

## **TOMAS ULRICH - CELLO**

Cellist-composer Tomas Ulrich received music degrees from Boston University and the Manhattan School of Music. After attending a performance by the great Soviet cellist Mstislav Rostropovich at the age of eight, Mr. Ulrich was inspired to begin his musical journey on the cello. In addition to the traditional classical repertoire, Mr. Ulrich's work clearly demonstrates the influence of such diverse artists as Frank Zappa, Jimi Hendrix, Neil Young, Miles Davis, Charles Mingus, Eric Dolphy, Dmitri Shostakovich and Olivier Messiaen. Mr. Ulrich has performed and recorded with such diverse artists as Anthony Davis, Joe Lovano, McCoy Tyner, Alice Coltrane, Anthony Braxton, Aretha Franklin, Derek Bailey, Ravi Coltrane, James Moody, Taylor Ho Bynum, Gerry Hemingway, Dom Minasi, Jason Kao Hwang, Dominic Duval, Ayman Fanous, Ben Allison, Ted Nash, Dave Douglas, Kevin James, Karl Berger, Hans Tammen, Coheed and Cambria, Natalie Merchant and Ivo Perelman. He is also a member of the Diller-Quaile String Quartet, which premiered his Quintet for Trumpet and Strings (featuring guest soloist Herb Robertson) in May of 1996.

In 2006, Tomas began his recorded musical collaboration with the acclaimed German trombonist Christof Thewes with the release of Quartetto Pazzo "Melancholera" (with Rudi Mahall and Dirk Peter Kolsch). 2007 saw the release of Mr. Ulrich's first CD as a co-leader (Labryinths with Ayman Fanous on the Konnex label). In 2008, Mr. Ulrich released his first CD as a leader. Cargo Cult (with Rolf Sturm-electric and acoustic guitars and Michael Bisio-acoustic bass) released their first CD "If You Should Go" on the Cadence label to great critical acclaim. This ensemble has gone on to release three more CDs on the CIMP label (Tomas Ulrich's Cargo Cult (2009), Lonely House (Covers) (2010), Discovers (2011)). Tomas describes this group as his "dream band" and he looks forward to years of live and recorded performances with this wonderful ensemble. 2010 also saw the release of "Clear Horizons" on the German glogg record label with a new ensemble Tomas Ulrich's TransAtlantic Quartet (with Christof Thewes -trombone, Martin Schmiddi Schmidt-mandolin and Michael Griener-drums).

JAZZ NOW has characterized him as "the total package ... incredible chops, great imagination and superb pitch. He fulfills the roles of bassist, guitarist, and additional horn player and is endlessly talented and creative". Jay Collins from Signal to Noise has written that "Tomas Ulrich is surely one of the most accomplished and intriguing cellists in improvised music, with a brilliant technical mastery and ability to play prickly improv, jazz, classical, film music or pretty much anything he desires." Tomas has written music for film, theater and instrumental performance and has concertized in Europe, Japan, South America and the United States. Mr Ulrich can be heard on over 80 CDs in a wide variety of musical styles and settings. Tomas has recently returned from a wonderful tour in Avignon with Bruno Bertrand percussion and Francois Grillot bass. These performances have been released as digital downloads by AMJI and are available on iTunes, Amazon, etc.

Tomas will be performing a solo cello recital in Saarbrücken on Sept. 5th at the Little Theater at City Hall at 8 pm. At that time, he will re-unite with Christof Thewes and Martin Schmidt for a series of performances in Saarbrücken, Darmstadt, Berlin and Metz, France.

## NED ROTHENBERG - CLARINETS

Composer/Performer Ned Rothenberg has been internationally acclaimed for both his solo and ensemble music, presented for the past 33 years on 5 continents. He performs primarily on alto saxophone, clarinet, bass clarinet, and the shakuhachi - an endblown Japanese bamboo flute. His solo work utilizes an expanded palette of sonic language, creating a kind of personal idiom all its own. In an ensemble setting, he leads the trio Sync, with Jerome Harris, guitars and Samir Chatterjee, tabla, works with the Mivos string quartet playing his Quintet for Clarinet and Strings and collaborates around the world with fellow improvisors. Recent recordings include this Quintet, The World of Odd Harmonics, Ryu Nashi (new music for shakuhachi), and Inner Diaspora, all on John Zorn's Tzadik label, as well as Live at Roulette with Evan Parker, and The Fell Clutch, on Rothenberg's [Animul](#) label.

