

CONTEMPORARY ART & SOUND SERIES

FORMER STATE PENITENTIARY OF VALÈRE, SION, SWITZERLAND

1-4 May 2003 | 3pm-10pm

Main Hall and Cells of the Former State Penitentiary

ARTISTS

Haluk Akakce

Born in 1970 in Ankara, Turkey, Haluk Akakce lives and works in New York and London.

Haluk Akakce's drawings and site-specific installations are preoccupied with mutation: in an ambiguous conflation of pictorial styles he creates "a resonant space where transformations become forms in themselves." These large-scale works chart a self-contained reality, another universe born of eccentric imagination and assimilation of science fiction fantasies, decorative illustration, and computer-generated animation. His work responds to the shifting landscape of post-globalisation - or, as the artist suggests, "the disappearance of coordinates, caused by shifting cultural regimes and the fragmentation of social structures."

Title of Artwork

"White and Black and White"

Selected Exhibitions

1995, P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, New York
1998, Drawing Center, New York
1999, The Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul
2000, Casino Luxembourg-Forum d'Art Contemporain
2003 Art Unlimited, Art Basel, Basel; The Venezia Biennale, Venezia

Olaf Breuning

Born in 1970 in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, Olaf Breuning lives and works in Zurich and New York.

Olaf Breuning works primarily with the media of photography, video, installations and performance. He uses the language of Hollywood films, the genre of historical paintings, he alludes to display in department stores or to the visual strategies of advertising. Breuning mixes different codes in his often opulently produced works and designs almost surreal worlds of imagery while at the same time denying that there is a difference between kitsch and art.

Title of Artwork

"Ugly Yelp", 2000, 5'36 min, DVD

Selected Exhibitions

1998 "Woodworld", Kunsthaus Glarus, Switzerland
1999 "They live!", arsFutura Galerie, Zurich; DACH, Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna, Austria; "Young", Fotomuseum, Winterthur, Switzerland
2000 "Reality bites", Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Nuremberg, Germany; "Vis -à-Vis", Kunsthaus Zürich, Zurich
2001 Artspace, Auckland, Australia; Metro Pictures, New York; Galerie Air de Paris, Paris; "More than one" Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York
2002 "Hello Darkness", Swiss Institute, New York; arsFutura Galerie, Zurich
2003 Art Unlimited, Art Basel, Basel, Switzerland

Daniela Grüninger

Born in 1960 in Luzern, Switzerland, Daniela Grüninger lives and works in Geneva.

"My work talks about the incidents of accidents and their paradoxical consequences on the course of our lives. The thread is thin, that holds us afloat".
(Daniela Grüninger)

Title of Artwork

"Enjoy the Ride", 2003, 26'00' min, DVD
"Home Sweet Home", 2001, 9'40 min, DVD
"Stand-By", Triptyque, 2003, POLAROID,
Ink-jet Print, 1/5 100 cm X 100 cm
Untitled, 17 photos, 2003, Polaroid, Ink-jet
Print, 1/5 65 cm X 65 cm

Selected Exhibitions

1995 Musée national des Beaux Arts,
Novosibirsk, Russia
1998, "Cold Drinks", Centre d'art
contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland
1999 "Contemporary Swiss Art", Ludwig
Museum, Budapest, Hungary
2000 Centre pour l'image
contemporaine/Saint Gervais, Geneva,
Switzerland; Evénement Grande Dixence,
Son et Art Contemporains, Switzerland
2001 Tirana Biennale, under the direction of
Giancarlo Politi, Flash Art International.
Curator for Switzerland: Paolo Colombo
(publication catalogue.); "Home Sweet
Home", Son et Art Contemporains, with
Andy Guhl, Norbert Möslang, Günter Müller,
Jason Kahn, Frederick Quennoz, EriKm
2002 UBS Art Award, Zurich, Switzerland

LAC-SWITZERLAND PRIVATE COLLECTION

Nobuyoshi Araki

Born in 1940 in Tokyo, Nobuyoshi Araki lives and works in Tokyo.

The vast number of pictures and publications produced by Araki indicates that, for him, the act of photography represents an everyday business like eating or sex. They reveal both in their triviality and

their vitality, the intimate and mundane nature of the passage of time.

