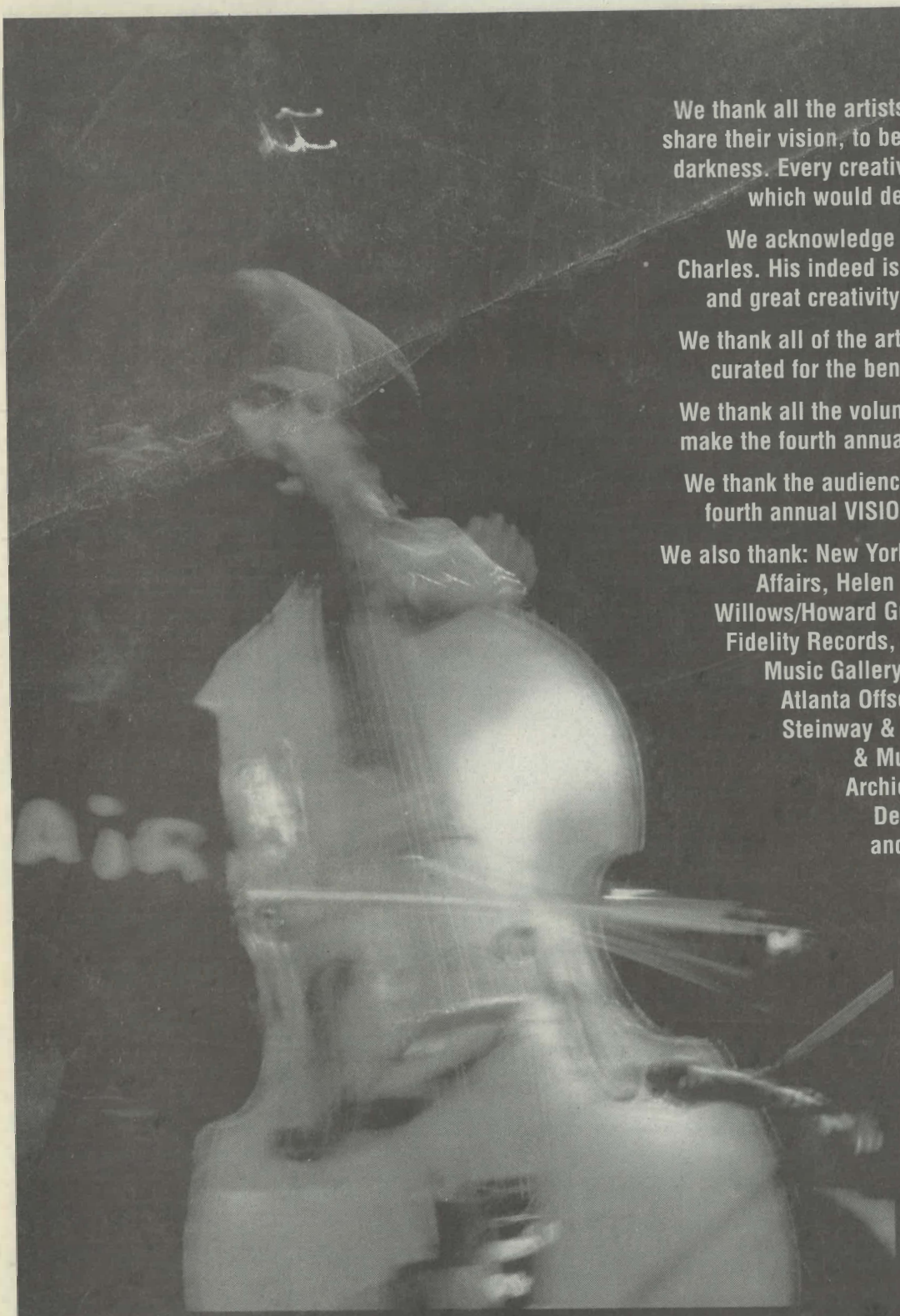
the fourth annual
VISION
festival
St. Nicholas of Myra Church
10th Street and Avenue A, NYC
May 21-31, 1999



THANK YOU

We thank all the artists who have come together to share their vision, to be a bright light in this time of darkness. Every creative act is a stand against that which would desensitize or dehumanize us.