Ned Rothenberg composes and performs on saxophones, clarinets, flute and shakuhachi (an end blown Japanese bamboo flute). He has been internationally acclaimed for his solo music which he has presented for the past 25 years in hundreds of concerts throughout North and South America, Europe and Japan. He has lead the ensembles Double Band, Power Lines and [Sync](#) (his most recent assemblage with Jerome Harris, acoustic guitar & acoustic bass guitar and Samir Chaterjee, tabla) and was a founding member of the cooperative group New Winds (now with Robert Dick, flutes and Herb Robertson, Trumpet). He has worked in other projects with Paul Dresher, Yuji Takahashi, Sainkho Namchylak, Masahiko Sato, Elliott Sharp, Samm Bennett, John Zorn, Katsuya Yokoyama, Evan Parker and Marc Ribot. He's lived and worked in New York City since 1978.

Rothenberg's musical interests are numerous and his work varies widely in its sonic, emotive and stylistic profiles. A strong underlying element of his instrumental voice is the extension of the woodwind language to incorporate polyphony and accurate microtonal organization through the manipulation of multiphonics, circular breathing, and overtone control, not only using his horns in their standard melodic role but also as rhythmic and harmonic engines in both solo and ensemble contexts. As a composer he can move from "Jazz-funk in cubist perspective, dizzying, yet visceral" (J. Pareles, NY Times re Double Band) to a solo music that is "intense, slightly melancholic, rhapsodic without being sentimental (E. Rothstein, NY times), while avoiding the use of mere effect- "crafting distinct, evocative compositions that boast shape as well as texture" N. Tesser, (Chicago Reader).

Rothenberg's frequent international travels have included a 6-month residency in Japan during which he performed his music and studied shakuhachi with two of the foremost masters of the instrument, Goro Yamaguchi and Katsuya Yokoyama. In the summer of '89 he toured the (then) Soviet Union with Tom Cora (cello), Peter Hollinger (drums) and Elliott Sharp (guitars). In October '92 he returned to Russia and the Baltics in duo with the Tuvan vocalist Sainkho Namchylak. In January 2002 he travelled to South Korea for the first time to work with saxophonist Kang Tae Hwan and percussionist Park Ji-Chun.

Rothenberg has recently formed [ANIMUL RECORDS](#), its initial release was [INTERVALS](#), a 2 cd set of solo music for alto saxophone, bass clarinet, clarinet and shakuhachi. This was followed by the debut cd of [R.U.B.](#) with Percussionist/DJ/ [Samm Bennett](#) and guitarist [Kazuhisa](#)

Uchihashi. Its entitled, strangely enough, [Are You Be](#). Next came Sync's 2nd cd, [Harbinger](#). ANIMUL's most recent release is [The Fell Clutch](#), a jam band for big-eared listeners with [Tony Buck](#), drums, [Stomu Takeishi](#), fretless bass, Rothenberg and sometime special guest, [Dave Tronzo](#), on electric slide guitar. Just out (July, 2007) is a live duo recording with Rothenberg and [Evan Parker](#).