Titre of artwork

"Akt Tokyo" (Series 1- 4), 1971-1991,
Cibachrome, w. f.: 77,2 cm x 61,2 cm

Selected Exhibitions

1995 "Journal Intime", Fondation Cartier
Paris, France; Tokyo Nouvelle",
Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg,
Germany
1996 "Private Tokyo", Museum für Moderne
Kunst, Frankfurt/M., Germany
1997 "Tokyo Comedy", Wiener Secession,
Vienna, Austria
1998 "Tokyo Shijyo, Deictorhallen Hamburg,
Hamburg, Germany

David Armstrong

Born in 1954, David Armstrong lives and works in New York.

"I am always looking for resonance, for something beneath the surface. I work from inside out; I want to show that there's something beneath. The longer you sit and look at my images, the more they should gain." (David Armstrong)

Title of artwork

"Evan and Harvey, NYC", 1982, Silver Print,
4/ 10, 47,6 cm x 38,1 cm, w.f.: 73,9 cm x
63,2 cm

Larry Clark

Born in 1943 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Larry Clark lives and works in New York.

Freed from any moral judgement, Clark's photos show the side effects of the Hippie utopia, such as prostitution, crime and violence. Clark seems to want to relive the utopian dimension of the sweet teenage days, which he claims to have missed and now seeks out in each new generation. "Tulsa" appeared in 1971 and made him famous at a stroke.

Title of artwork

“Tulsa”, 1968-1971 (Portfolio), 1972
Argentive Silver Prints, 38/ 50 20,3 cm x 25, 4
cm, w.f.: 37 cm x 44,5 cm

Selected Exhibitions

1992 Kunstmuseum Luzern, Luzern,
Switzerland
1994 “l’hiver et l’amour”, Musée d’Art
Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris
1996 Wiener Secession, Vienna, Austria;
Milwaukee, U.S.A.
1998 “Vintage Prints 1962- 1972”, Lühring
Augustine, New York

Tracey Emin

Born in 1963 in London, Tracey Emin lives
and works in London.

A happy youth would have been lovely, but
since it wasn’t so Tracey Emin channels the
resulting fury, sadness and bruised ego into
her works. Sketches, paintings, texts,
everyday odds and ends, photos, souvenirs,
books, a bed, and underwear on
clotheslines, all these pieces and her videos
are remembrances of the scenes of her
shattered youth.

Title of artwork

“I’ve got it all”, 2000, Ink-jet Print, 2/ 6, w.f.:
121,9 cm x 91,4 cm

Selected Exhibitions

1994 “My Major Retrospective”, White Cube,
London
1997 “Sensation”, Royal Academy of Arts,
London
1997-1998 “I Need Art Like I Need God”,
South London Gallery, London; Neues
Museum Wesrburg, Bremen, Germany
1998 “Sobasex (My Cunt is Wet with Fear)”,
Sagacho Exhibition space, Tokyo; “Tracey
Emin, Holiday Inn” Gesellschaft für Aktuelle
Kunst, Bremen, Germany
1999 “Every Part of me is bleeding”,
Lehmann Maupin, New York; “Hundestage”,
Gesellschaft für Aktuelle Kunst, Bremen ,
Germany; The Turner Prize Exhibition, Tate
Gallery, London

2000 “Nurture and Desire”, Hayward,
Gallery, London, U.K.; “The British Art Show
5”, Hayward Gallery
2001 “You forgot to kiss my soul”, White
Cube, London, England; “Century City”,
Tate Modern, London

Walker Evans

Born in 1903 in St Louis, Missouri, Walker
Evans died in 1975, New Haven,
Connecticut, U.S.A.

Title of artwork

Untitled, 1973 or 1974, Colour Polaroid,
10,8 cm x 8,9 cm
Untitled, 1973 or 1974, Colour Polaroid,
10,8 cm x 8,9 cm
Untitled, 1973 or 1974, Colour Polaroid,
10,8 cm x 8,9 cm

Robert Gober

Born in 1954 in Wallingford, Connecticut,
Robert Gober lives and works in New York,
U.S.A.