We acknowledge and thank the spirit of Denis Charles. His indeed is a spirit of love and fortitude and great creativity that brightens all our paths.

We thank all of the artists who have organized and curated for the benefit of the whole community.

We thank all the volunteers who have pitched in to make the fourth annual VISION FESTIVAL a reality.

We thank the audience for coming and making the fourth annual VISION FESTIVAL a great success.

We also thank: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Helen S. Buckner Foundation, Judy Willows/Howard Greenberger Foundation, AUM Fidelity Records, Drimala Records, Downtown Music Gallery, EAB Bank, Tim Billingsly at Atlanta Offset, Dance Theatre Workshop, Steinway & Sons, Manhattan Drum Shop & Music Studios, Artswire, Susan Archie at World of anArchie, Think Design, Embury Arts Consulting and last, but certainly not least, McSorley's Ale.

This event is made possible with public funds from the New York State Council On The Arts (NYSCA), a State Agency.

Arts for Art, Inc. would like to give special thanks to the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust Fund.

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the fourth annual
VISION festival

Devoted to the arts as a multi-disciplinary terrain without borders where all things are possible, Arts for Art presents the 11 day Fourth Annual Vision Festival in New York City.

The 1999 Vision Festival is poised to take the disparate strands of the world's improvising communities and weave them together, featuring unique collaborations between avant-garde jazz musicians, dancers, poets and visual artists.

You will have a rare chance to hear musicians from New York, Chicago, New Orleans, San Francisco, Germany, France, and Japan performing side by side, showcasing contemporary improvised music.

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Your tax deductible donations are welcome. Please make checks payable to Arts for Art, Inc., 508 East 6th Street, New York, NY 10009

sCHeDuLe

http://www.visionfestival.org

FRIDAY MAY 21

7:00pm **Joseph Jarman** *Opening Invocation*
7:30pm **Alan Silva w. Visions Orchestra**
8:45pm *Dance* **Aleta Hayes w. Joelle Leandre**
9:45pm **Whit Dickey Trio:** Rob Brown • Chris Lightcap
10:45pm **Cooper-Moore Solo**
11:45pm **Sunny Murray Quartet** Byard Lancaster • Louie Belogenis • Wilber Morris

SATURDAY MAY 22

7:00pm *Poet* **Steve Dalachinsky w. Sabir Mateen, Stephanie Stone**
7:30pm **The Sun Ra Arkestra directed by Marshall Allen**
9:00pm **Leroy Jenkins**
10:00pm *Dance* **Maria Mitchell w. Craig Harris • Dean Bowman**
11:00pm **Roy Campbell Jr. and 'Taz'** Zane Massey • Eugene Cooper • Patrick Polladian • Reggie Nicholson

SUNDAY MAY 23

7:00pm **Rashied Ali Ensemble** Greg Tardy • James Hurt • Omer Atival
8:00pm **Bill Cole • Joseph Daley**
9:00pm **Andrew Lamb Quartet** Eugene Cooper • Andrei Strobert • Warren Smith
10:00pm *Poet* **Sarah Jones**
10:45pm **Joe Maneri Trio** Mat Maneri • Randy Peterson
+ *Dance* **Christine Coppola Maneri**

MONDAY MAY 24

7:00pm **Mark Dresser Quartet** Brandon Evans • Denman Maroney • Kevin Norton
8:00pm *Dance* **Joan Miller w. Cooper-Moore dancers:** David Brown • Donna Clark • Manolo Medina • Johari Mayfield • Tyrone Monroe • Nanako Tsukiyama
9:00pm **Bluiett GROUP** Hamiet Bluiett • Pheeroan Aklaff • Jaribu
10:00pm **David S. Ware Quartet** Matthew Shipp • William Parker • Guillermo E. Brown

