

PRESS RELEASE

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THE KITCHEN PRESENTS "STRANGE MUTATIONS":  
THREE WEEKS OF MUSICAL MADNESS

The KITCHEN is back and it's burning hot with an International Festival of music - STRANGE MUTATIONS - three weeks of musical exploration and extravaganza commencing January 16th and running through February 1st at the Kitchen's new space, 512 West 19th Street (between 10th Avenue & the Westside Highway), Telephone: 212-255-5793.

Music is mutable, and STRANGE MUTATIONS explores the delightful and sometimes bizarre influences that flow freely from musician to musician. Its incentive is to question the very notion of what "new music" means today, and to show the important bridge which exists between international experimentalists, rock musicians, and other noise makers. (See Complete Schedule Attached).

With an eye to the future, Music Director Bob Wisdom brings musical savvy and a flair for the unusual to his selections for the Kitchen's first season in its new, finely honed theatrical space. From the alluring Afro-tech collaboration of ZAZOU BIKAYE to the defiant humour of FRANK CHICKENS, the inventive experimentalism of HARRY DE WIT or HOLGER HILLER's steamroller soundscapes, STRANGE MUTATIONS offers something new for anyone interested in the future of music.

Always a feisty contender on the pop culture scene, the KITCHEN proves once again that in a world gone mad with disco-drivel, progressive ideas and musical taste are alive and well in New York City.

For further information, tapes, photos, etc., please contact: Susan Martin  
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Thursday, Jan. 16: **STRANGE MUTATIONS** opens with two nights of music by artists on Belgium's **CRAMMED DISCS** record label.  
**8:00 PM** **FRIENDS OF CRAMMED DISCS** (Special surprise band)

**9:00 PM** **ZAZOU BIKAYE** is the odd-coupled duo of Bony Bikaye & Hector Zazou. Bikaye, who was born in Kananga, Zaire handles the vocals, often singing in various African languages. He moved to Paris in '82 where he met partner Zazou while working on a recording project with African musician Papa Wemba. Composer & keyboard player Hector Zazou was born in Sidibela-besque, Algiers, and later moved to France. He is the composer of the first 'Afro-minimal opera', 'La Chaleur Restait Accablante Dan Cette Region De L'Afrique, Proche De L'Equater.' The music of Zazou Bikaye combines concept with rhythm to create what one reviewer calls "A brutal implosion of synths, beatboxes and African singing", that suggests an intense marriage between two distinct cultural orientations that have produced a rare and unpredictable music.

Friday, Jan. 17: **JAYNE BLISS & BEAUTIFIER** - This Crammed Discs artist stretches the limits of 'idea' in the form of words in order to 'tell it straight', accompanying herself on guitar. Bliss' construct of language and sound attempts to build a bridge between two divergent, yet similar communicative formats.

**8:00 PM**

**9:00 PM** **MINIMAL COMPACT** are another of Crammed Discs culturally mixed groups that is predominately Israeli, but includes Dutch, Belgian and French personnel. Their 'home' base is Belgium, and true to Crammed Discs' stated objective of developing a roster of artists who are "either multi-racial in line-up or strangers in even stranger lands", Minimal Compact defy simple categorization. Their music is a transglobal assimilation of styles that mix modern pop sensibilities with mid-east, oriental and east-european motifs. The result is an intricate soundscape that is unsettling, dark and expressionistic, yet illuminating and danceable.

Saturday, Jan. 18: **FRANK CHICKENS** are Kazuko Hohki, from Tokyo and Kazumi Taguchi from Nagasaki, two Japanese women now based in London, who left Japan in the late '70's for England to escape the restricting conformity expected of most women in Japan. They met each other at Camden Adult Education Institute, where they were both enrolled in art classes. Their act is a cabaret-styled entertainment that uses backing tapes of Koroaka Orchestras (of popular songs without the vocals), or electro-funk dance rhythms. Making use of mime and movement as they sing, Frank Chickens' characters are stereotypical beings tortured by their

**8:30**



Sat. Jan. 18. Cont. belief in preconceptions. A mixture of kitsch, contradiction and irony pervades the humour of their performance. Topics range from geishas to gangsters to Godzilla, while songs like "Sake Ballad", "Mothra" and the disco-flavored "We Are Ninja (Not Geisha)", their first single, imply a witty, cunning intellect beneath the facade of 'entertainment'.