Socialisation in the bourgeois nuclear family,
its mechanisms of repression and
stereotypical roles, and particularly the body
consciousness that results from this
conditioning, are the cornerstones of Robert
Gober’s art. His paintings, installations and
sculptures are full of narrative allusions to
his own early childhood, the “cliché” of the
happy home and the sexual oppression.

Title of artwork

Untitled, 1999, Toned Gelatin Silver Print,
5/5, 50,5 cm x 40,3 cm, w.f.: 61 cm x 53

Nan Goldin

Born in 1953 in Washington, DC, U.S.A,
Nan Goldin lives and works in New York,
U.S.A.

In the last thirty years Nan Goldin has
created a kind of “visual diary” in which she
sensitively records her world and above all
her friends, lovers, male and female, lesbian

and gay, transvestites, as so her trips and her crises - often in relationships. Thus she has created an intimate panorama of the human condition towards the end of the twentieth century. She has been photographing her "protagonists" over a period of more than twenty years without any voyeuristic indiscretion.

Selected Exhibitions

1996 Associação Alumni, Sao Paolo, Brazil
1996-1999 Whitney Museum of American art, New York (NY), U.S.A.; Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg, Germany; Stedelijk Museum, the Netherlands; Fotomuseum Winterthur, Winterthur, Switzerland; Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna, Austria; Galerie Rudolfinum, Prague, Czech Republic
1998 Matthew Marks Gallery, New York; Gagosian Gallery, Los Angeles, U.S.A.

Title of artwork

"Anthony by the sea, Brighton, England",
1979, Cibachrome, Print 25/ 25, Print 1999,
103,8cm x 72cm

Damien Hirst

Born in 1965 in Bristol, U.K., Damien Hirst lives and works in Devon, U.K.

Damien Hirst has never restricted himself to the traditional image of the artist. In his subsequent career he went on to make commercial music videos, opened a restaurant and produced pop songs. His paintings and sculptures revolve, above all, around the relationships between life, sickness and death. He combines the idioms of minimal art and pop art in installations that seem almost aseptic.

Title of artwork

"With Dead Head", 1991, Black & White
Photo Print on Aluminium, 10/ 15, 57 cm x
76 cm, w.f.: 58,2 cm x 77,2 cm

Selected Exhibitions

1993 Aperto 93, XLV Esposizione
Internazionale D'Arte, la Biennale di
Venezia, Venice, Italy;

1996 "No Sense of Absolute Corruption",
Gagosian Gallery , New York, U.S.A.;
1997 "Sensation", Royal Academy of Arts,
London; "The Beautiful Afterlife", Bruno
Bishofsberger, Zürich, Switzerland;
1998 Damien Hirst, South Hampton City Art
Gallery, Southampton, UK
1999 "Pharmacy", Tate Gallery, London
2000 "Sadler's Wells", London , UK;
"Theories, Models, Methods, Approaches,
Assumptions, Results, and Findings",
Gagosian Gallery, New York; "Hyper
Mental", Kunsthau Zürich, Zürich,
Switzerland; Hamburger Kunsthalle,
Hamburg, Germany; "Ant Noises", Saatch
Gallery, London
2001 "Double Vision", Galerie für
Zeitgenössische Kunst, Leipzig, Germany;
"Public Offerings", Museum of
Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, U.S.A.;
Century City, Tate Modern, London

Mike Kelley

Born in 1953 in Detroit, Michigan, Mike
Kelley lives and works in Los Angeles,
U.S.A.

Kelley saw in rag toys idealised, sexless
models by means of which children were
adapted to family and social norms. The
evidence of intense usage became for
Kelley an image of the ways compulsions
are passed on from one generation to the
next. In so far, a central theme of Mike
Kelley's performances, installations,
drawings, photos and texts are "the systems
of beliefs", which he calls "propaganda-
gone-wrong".