TUESDAY MAY 25

7:00pm **J.D. Parran Quartet** Stephen Haynes • Vejay Iyer • Donald Robinson
8:00pm **Daniel Carter & Saturnalia Strings** Jonathan LaMaster • Vic Rawlings • Mike Bullock • Matt Heyner
9:00pm *Poet* **Amiri Baraka and Amina Barker**
9:45pm **Zeena Parkins**
10:45pm **Thurston Moore/Jon Voight/Laurence Cook**

WEDNESDAY MAY 26

7:00pm **Marilyn Crispell Trio**
8:00pm **Arthur Brooks Ensemble V and the Giants of Sciants** Justin Perdue • Jeremy Harlos • Matthew Weston
+ *Dance* **Penny Campbell** • Susan Sqorbati • Peter Schmitz • Terry Creach
9:00pm **Joseph Jarman Quintet** Myra Melford • Alan Silva • Jessica Jones • Rob Garcia
10:00pm First Meeting: **Thomas Buckner • Roscoe Mitchell • Borah Bergman + Thurman Barker**

THURSDAY MAY 27

7:00pm **Peter Brotzmann's Die Like a Dog Quartet** Toshinori Kondo • William Parker • Hamid Drake
8:00pm **Ori Kaplan Quartet** Tom Abbs • Andy Bemkey • Geoff Mann
9:00pm **Chris Jonas Quintet** Cuong Vu • Curtis Hasslebring • Sam Furnace • Andrew Barker
10:00pm *Poet* **David Budbill w. William Parker**
10:45pm **Joelle Leandre • Joe McPhee • Gerry Hemingway**

MAY 21-31, 1999

FRIDAY MAY 28

7:00pm **Milford Graves • John Zorn**

8:00pm *Dance* **Rocky Bornstein w. Robert Ian**

9:00pm **John Blum Trio:** Jackson Krall • Joseph Daley

10:00pm *Poet* **Daniel Berrigan w. Jason Kao Hwang**

10:45pm **Rob Brown Sextet** Joe Morris • Karen Borca • Mat Maneri • Roy Campbell • Gary Joynes

11:45pm **Fred Anderson • Hamid Drake • William Parker**

SATURDAY MAY 29

7:00pm **James Blood Ulmer's Odyssey** Charles Burnham • Warren Benbow

8:00pm **Raphe Malik Quartet** Cody Moffett • Sabir Mateen • Larry Rolland

9:00pm *Poet* **Nadine Mozon w. Nioka Workman**

9:45pm **Noah Howard Quartet** Sonelius Smith • Wilber Morris • Warren Smith

10:45pm **William Parker • Alan Silva • Kidd Jordan**

SUNDAY MAY 30

7:00pm **David 'Fathead' Newman Quartet** Bryan Carrott • Melissa Slocum • Winard Harper

8:00pm **Wilber Morris Wilberforce** Herbie Morgan • Vincent Chancey • Reggie Nicholson • Will Connell, Jr. • Leena Conquest

9:00pm *Dance* **Gus Solomons Jr. w. Walter Thompson**

9:45pm *Poet* **Louis Reyes Rivera w. Quartet** Ahmed Abdullah • Choqui Cantlo • Atiba Wilson • Radu

10:45pm **Matthew Shipp • William Parker**

11:45pm **Jim Staley • Phoebe Legere • Ikue Mori**

the fourth annual VISION festival

MEMORIAL DAY • MONDAY MAY 31 • DENIS CHARLES MEMORIAL

7:00pm **Andrew Cyrille Quartet** Mark Helias • Greg Tardy • Andy Bemkey

8:00pm *Dance* **Patricia Nicholson w. William Parker**

9:00pm **The Jazz Doctors** Frank Lowe • Billy Bang • Abbie Radar • Ed Schuller

10:00pm **Drum Choir For Denis led by Billy Higgins:** Rashied Ali • Andrew Cyrille • Sunny Murray • Warren Smith

Q+A WitH WiLLiaM PArkER

William Parker, who has been an essential part of the Vision Festival since its inception in 1996, recently took time to quiz several participating performers about key issues in the creative process. He asked each of them to comment on matters of self-determination, cosmic flow and vision. Here are the replies.

