippi, and, upon coming to New York, began classical studies in arranging and orchestration with Marco Rizo, a music director and pianist for the *I Love Lucy* TV show. His most recent work, an opera entitled *The Girl from Shunem*, relates the story of the Song of Solomon. It is to be presented word for word from the original Armenian text, and also is translated into French and English.

is a 5 concert series of new music, sound, words & images by Nous Play

affiliated composers and artists wanting to develop their art by working outside their comfort zone to create challenging new compositions.

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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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Mark your calendars for the next 3 NOUS PLAY: Elements shows! First Thursdays of February, March, April, May 2014

April 3 @ 8:30 pm compositions inspired by the element: SeaMay 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)