Title of artwork

"Ahh... Youth" (Series of 8), 1991,
Cibachrome Print, 4/10, 61,9 cm x 43 cm

Selected Exhibitions

1992 Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, Switzerland;
Institute of Contemporary Arts, London;
capc Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux,
France
1993 -1994 " Catholic Tastes", Whitney
Museum of American Art, New York; Los

Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles; Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden; Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany 1997 Museu d'Art Contemporani Barcelona, Spain; Rooseum, Center for Contemporary Art, Malmö, Sweden; Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands; documenta X (with Tony Oursler), Kassel, Germany; 1999 The American Century: Art and culture: 1950-2000, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York 2000 The Poetics Project, 1977 -1997 (Documenta version), Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (with Tony Oursler); "Sublevel, Framed and Frame, Test Room", Migros Museum für Gegenwarts Kunst, Zürich, Switzerland; "Apocalypse Beauty and Horror in Contemporary Art", Royal Academy of Arts, London; "Art in the 80's, P. S. 1.", Long Island City, New York 2001 Painting at the Edge of the World, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, U.S.A 2002 Sonic Process, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris

Zoe Leonard

Born in 1961 in New York, Zoe Leonard lives and works in New York.

The work of Zoe Leonard stands between two poles whose opposition to one another almost dissolves in her hands – the ostentatious language of political activism and the sensitive tonality of poetic fiction stand side-by-side and equal. As a lesbian feminist she is committed to the struggle for freedom and the recognition of marginal groups. At the same time, her photographic view of the world is an extremely dreamy one.

Title of artwork

Untitled, 1990//1992, Gelatin Silver Print, 5/6, 33,7 cm x 22,5 cm, w.f.: 58,4 cm x 46 cm
 "Gravestone with 2 Hearts", 1981-1995, Gelatin Silver Print, 2/3, 27,5 cm x 35,3 cm, w.f.: 45,2 cm x 53,2 cm

"Mirror No 2- Metropolitan Museum", 1990, Gelatin Silver Print, 2/6, 99 cm x 66,4 cm, w.f.: 120,2 cm x 87,5 cm 27,5 cm x 35,3 cm, w.f.: 45,2 cm x 53,2 cm

Selected Exhibitions

1992 documenta Kassel IX, Germany
 1993 "Zoe Leonard Photographs", the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago, Chicago, U.S.A.
 1997 Wiener Secession, Vienna, Austria; Kunsthalle Basel, Basle, Switzerland; Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, U.S.A.
 1999 "Sculpture- figure- Women" Kunstsammlung Chemnitz, Chemnitz, Germany; "The Museum as Muse: Artists Reflect", The Museum of of Modern Art, New York, U.S.A.; "Dramatis Personae", The Photographic Resource Center, Boston (MA); "Skindeep: Surface and Appearance in Contemporary Art", Israel Museum, Jerusalem; "Two by Two for Aids and Art", American Foundation for AIDS Research and the Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, U.S.A.
 2001 "Double Life, Identity and Transformation in Contemporary Art", Generali Foundation, Vienna, Austria; 2002 The Agency Contemporary Art, London

Sarah Lucas

Born in 1962 in London, Sarah Lucas lives and works in London.

Sarah Lucas' own words about her work: "It's a bit like "escape from Alcatraz", you have to get a nail-file if you can get hold of one, saw the bars through. You have to use what you've got, and it either does the job or it doesn't. It is articulating your way out of something."

Title of artwork

"Is Suicide Genetic?", 1996, Cibachrome Print, 6/ 17 + 3, Artist Proofs, 50 cm x 40 cm

Selected exhibitions

1995 "Supersensible", Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York

1996 Portikus, Frankfurt am Main, Germany;
Museum Van Beunigen, Rotterdam, The
Netherlands

1997 "Bunny Gets Snookered", Sadie Coles
HQ, London, England; "Car Park", Museum
Ludwig, Köln, Germany; "Sensation", Royal
Academy of Art, London

2000 "The fag Show", Sadie Coles HQ,
London; "Beyond the Pressure Principle",
The Freud Museum, London; "Self Portraits
and More Sex", Tecla Sala, Barcelona,
Spain; "The British Art Show 5", Hayward
Gallery, London

2001 "Public Offerings", Museum of
Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Century
City, Tate Modern, London

Gordon Matta-Clark

Born in 1948 in New York, Gordon Matta-
Clark died in 1978 in New York.

Title of artwork

"Splitting (in Englewood)", 03,7 cm x 78,2
cm

Paul McCarthy

Born in 1954 in Salt Lake City, Utah, Paul
McCarthy lives and works in Salt Lake City.

