

PRESS RELEASE July 2007

PART OF THE **EYE-MUSIC: KANDINSKY, KLEE AND ALL THAT JAZZ** SEASON OF EVENTS

## A-Tonal Time Twister: Musical Journeys in Tone, Time and Space

21 July to 16 September 2007

*"..in the third movement of Schönberg's Second String Quartet, the music takes leave of its key of F-sharp minor and veers off into an atonal abyss. In that instant, the harmonic laws that governed European music for 500 years are declared null and void."*

'The Day Music Went Mad', Norman Lebrecht

In a twist on the concept of the colour-tone organ, artist in residence Thor McIntyre-Burnie turns the Gallery's lift into a vessel to play a specially recorded performance. Inspired by Arnold Schönberg's atonal compositions and Kandinsky's colour-tone theory, this unique installation will stretch one concert over hundreds of short, eight to twenty second intervals. The concert will be experienced during each journey in the elevator; where the numbers of people in the lift, or the movements the passengers make, control the sounds that are heard and the colours that are seen.

Inside the lift, four pieces from Schönberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* (1912) are played out, but the musicians are replaced by pressure sensitive coloured shapes on the floor and corresponding coloured light tubes on the elevator walls. Musical time will pass via the lift's physical journey time, and the score is staggered and played out through a series of lift journeys.

In *A-Tonal Time Twister*, Schönberg's foray into his notoriously difficult atonal music is fragmented into bite size portions: a series of brief experiences, some baffling, some sublime, and some absurdly comic.

*"I can make an exploded diagram of an engine, but how can I create one for an orchestra and still capture the emergent qualities of a piece of live music? -one that includes time & space and also subjective emotional experience.. and one that includes a collection of real life individuals, all in the act of performing?"*

-artist Thor MCB

The answer is .... *Orchitecture*



Thor McIntyre-Burnie, *A-Tonal Time Twister*, 2007

### Orchitecture

Saturday 21 July

*Orchitecture* is a one off, day-long live performance installation created by artist in residence Thor McIntyre-Burnie. In this performance, Quantum Theory meets sound, meets architecture. The New London Orchestra will relocate to the eighteenth century Pallant House and play an epic 6 hour orchestral performance in rooms throughout the gallery, creating a live symphony to walk within. An unmissable event for all ages, visitors will experience the score through their own journey.

### Talkestra

Thursday 26 July

*Talkestra*, who performed the lift recording, will also be performing Schönberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* in a live performance at the Gallery on Thursday 26 July at 6pm. *Talkestra* concerts are different. These musicians don't just play the music, they talk about it. And they don't just talk about it, they take it apart to show you how it works and put it back together again to show you how it sounds. Tickets cost £12/£6 students, please call 01243 774557 or visit [www.pallant.org.uk](http://www.pallant.org.uk)

#### INFORMATION, IMAGES AND INTERVIEWS:

Harriet Wailing Marketing Officer +44(0)1243 770842 email: [h.wailing@pallant.org.uk](mailto:h.wailing@pallant.org.uk)

Pallant House Gallery  
9 North Pallant  
Chichester  
West Sussex  
PO19 1TJ

**Open daily:** Tues – Sat 10am-5pm  
Thurs 10am-8pm  
CLOSED MONDAYS  
**Admission:** £6.50 adults  
£2 children £3.50 students

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**PALLANT  
HOUSE  
GALLERY**

**Modern Art  
in the South**

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