ANDREW LAMB
Saxophonist

Self-determination
To me, when an individual speaks of determination the term means standing in the light, in the face of adversity, evil, misconception, jealousy, the memory of past struggles, and all things which contain that type of energy. At this point of realization, one must then remain undaunted and unfazed, by anything negative, while pursuing your goal.

Cosmic flow
To be a clear and open channel to receive the message of the creator. To listen, to feel, to communicate within one to another and expand, breathe, explore, with no hesitance.

Vision
The flower of truth and spiritual prosperity. Open, encompassing, warm expressions of all art forms working together without camps and divisions, all moving in the right direction at the same time, in the same moment, in the same vision.

DAVID BUDBILL
Poet

Self-determination, vision and the cosmic flow
I tried to answer all three questions with one unified statement: I have been a freelance writer for the past 30 years. Although it's a mighty struggle, I keep doing it because I want to work for myself, determine for myself what my own vision is. I want to be as independent of corporate and academic institutions as I can possibly be, because they obstruct my vision, my ability to listen to the voices I hear coming to me from the other side.

These voices coming to me from the other side emerge from what other people might call the "cosmic flow" — that sound stream traversing through the heavens from which we all get our sounds whether they be words or music.

Which means that no artist can ever see himself or herself as individually important. Our art, if it is successful, does not belong to us as individuals. Because we haven't invented anything. We've only heard those sounds coming to us from the

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other side and given voice to them, which is why our art is not for us but for everyone.

We are conduits, trasmitters of those voices coming to us from that sound stream out there beyond us somewhere.

BILL COLE
Double-reedist

Self-determination
The only thing we have as African-descented people in America is self-determination. Too few of our people realize this because too many are co-opted by the society whose only goal is to control us. I don't want to be controlled by anybody.

Cosmic flow
We are ending the Pisces era and moving into the Aquarius Age and because of this we are experiencing much chaos which is manifested in hatred. Whether you or I will see better times is up for grabs but maybe our children will. Being a Libra I feel that I must keep a balance in my life to experience that life to its fullest.

Vision
My vision is to keep playing until I die. My music must always speak to the moment but paint a time when hatred no longer exists because love is the only worthwhile concept to live for and I hope to express that in my music.

ALAN SILVA
Multi-instrumentalist

Self-determination
The development of personal being. Every person is unique. What's so great about this music is people's ability to develop their uniqueness. Self-determination is the first step to the evolution of any individual.

Cosmic flow
Cosmic flow is being in tune. We are just vehicles for the music to flow through us.

Vision
We are not supposed to kill anybody. Cosmic energy can only flow when it is transformed into love or compassion. What I like about Sun Ra, he was always talking about the future but there was a strong connection to the infinite past. I was involved in being in the moment. This is what I got from Charles Mingus. When you solo, solo like it is the last chance you have to play, like there is no tomorrow.

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recent and future issues: • **mte013** – raphe malik - *con sequences* (denis charles, sabir mateen, william parker) • **mte014** – sunny murray with sabir mateen - *we are not at the opera* • **mte015** – glenn spearman - *last date* (rashid bakr, matthew goodheart)
• **mte016** – malcolm goldstein - *live at fire in the valley* (solo) • **mte017** – alan silva & william parker - *a hero's welcome: pieces for rare occasions*
• **mte018** – peter brotzmann's *die like a dog* (roy campbell, hamid drake, william parker)
• **mte019** – noah howard - *patterns/message to south africa* (earl freeman, misha mengelberg, han bennink, johnny dyani, chris mcgregor)
• **mte020** – jemeel moondoc and william parker - *new world pygmies*