Since the late 1960's Paul McCarthy has
been using a variety of different media. He
employs "painting as action", performances,
installations that comprise the spatial
context of his actions, and the camera and
video camera as instruments that steer the
viewer's sometimes voyeuristic attention.
McCarthy's actions are always sexually
loaded and are drastically theatrical staging
of processes and deeds that are
occasionally taboo. Like birth and death,
coitus, sodomy and masturbation.

Title of artwork

"BABY ON A SNAKE, SERIES:
ASSORTMENT", 1973-1983, 1992,
Cibachrome Print, 1/ 3, 183,5 cm x 125 cm

Selected exhibitions

1995 Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg
Germany (with Mike Kelley); "Tomato
Head", Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin,
Germany; "Painter", The Museum Of
Modern Art, New York

1997 4e Biennale de Lyon, Lyon, France;
Biennial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of
American Art, New York

1999 "Dimensions of the Mind", Sammlung
Hauser & Wirth in der Lokremise St.Gallen,
Switzerland

2000 "Au-delà du Spectacle, Mike Kelley
and Paul Mc Carthy," Centre Georges
Pompidou, Paris; "In Between", Expo 2000,
Hanover Germany

2001 Film and Videoretspektive Paul Mc
Carthy, Kunstverein in Hamburg, Germany

2002 Retrospective, Moderna Museet,
Stockholm, Sweden

Richard Prince

Born in 1949 in Panama Canal Zone,
Richard Prince lives and works in New York.

The advertising world is a substitute world,
and so is that of the joke. Both make similar
uses of clichés and wishes that cannot be
fulfilled. The principle of appropriation was
originally developed by Marcel Duchamp at
the beginning of the century and reached a
climax in the 1960's with pop art. At the end
of the 1970's it came back into fashion and,
even more so than in pop art, pictures from
advertising or television were adopted
wholesale by artists for use in their own
work. Richard Prince was one of the firsts
and most provocative practitioners.

Title of artwork

No Title (CowBoy), 1986, Ektacolour Print,
78,2 cm x 58,6 cm

Selected exhibitions

1992 Whitney Museum of American art,
New York

1993 "Richard Prince: Fotos, Schilderijen,
Objecten", Museum Boijmans Van
Beunigen, Rotterdam, The Netherlands; The
Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco;

Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen, Düsseldorf; Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany
1994 Haus der Kunst, München, Germany
1997 Museum Haus Lange- Museum Festers, Krefeld, Germany

Wolfgang Tillmans

Born in 1968 in Remscheid, Germany, Wolfgang Tillmans lives and works in London.

“I see myself as a political artist. I want to make a picture of my idea of beauty and the world I live in.”

Title of artwork

“Lutz wanking”, 1991, Colour Print 68,9 X 59 cm

“Anna SBB, blau”, 1994, Colour Print, 53 cm x 43 cm

“Operation Theater II”, 1994, Colour Print, 43 cm x 53 cm

“Arse in fountain”, 1994, Colour Print, 68,9 cm x 59 cm

MUSICIANS

Yan Castelli

Born in Sion in 1978, Patrick Donzé lives and works in Basel.

Awakened to popular music culture since its early age, Yan Castelli is a former DJ who grew tired of playing other artists' work. His weariness toward mainstream productions eventually brought him to the infinite world of improvised experimentation. He now describes his turntables as a non-discriminative sound-productive tool. He's been following this vinyl-subverted path for the last three years.

Selected exhibitions

1999 “Eins ist sicher: es kommt immer ganz anders als man denkt”, Städtische Galerie Remscheid, Germany, “Soldiers-the nineties”, Neuer Aachener Kunstverein, Aachen, Germany

2000 “Apocalypse, Beauty and Horror in Contemporary Art,” Royal Academy of Arts, London; The Turner Prize Exhibition, Tate Britain, London

2001 Aufsicht, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg, Germany

Texts references

Uta Grosenick & Burkhard Riemschneider (eds), 1999, Art at the Turn of the Millenium, Köln: Taschen Verlag.

Uta Grosenick & Burkhard Riemschneider (eds), 2002, Art Now: 137 Artists at the Rise of the New Millenium., Köln: Taschen Verlag.

Selected discography

"1 Bld des Promenades", with Patrick Donzé, Tomas Korber, and Yan Castelli, Dolmen, 2003.