9:45 PM

ZAZOU BIKAYE - (see preceding page)

Sunday, Jan. 19:

Matinee-3:00 PM

TRIBUTE TO COMPOSER GYORGY LIGETI - various ensembles will perform selected compositions by the Hungarian composer. These include Ligeti's Piano Etudes, Horn Trio and Sonta for Solo Celo among other compositions to be announced. The unauthorized use of Ligeti's music for a scene in Stanley Kubrick's film "2001" earned him a devoted cult following and brought overdue attention to this important modernist composer.

Friday, Jan. 24:

Doors open at  
8:00 PM -

Concert starts at  
9:30 PM

MALCOM GOLDSTEIN-A TRIBUTE TO MARTIN LUTHER KING Works include compositions by Malcom Goldstein & Archie Shepp, with Goldstein's "...That Hung Like Fire On Heaven", an electronic treatment (computer tape), of Dr. King's original "I Have A Dream" speech that synthesizes his particular vocal idiosyncrasies as a 'slow-moving melody'; a 'song mass' that a live instrumental ensemble plays 'with', as the central composition of performance. Other selections include Goldstein's "My Feet Is Tired But My Soul Is Rested", and Shepp's "Been In The Storm So Long" and "Funeral" a reworked memorial piece (originally presented in 1963), for Medgar Evers. The ensemble features Malcom Goldstein on violin and as conductor, Archie Shepp on tenor sax, David Murray-bass clarinet, Denardo Coleman-percussion, and Henry Threadgill on alto sax, among a group of equally distinguished players. MALCOM GOLDSTEIN is a noted composer/violinist long active in 'new music' and renowned for his improvisational acumen on the violin, an instrument he is considered to have 're-invented' the playing of. He currently lives in Brookline, Massachusetts. ARCHIE SHEPP-A leading figure in 'new music' or 'avante jazz' circles from its conception, Shepp worked with the late John Coltrane, has recorded extensively and performed worldwide. He is currently a professor at the University Of Massachusetts in Amherst.



Saturday, Jan. 25: METROPOLITAN BLUES ALL-STARS play a variety of blues 'styles' that range from 'country', 'chicago' to 'contemporary'. Classic blues instrumentation consists of Harmonica player Rodney Hatfield, bassist Stuart Miller, rhythm guitarist Frank Schaap, David White on drums and Nick Stump, vocalist extraordinaire doubling on lead guitar.

8:45

10:15

OLU DARA & THE OKRA ORCHESTRA - Cornetist/bandleader Olu Dara and his orchestra perform a broad range of compositions that mix various styles (blues, jazz, r'n'b, Carribean & African pop), in a skillful display of sustained excitement that underline his natural talents as both musician and entertainer. A known sideman for such notable jazz luminaries like James 'Blood' Ulmer, David Murray and Henry Threadgill, and alternative musicians Brian Eno and the group Material, Olu Dara's stylistic virtuosity and adaptability to different musical situations (as well as his complete mastery of the Cornet), make each performance memorable and enlightening.

Sunday, Jan. 26:

Matinee-3:30 PM

ZEITGEIST is a new music ensemble based in Minneapolis that regularly commissions music by contemporary composers and has performed pieces by John Cage, Terry Riley, Karlheinz Stockhausen, Frederic Rzewski and Homer Lambrecht, among others. The material ranges from minimalist compositions to jazz and 'art music', bringing to each genre an alertness that is often obfuscated by more dogmatic players. The quartet consists of Joe Holmquist and Jay Johnson on percussion, Robert Samarotto on Reeds and Greg Thiesen on piano, though some compositions require additional musicians.