Rothenberg has 2 recent releases on John Zorn's [Tzadik](#) label. [Inner Diaspora](#) features Sync along with 2 pre-eminent improvising string virtuosi, Mark Feldman and Erik Friedlander. Through the music and in his liner notes Rothenberg responds to the complexities of his Jewish heritage. [The Lumina Recordings](#), is a retrospective reissue of Rothenberg's solo recordings from 1981-85 with vastly improved sound and detailed documentation. In addition, [selected](#) recordings include: Ghost Stories on Tzadik Records' composer series, Sync's Port of Entry (Intuition), a solo CD, The Crux ([Leo](#)), Double Band's Parting, Overlays and Real & Imagined Time ([Moers Music](#)), Power Lines' self-titled recording ([New World](#)), Amulet, a duo with Sainkho Namchylak ([Leo](#)), a duo CD with Evan Parker, Monkey Puzzle ([Leo](#)), the New Winds' CDs, Potion, Digging it Harder From Afar ([Victo](#)), The Cliff and Traction (Sound Aspects), a studio collaboration co-composed with Paul Dresner, Opposites Attract ([New World](#)), and a duo with pianist Denman Maroney Tools of the Trade ([CIMP](#)). His work as a sideperson can be heard on labels such as Tzadik, Deutsche Grammophon, Zomba, Nonesuch, A&M, ECM, BMG, Axiom, and Virgin with leaders including John Zorn, Bobby Previte, Steve Nieve, Marc Ribot, Sainkho, Marisa Monte, So La Liu and Fusanosuke Kondo.

Born in 1956 in Boston, Rothenberg graduated from Oberlin College and studied at Oberlin Conservatory, Berklee School of Music, privately with Les Scott (saxophone & clarinet), and George Coleman (jazz improvisation). However, his trademark solo technique is self-taught. He has received grants and commissions from the New York Foundation for the Arts, New York State Arts Council, Cary Trust, Lila Wallace Foundation, Chamber Music America, Asian Cultural Council, Roulette, Jerome Foundation, Meet the Composer, Japan Society and ASCAP.

## **ALON NECHUSHTAN - PIANO & COMPOSITIONS**

Alon has written chamber, orchestral, electronic and multi disciplinary pieces commissioned by leading contemporary ensembles in the U.S., Europe, Asia winning various awards for his music. His style is sometime referred to as 'post third stream' and often incorporates elements of improvisation, as well as serialism, heterophony, minimalism, folk and rock elements.

Alon has worked with the M.I.T concert orchestra, the N.E.C composers Orchestra, Radnofsky quartet (U.S.A), Marcel worms -Eleonore Pameijeer duo (NETHERLAND), Euphonique Saxophone Quartet (GERMANY), Alexandre Travassos (BRAZIL), Yokohama Chamber Ensemble (JAPAN), The Israeli Contemporary String quartet, Musica Nova Consort, Tel Aviv Soloist Orchestra (ISRAEL) among many others. Currently in New York, Alon has premiered many of his compositions as a pianist with various ensembles in venues such as Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Joes' pub at the Public Theatre, Central Park BandShell and the Summerstage, other performance highlights including the Sao Paulo Klezmer Festival & Tel Aviv New Music Bianalle

In 2013, his Orchestral piece Ancient landscape has won the Tel Aviv Soloist Orchestra competition and was performed in Einav Center. Earlier that year his Wind Quintet Chiaroscuro for The Mint Julep Wind Quintet was performed during the Imani Winds Festival in Mannes.

In 2010, La vide es un Pasaje for string quartet won the Lieberson Award for composers and performed by the Contemporary String quartet in Jaffa, Tel Aviv

In 2006, Dark Forces for double bass and electronics premiered at Project Soundwave, San Francisco by Damon Smith; his Invisible Motion for the Radnofsky Saxophone Quartet was commissioned and performed at the New Gallery Concert Series in Boston.

In 2005, Hypnotic Suggestions for Euphonique Saxophone Quartet was commissioned and performed at the Bloomingdale School of Music, New York.

In 2003 Light Our Sorrow was commissioned by Dutch pianist Marcel Worms and Eleonore Pameije as part of the Music from Six Continents project, the piece was played in 20 more countries around the world over the next two years. The U.S. premiere was in 2004 in Princeton. Alon's Gory Tales, inspired by the paintings of Edward Gorey, was commissioned and performed by Rinat Avisar at the Schwartzsche Villa in Berlin, Germany.