Patrick Donzé

Born in Sion in 1978, Patrick Donzé lives and works in Basel.

As a child of electronic era, Patrick Donzé has brought together the computer-generated tools and instruments in an effort to transcend today's digital power. “My sound feeds on machines in an improvised movement taking sense in a snap moment.”

Selected discography

"1 Bld des Promenades", with Patrick Donzé, Tomas Korber, and Yan Castelli, Dolmen, 2003.

Andy Guhl

Andy Guhl was born in Gossau in 1952. He lives and works in St. Gallen.

For over 25 years now, Andy Guhl has been performing as a sound artist, more often with his long time musical mate Norbert Möslang with whom he created the famous yet unclassifiable project Voicecrack. To the audience his performances are as much a visual experience as an acoustic one featuring a whole collection of electronic gear such as radios, toys, remote controls, flashlights or blinking rear bike-lights spread out on a large table. Once wakened to life, these "everyday cracked electronics" give off chirping, creaking, humming and blubbering sounds – "a frontal attack on good (tonal) form and the society that cultivates it." (R. Hug)

Selected discography

"Double Wash", with Lionel Marchetti, Jérôme Noetinger, and Norbert Möslang, Grob 318 LC 10292.
"Presque Chic", Poire_z, with Günter Müller, Norbert Möslang, and Erik M, Sonoris 42.
"Bits, Bots, & Signs", with Otomo Yoshihide and Norbert Möslang, Erstwhile 01, 2000.
"Infra_red", Voice Crack, with Norbert Möslang, Up 11, 1999.

Charlotte Hug

Charlotte Hug lives and works in Zurich and London.

The classically trained viola artist chooses environments without boundaries for her music performances, unusual places with unexpected acoustical qualities as well as visual, historical, emotional ones, from the Ice Gallery of the Rhone Glacier, to the subterranean Roman Bath at Baden, or in a soundproof torture chamber of the S&M

club, etc. An enhanced choice of personal techniques developed from this basic attitude in experimenting. Charlotte Hug uses her viola with technical and sonorous virtuosity - especially the personally developed Weichbogen-technique (softbow-technique): from the pure tone to a multitude of sounds and noises. The musician seeks to break parameters, experiments with expressions, uses video, tape and electronics, confronts the physique of the viola with her own, and generally trends toward interaction. The work of Charlotte Hug is cultivated in the field of tension between physical aspect and sensitivity. Each one of her performances is "work in progress" - unique.

Richard Jean

Richard Jean lives and works in Sion, Switzerland

It all started out in the late 60's when Richard Jean, self-taught musician in rock and its numerous electric by-products, swiftly chose a richer and more complex path, one of the most fruitful of the twentieth century: jazz. Improvisation eventually and naturally became the major concern in his abundant work, developed under the trademark "L'Oeil et l'Oreille". For over twenty years now Mr. Jean has been steadily arranging exhibitions and sound events, inviting artists who became friends such as Claude Jordan, Jim O'Rourke and Günter Müller, Margrit Rieben, Robert Dick, Andres Bosshard, Jacques Widmer, Charlotte Hug, Hans Koch, Norbert Möslang, Andy Guhl, etc.

Selected discography

"Cassures and Inserts", Monsieur Jean Sextett with David Gattiker, Andres Bosshard, Günter Müller, Jacques Widmer, For4Ears 102, 1990.

Tomas Korber

Born in 1979 in Zurich, Swiss-Spanish composer/improviser Tomas Korber lives and works in Zurich.

Thomas Korber showed early interest in diverse experimental music directions (electro-acoustic, contemporary, free improvisation, etc.). Self-taught electric-guitarist (and electronic devices) since 1993, he was a founding member of the experimental rock band "AcidLactiq" in 1994 – now disbanded. In 2002, he collaborated with the band <strøm> at the Swiss National Exhibition "Expo02". Since 1999, Korber produced various compositions (i.e. for theater-productions under the direction of Franz Dängeli) and improvised music (projects and concerts with Günter Müller, Stephan Wittwer, Dimitri de Perrot, Hans Koch, Norbert Möslang, Christian Weber & Christian Wolfarth in the band 'twisted concubine', Kazuya Ishigami, Charlotte Hug, eriKm, Steinbrüchel and many others).

