

BLAKE ZIDELL & ASSOCIATES

The Kitchen

For Immediate Release
December 9, 2014

THE KITCHEN CONTINUES ITS ELECTRONIC MUSIC SERIES, SYNTH NIGHTS, WITH THE WORLD PREMIERE OF BEN VIDA'S *SLIPPING CONTROL (VERS. 3)*, JANUARY 21

Performance Will Also Feature Tyondai Braxton (Battles) & Amirtha Kidambi

The Kitchen will present the next installment of **Synth Nights**, its series devoted to the live performance of electronic music, on January 21 with the world premiere of **Ben Vida's** *Slipping Control (vers. 3)*. This new iteration of Vida's video and performance piece examines the connectivity between machine-derived and spoken rhythms, focusing on cycling vocal patterns and psychoacoustics all in the service of a rather broken sort of dance music. The evening features Vida on electronics and vocals, joined by **Tyondai Braxton** (formerly of **Battles**) and **Amirtha Kidambi** on backing vocals.

The concert will begin at 8pm. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at www.thekitchen.org; by phone at 212.255.5793 x11; or in person at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street), Tuesdays – Saturdays, 2:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Vida is a New York based artist and composer. He has been an active member of the international experimental music community for two decades with a long list of collaborators, bands and releases to his credit. In the mid '90s he co-founded the group Town and Country and has since worked as a solo artist with releases on such labels as PAN, Alku, Shelter Press and Kranky. He has presented works in a range of museums, galleries and music venues including the MoMA, The MCA, ICA London, Audio Visual Arts, Leap Gallery Berlin, The Artist's Institute and the Sydney Opera House. Ben is represented by Lisa Cooley Gallery (NYC). Recent activities include performances at LiveArtsWeek at Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna, the Royal Festival Hall as part of the Meltdown Festival in London and the debut of a newly commissioned composition for Unsound presented at Experimental Intermedia in New York.

Braxton has been actively involved in music composition and performance since the mid '90s. His music consists most prominently of "orchestrated loops," a real-time overlaying of guitar, voice and found objects designed to simulate an ensemble. As the former guitarist, keyboardist and singer of Battles, he received world-wide acclaim for the group's debut album *Mirrored* (2007, Warp Records), which, amongst other honors and awards the album received, was hailed by *Time* Magazine as one of the ten best records of the year. Braxton's most recent release is his solo effort *Central Market* (2009, Warp Records). The record, constructed for a large orchestra, was adapted for ballet by Baryshnikov Art Center-resident choreographer John Heginbotham. Braxton has received commissions ranging from multimedia art/music installations (Lower Manhattan Cultural Council) to scoring composition for world renowned ensembles (Kronos Quartet, Bang On A Can) and contemporary dance troupes (Merce Cunningham protégé Alan Good).

Kidambi is invested in the performance and creation of exploratory musics, ranging from South Indian Carnatic, Improvisation, Weirdo Rock, Early Music, New Music and the Avant-Garde. As a soloist, collaborator and ensemble member in groups such as, the experimental Medieval folk band Seaven Teares, the DIY percussion group Ashcan Orchestra, and vocal quartet Elizabeth-Caroline Unit, Amirtha has performed in a variety of venues from DIY spaces to concert halls including Carnegie Hall, ISSUE Project Room, Roulette, Clocktower Gallery, Zebulon, Death by Audio, Silent Barn, Le Poisson Rouge and The Kitchen. Her band Seaven Teares released their debut album *Power Ballads* in 2013 on Northern Spy Records. Recent projects include *Apollo's Accidental Answer* a chamber opera with the Pat

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Spadine's Ashcan Orchestra, the premiere of AACM founder and legendary composer/pianist Muhal Richard Abrams' *Dialogue Social*, and *The Oversoul Manual* by Darius Jones with an album on Aum Fidelity released in October 2014. Amirtha is fortunate to have had the great honor of working with Robert Ashley since 2011 in *That Morning Thing* and the premiere of *WWW III (Just the Highlights)*. Amirtha and the Varispeed Collective premiered Robert Ashley's final opera *CRASH* shortly after his passing, for the Whitney Biennial in 2014. She is the recipient of the Jerome Foundation's Emerging Artist Commission for Roulette in the 2015 season.

With roots in The Kitchen's original electronic music program, held on Monday nights beginning in 1971, Synth Nights represents a broad spectrum of practitioners from across generations. Participants have included **Laurie Anderson, David Behrman, Nels Cline and Yuka Honda, Greg Davis, Annie Gosfield, Musica Elettronica Viva, Ebe Oke, Oneohtrix Point Never, Laurel Halo, James Hoff and C. Spencer Yeh.**

Funding Credits

Music programs at The Kitchen are made possible with support from The Amphion Foundation, Inc., The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, and with public funds from New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.



About The Kitchen

The Kitchen is one of New York City's most forward-looking nonprofit spaces, showing innovative work by emerging and established artists across disciplines. Our programs range from dance, music, performance, and theater to video, film, and art, in addition to literary events, artists' talks, and lecture series. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country, and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

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