In 2001 Alon has performed in Japan, where he was invited to compose a piece for the 'Rejoicing Sounds' Festival in Yokohama; later that year he premiered his music in Israel where he has premiered the piece Duel for double quartet with the Musica Nova Consort during the Bianalle for New Music in Tel Aviv, conducted by the Australian conductor Keynan Jones.

Alon has created new works for leading choreographers in the U.S including Netta Pulvermacher-Neta Dance, Valerie Norman-Van Dance, Edisa Weeks -Delirious Dance, Clare Byrne Dance, Jim May and Anna Sokolow Dance, Julie Gayer and Avodah Dance, Mariana Beckerman MB Dance, Ilanit Tadmor, Victoria Hanna, Sally Ann Friedlander, Deganit Shemi Dance, Wendy Osserman-Wo Dance, Valerie Green-Dance Entropy, and Pele Bauch. These compositions have been presented at Dance Theater Workshop, Performance Space 122, Danspace Project at St. Marks Church, La mamma Theatre, Movement Research at the Judson Church, Dance New Amsterdam, W.A.X, The Flea, The Brick, Tribeca Performance Center, Merce Cunningham, and other venues in New York City, Europe, and Jerusalem.

Alon has won the Independent Music Awards' Best Album (2012) for his trio release Words Beyond , The Puffin Foundation Award (2012) for his composition Souls on Fire, the Liberson Composition Award (2011) for his composition La vida Es Un Pasaje for the Israeli Contemporary String Quartet, the Brooklyn Art Council Grant for his Compositions for String Quartet and Electronic Tape (2011) commissioned by the NorthSide Town Hall in Brooklyn, the Acum fund for the support of the creation award for his Dark Forces Suite for Electronics (2011), six America-Israel Cultural Foundation awards (1995-2001), The ICL Award (2010) for his trio words beyond The American Music Live music for Dance Award (2009) for his collaboration with Netta Pulvermacher in the creation of original music for Fold , the New England Conservatory Award (2001), The Kerem-Jerusalem Award (1999, 2000), he received the 1st prize in the Rubin Academy of music composition award (2001) for his composition The Garden of Forking Paths for String Orchestra conducted by Avner Biron and grants from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Israel for his tour in Japan at the Yokoham Music Festival (2002).

Alon received his Master of Music degree from the New England Conservatory in 2002, studying composition with Michael Gandolfi, orchestration with Lee Hyla, and additional composition lessons with Lukas Foss At the Boston University. Composition Masterclasses with Fredrick Rjewski, Pierre Boulez and Alexander Gehr. He studied piano with Fred Hersch, Paul Bley, Ran Blake, Danilo Perez, big band and jazz composition with Bob Brookmeyer, improvisation with Jerry Bergonzy, Bob Moses, George Garzone, Henry Thredgill and Uri Caine in the School for Improvisation in New York. Alon received his Bachelor's in 1999 from the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance having studied composition with Mark Kopytman, Tzvi Avni, Haim Alexander, Joseph Bardanashvily & film scoring with Slava Ganelin.

Alon has released ten solo CDs on various international labels:

- 2014 Venture Bound on Enja, Germany [www.enjarecords.com](http://www.enjarecords.com)
- 2013 Ritual Fire - on Between the lines ” , Netherlands [www.betweenhelines.de](http://www.betweenhelines.de)
- 2011 Dark Forces - on Creative Sources” , Portugal [www.creativesourcesrec.com](http://www.creativesourcesrec.com)
- 2010 Words beyond trio - on Buckyball Records, U.S.A [www.buckyballmusic.com](http://www.buckyballmusic.com)
- 2007 Copperhead trio –Labyrinths on Ayler Records , SWEDEN [www.ayler.com](http://www.ayler.com)
- 2006 Alon Nechushtan - The growl - on Tzadik Records, U.S.A [www.tzadik.com](http://www.tzadik.com)
- 2003 Spanning the globe on Future classics, Netherland [www.futureclassicsmusic.com](http://www.futureclassicsmusic.com)
- 2002 project soundwave, Media1, U.S.A <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/projectsoundwave>
- 2000 Ancient City Blues, MGN, Netherlands <http://www.marcelworms.com/discography.html>