Erik M

Having started a relatively unusual even risky, career path from 1987 onwards, ErikM lives and works in Marseille and Paris.

Stemming from his interest in visual arts and his first musical experience as a rock guitarist, he has for some years now become steadily more and more renowned for his virtuoso turntabling and his use of electronic instruments and tools in an integrated scenic set-up. But today he has begun to leave behind his status of noise-dj and vinyl sculptor, turning towards more solitary work, integrating into his music new technologies and applying lessons learnt from his multifarious musical experiences. ErikM has followed up musical collaborations with Voice Crack, Christian Marclay, Luc Ferrari, among others. He is certainly one of the better-equipped artists of the new generation to actually demonstrate a relationship between rock music (in its widest sense) and contemporary music. The originality of his

style stems from the duality between his experimentations in sound material, its envelope and its texture, and his work and taste for the anecdote, the reference.

Selected discography

"Poire_z", with Otomo Yoshihide, Sachiko M, Christian Marclay, Erstwhilde, 2002.

"Poire_z", with Voice Crack, For4Ears 1033, 1999.

Sachiko M

Born in 1970, Sachiko M lives and works in Tokyo.

From 1994 to '97, as a member of GROUND ZERO (which disbanded in March '98), Sachiko M performed at festivals and concerts around the world. She played an important role in the group's chopped-up, "plunderphonic" (or "plagiaristic" sampling) sound.

Since the disbanding of GROUND ZERO, Sachiko M has pursued a unique performance style which brings to the forefront the sampler's own test tones and sine waves, to develop nearly memory-free sampling works. Currently she is involved in many projects, including the powerful post-sampling project Filament; the electronic improvisation group I.S.O., with Yoshimitsu Ichiraku and Yoshihide Otomo; an electronic duo with Toshimaru Nakamura (formerly a guitarist with SADATO and Paragon of Beauty); and Cosmos, a duo project with Ami Yoshida, known for her "howling voice." In addition, Sachiko M founded the AMOEBiC production label with Otomo, and started the private distribution system Chansa.

Selected discography

"Absinth", with Dafeldecker, Werner, Franz Hautzinger, John Tilbury, Grob 435, 2002.

"Detect", 3" CD. Antifrost, Afro 2007, 2000.

"Sine Wave Solo", SAT / Amoebic, AMO-SAT-01, 1999.

"Filament 2: Secret Recordings", Filament and Günter Müller, For 4 Ears, CD 1031, 1999.

Günter Müller

Born in München in 1954, Günter Müller lives and works in Switzerland since 1966.

The percussionist Müller has been playing a unique drum set with a mobile pick-up and microphone system of his own invention since 1981. The system allows hand-generated sounds on drums and percussion to be modulated electronically. Since 1998, minidisc are included in his electronic set. He has played and recorded with a large number of fine musicians, from Jim O'Rourke to Christian Marclay, from Butch Morris to Otomo Yoshihide. Müller was a founding member of the trio "Nachtluft", with Andres Bosshard and Jacques Widmer, who have been creating sound-installations and sound-architecture. Müller currently works in the electronic quartet Poire_Z with Erik M and Voice Crack, and in the trio Direct Chamber with Michel Doneda and Fabrice Charles. He also plays in duo with Taku Sugimoto, Jason Kahn, and Lê Quan Ninh, in trio with Taku Sugimoto and Keith Rowe, and with Voice Crack+. In 1990, he founded FOR 4 EARS record label.

Selected discography

"Oystered", with Oren Ambarachi and Voice Crack, Audiospere AS06, 2003.

"Eight Landscapes", For4Ears 1445, 2003.

"Streaming", with Dieb 13 and Jason Kahn, For4Ears 1343, 2002.

"Poire_z", with Voice Crack and ErikM, For4Ears 1033, 1999.