5:00 PM

LEROY JENKINS AND STING- Leroy Jenkins' new ensemble, Sting, is the violinist/composer's latest reincarnation following the Creative Construction Company (with Anthony Braxton, Leo Smith and Steven McCall), and the Revolutionary Ensemble with Jerome Cooper and Simone. The new band is a sextet of 2 violins, 2 guitars, bass and drums. Sting's music is more accesible than his previous collaborations, often juxtaposing improvisational techniques against a backdrop of gutsy blues guitar licks that is suggestive of both jazz-rock and harmolodic playing though 'post serialist chamber music' is a more exacting description.



Tuesday, Jan. 28: MASABUMI KIKUCHI is a noted jazz pianist whose work with Gil Evans, Miles Davis, George Russell, Sonny Rollins, and Lionel Hampton are only footnotes in his long musical career. His discography includes his performance as both a guest artist and bandleader, while his current interest in electronic music has led him to use computers and synthesizers during live solo performances, in his quest for 'the music of the '90's'.

8:45 PM

A 'TO BE ANNOUNCED' performer will perform earlier in the evening at 8:00 P.M. -please call for details - tel. 255-5793

Wednesday, Jan. 29: SHELLY HIRSCH - a vocalist who creates her own glossary of sounds, her performance is a solo improvisation using an odd mixture of organic matter which she exploits for their unique sounds, combining her voice and the Zither/percussion accompaniment of David Simons.

8:00 PM

8:45 TAZARTES GHEDALIA - A one-man ensemble that manipulates pre-recorded sounds intermixed with acoustic and electric instruments.

Thursday, Jan. 30: HUGO LARGO is a post-punk art-band consisting of former Glenn Branca ensemble players, Tim Sommer and Greg Letson, performance artist/choreographer Mimi Goese and photographer/musician Adam Peacock. The group has performed mostly in the New York area since forming in late '84. Hugo Largo's music is 'quiet', sparse and complex; capable of emoting calm, sensitive sensations or hard, violent vibrations.

8:00 PM

9:15 HOLGER HILLER & GROUP - Hiller is the former lead singer for the German rock band Palais Schaumberg, from which he departed a few years ago in order to pursue his own musical ideas. Using the concept that any person is capable of playing music, he created a 15-minute opera called "Good Morning Trousers", for German TV, followed by his first solo LP, "A Bunch Of Foulness In The Pit" and its single, "Johnny", both released on Cherry Red Records. Holger Hiller uses an array of tape loops, emulators, drum machines and other electronics to create a deliberate chaos of sound that sometimes resembles pop music. The result is a patchwork of sound and soul which tap both emotion and intellect.



Friday, Jan 31: HARRY de WITT is a Dutch composer who also invents and builds his own instruments. He re-unites music with other art forms, often working with dancers and theatrical performers. He designs his instruments to fit the idea of a specific performance situation and is, in a sense, an architect of ideas, sometimes using his body as an improvisational, musical sculpture.

8:00 PM  
9:15 HOLGER HILLER & GROUP - (See preceding page)

Sat. Feb. 1st: THE APARTHEID CONCERT WITH THE BLACK ROCK COALITION BIG BAND - An anti-Apartheid concert featuring an impressive line-up of local musicians; diverse talents include; Duke Bootee (co-author and producer of Grand Master Flash's 'The Message'), vocalist Bernard Fowler, known for his work with the N.Y. Citi Peech Boys and Herbie Hancock's Rockit Band, Jalal of the Last Poets, harmoldic guitarist James 'Blood' Ulmer, and... Vernon Reid, Melvin Gibbs, J.T. Lewis, P.J. Nelson, Susan Stoval, Craig Street, Greg Tate, Cookie Watkins, Carmen Whiip, Jerry Allen, Flip Barnes, Kelvyn Bell, J.P. Bourelly, Joe Bowie, Tony Bridges, Oscar Brown, Steve Coleman, H.R. Daryl, Dock (from Bad Brains), Ronnie Drayton, D.K. Dyson, Marque Gilmore - and many more additions to the super-group to be announced.

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For reservations & information, please contact: Susan Martin, 219-8833 or  
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255-5793