

Friday May 12, 2000
The Neighborhood Church
Pasadena, California

MicroFest 2000

A Festival of Microtonal Music

Music for Original Microtonal Instruments

Alex Cline: The American Gamelan and Asian metal percussion instruments

Susan Rawcliffe: Original flutes and a tunable didjeridu

Ron George: The American Gamelan

Program

7:00 P.M. Pre-concert Talk and Demonstration

8:00 P.M. Concert

Variations on a Butterfly by Ron George for the American Gamelan Console; Ron George, Soloist

Triple Pipe Solos by Susan Rawcliffe
Susan Rawcliffe, Soloist

Quiet Spaces by Ron George
Ron George and Susan Rawcliffe

15-Minute Intermission

Many Spaces: Improvisations by Alex Cline,
Ron George and Susan Rawcliffe

Percussionist Alex Cline has converged his years of experience in the jazz and the new music scenes of Los Angeles into a musical career, international in scope. A veteran of numerous domestic and European tours, as well as over 70 recordings, Mr. Cline has sonically contributed to the music of such artists as Vinny Golia, Julius Hemphill, Tim Berne, Quartet Music, John Carter, Bobby Bradford, Richard Grossman and Charlie Haden, among many others, along with numerous dancers and dance companies. Aside from his continued presence in Mr. Golia's and Mr. Bradford's ensembles, he can currently be heard with the Jeff Gauthier Quartet, Gregg Bendian's Interzone, Cline/Gauthier/Stinson, Ishmael Wadada Leo Smith, the Don Preston Trio, and Destroy All Nels Cline, among others, and as the leader of his own group, the **Alex Cline Ensemble** (as heard on his ACM album *The Lamp and the Star*, the 9 Winds album *Montsalvat*, and the recent Cryptogramophone release *Sparks Fly Upward*).

For over 25 years, **Susan Rawcliffe** has been making and playing ceramic wind instruments. Wanting to build a better flute, trumpet or sound sculpture, she studies the patterns and acoustic principles of instruments from many cultures, both ancient and contemporary. Her sounds are ancient although her music is not. Ms. Rawcliffe's ambition is to one day be a flute herself.

Ms. Rawcliffe performs, exhibits, lectures and teaches widely, presenting her work on and off Broadway; at the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences; the Smithsonian Institution; the Los Angeles Theatre Center; the Metropolitan Museum in New York; MOCA, Los Angeles; the Universities of Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Diego, and through solo European tours. She summarized her research in *Complex Acoustics of Pre-Columbian Flute Systems*, published in *Musical Repercussions of 1492* (Smithsonian Press, 1992). Her work has been featured in *Experimental Musical Instruments* and *Ceramics Monthly*. She has been the recipient of NEA, California Arts Council, City of Los Angeles and McKnight Visiting Composer grants. Her recordings and studio work include the films *Coming Home* and *The Island of Dr. Moreau*; *Gravikords, Whirlies and Pryophones*, *Ellipsis Arts*, #3530, book and CD; and the Broadway cast recording of *Juan Darien*, Sony Classics. With *Many Axes*, she recently released an eponymous self-produced CD.

Ron George is an international performing and recording artist and proud inventor of six major new percussion instruments: the *Ballad Console*, *Loops Console*, *Mallet Keyboard Console*, *Super Vibe* and the *American Gamelan*. Mr. George has composed numerous compositions for these instruments, ranging from solo works to solo works with prerecorded accompaniments and percussion ensemble. Works are now planned that feature instruments other than percussion, including voice. He concertizes extensively, performing his original scores as well as those written especially for him by other composers.

As well as inventing instruments, Mr. George has developed a variable tuning system for standard and his original percussion instruments, a special tablature notational system for percussion, and new performance techniques for traditional and newly developed percussion instruments. These new developments are thoroughly expressed in his musical compositions and articles documenting his work. He has recently begun work on a book, *The Wonderfous World of Percussion: The Development of a New Performance and Compositional Medium*, which will document his research. The development of the six new percussion instruments, compositions for these instruments and their respective notational systems are the culmination of over 25 years of research and refinement.