"Belle-view I-IV", Nachtluft (with Andres Bosshard and Jacques Widmer), atavistic/unheard music series UMS/ALP208, 2000

Toshimaru Nakamura

Toshimaru Nakamura formed "A Paragon of Beauty" in 1992, and the group released the CD *A Paragon of Beauty* in 1995. Since

1994, Nakamura has frequently visited Berlin, working and performing in various projects. In the course of these visits, he formed the duo Repeat in 1998 with the American drummer Jason Kahn. Nakamura set aside his guitar around 1998 and began to concentrate more on producing electronic music. He developed a unique style, playing the "no-input mixing board." In 1999, Repeat played in more cities and released a second CD, *Temporary Contemporary*. Nakamura also released the CD *Un*, a recording of his duo with Sachiko M ("no-no duo," with Sachiko M's no-sample sampler); and since then they have continued to perform together occasionally.

Since 1998 Nakamura has also organized, hosted and performed in a monthly improvised music gathering with guitarists Taku Sugimoto and Tetuzi Akiyama in Tokyo. The original venue was Bar Aoyama, but in August 2000, it moved to the gallery Off Site. This event, featuring guest musicians, has been growing as an important meeting point of the Tokyo improvised music scene. The CD *The Improvisation Meeting at Bar Aoyama*, a compilation of live recordings of performances at the bar, was released in October 1999. In November 2000, Nakamura released his first solo CD, *No-input Mixing Board*. This title describes the way in which he was creating music at that time.

Selected discography

"A Paragon of Beauty", A Paragon of Beauty, Art Union, ISIS-0110, 1995.

"Weather Sky", with Keith Rowe, erstwhile 018, 2001.

"No-input Mixing Board 2", a bruit secret 02, 2001.

"Pool", Repeat (with Jason Kahn), cut 009, 2002.

"Vehicule", cubic music 08, 2002.

Yoshihide Otomo

Born in 1959 in Yokohama, Japan, Yoshihide Otomo lives and works in Tokyo.

Otomo began playing free improvisation professionally--using guitars, tapes, radios, etc. and became very active in live performance and collaborated extensively with other musicians, in a wide range of styles. In 1990, he started his own band, Ground-0 (later Ground Zero). Until it disbanded in March 1998, the band was always at the core of his musical creativity, while it underwent several changes in style and membership. Since then, Otomo plays worldwide every year. One Otomo's major projects at that time was the Sampling Virus Project ('92 to '98), in which sampling processes were applied to musical works which were "passed around" among musicians. In this way, the sampling acted in much the same way computer viruses do--invading, multiplying in and transforming the works --thus bringing new works into being. Otomo developed the project through his various musical activities--solo work, collaborations with other musicians, his bands, etc. One example is Ground Zero/Project: Consume.

Post-Ground Zero period brought major change to Otomo's sound. The difference can be heard especially well in his current main projects: I.S.O., his trio with Yoshimitsu Ichiraku (drums, electronics) and Sachiko M (sampler); and Filament, his duo with Sachiko M. The sound, which tends to embrace simplicity, minimalism, and texture much more than dynamism and instrumental performance, contrasts sharply with the extreme chopping and plunderphonics ("plagiaristic" sampling) which used to characterize Otomo's style. Besides, Otomo's hyperactivities develop in numerous and wide-ranging projects, from the new jazz quartet to "Les sculpteurs de vinyl" with Sachiko M and French DJs.

Selected discography

"Ground Zero", Ground Zero, God Mountain, GMCD-002, 1993.

"Moving Parts", with Christian Marclay, Asphodel, asphodel 2001, 2000.

"Bits, Bots, and Signs", with Voice Crack, erstwhile 011, 2000.

"Thumb", with Keith Rowe, Oren Ambarchi, Sachiko M and Robbie Avenaim, Grob 432, 2002.

"Ensemble Cathode", Improvised Music from Japan, IMJ-502, 2002.

Frederick Quennoz

Born in Sion in 1976, Frédéric Quennoz lives and works in Geneva.

As a sound experimenter Frédéric Quennoz privileges improvisation as a process of creation. Focused on "here and now", less concerned with the results than with the procedures, he develops a three-dimensional work based on the notion of sound territories, on the powerful get-together energy of sound and eventually on the creation of critical spaces allowing analyses of the aforementioned aspects.

Selected discography

"Home Sweet Home", with Daniela Grüninger, Günter Müller, Jason Kahn, Andy Guhl, Norbert Möslang, and ErikM. Limited DVD edition, Dolmen, 2002.

"1 Bld des Promenades", with Patrick Donzé, Tomas Korber, and Yan Castelli, Dolmen, 2003.