photo thierry trombert

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TuRf

TuRf, created by Jo Wood, a painter, performance artist and dancer, is the visual arts component of the fourth annual Vision Festival. Participating artists include sculptors Alain Kirili, James Donahue, Robert Janz and Jeff Schlanger; painters Emilio Cruz, Barbara Friedman, Christine Olsavsky, Marcy Rosenblat and Marilyn Sontag. Site installations are by Whitfield Lovell, Yuko Otomo and Jo Wood. Video and projections are by Jene Highstein, Phyllis Bulkin Lehrer and Alan Silva. Several of these artists also work in other media not represented here. Many have collaborated with dancers, musicians, poets and writers, searching for ever more expansive or more layered formats. In a time and place that is more often characterized by fragmentation and difference, these artists are advocates of connection and continuity between the arts. Traditional categories have been under revision throughout the course of this century as new media appear, as sculptors incorporate painting and drawing in their work, as painters make sculptural objects and almost everyone uses photography, computer-generated images, video, film, written text, sound and movement in one way or another. As categories become even more permeable, new, open-ended, improvised forms emerge. Improvisation has always been the foundation of the Vision Festival, with its origins in jazz, with its preference for the mutable and contingent, for taking things on the fly, from the surroundings.

TuRf, then, as surroundings: It is "home turf," the place where we come from, the place which defines us, which we defend and cherish, which we move in and out of, pushing back its boundaries. But **TuRf** suggests a number of other meanings. It is a course on which to run a race, to perform. It is soil that is rich, fertile, nourishing. It is a covering of grass, with earth, matted roots, an interdependent, collective system, a matrix for growth, for transformations from one state to another. As part of the Vision festival's dazzling, multi-disciplinary presentation, **TuRf** celebrates its artist's differences in aesthetics, philosophies, ethnic backgrounds, gender, in the histories and trajectories of their lives. It celebrates the inspired, energized exchange of ideas, beliefs, passions and how that exchange can ignite creativity, opening up new possibilities for each other. **TuRf** celebrates artists, the magicians of the earth.

Lilly Wei

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"approved..." jeff hunt, table of the elements

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Jim Donahue's installation is made up of familiar architectural forms that are presented in a shifted context that alters both the meaning and the experience of the familiar.

Emilio Cruz Painter, sculptor, composer, drummer and writer lives and works in New York City. His paintings and sculptures are well known in major collections and museums all over the world. He is co-founder of the Black Artists Group founded in St. Louis in the 1960's.

Barbara Friedman is a painter whose present series "The Road To Cleveland" begins with the historical accident that most of the occupants of Lekka (a small Greek village) have wound up living in Cleveland, Ohio.

Jene Highstein is known primarily as a sculptor. His piece in the festival, "Finalement," is a projection using his show at Ace Gallery (New York City, April 1997) as its source. His video projection will be shown on May 29.

Robert Janz. "The Border land between the visual arts and poetry is full of potential, and power." See links www.visionfestival.org; www.vers.com/Janz, www.vers.com/Janz2 and www.location1.org/

Alain Kirili is a sculptor in search of the musicality of metal. His work is inspired by and frequently featured in the context of jazz and improvised music. His work will be featured on the stage May 21.

Christine Olsavsky is a painter who lives and works in New York. She is a recent recipient of the Pollock Krasner grant.

Yuko Otomo is a native of Japan. She paints, draws and writes poetry, haiku, art criticism and essays. You know her work from the Knitting Factory, Biblio's, La Mama, Cafe Nico, ABC No Rio and three previous Vision festivals.

Marcy Rosenblat's paintings are a visual journey in remembering. The rhythms travel to mysterious places that remind us who we are. At times the voyage is slowed down by veiled paint, at other times we are jarred into remembering.

Jeff Schlanger Vision four: drawing, poetry, painting, Live music, sculpture, dance and color .. all are O N E.

Alan Silva does site specific work combining music, dance, video, painting, and light sculptures. He has done experiemental work in video beginning in the 1960's. In this year's festival, he will be doing a collaboration with videographer Alan Roth on May 21 to be presented with an orchestral piece.

Marilyn Sontag, a native New Yorker, has lived in Germany and Italy. Sontag participated in the first three Vision Festivals. Her paintings, mixed media, 2-d and 3-d works are frequently internationally exhibited.

Jo Wood lives, works and shows in New York City. She is a painter who also does site specific pieces. "I like real space in real time, to relate to specific architecture and space physically. I like archaeology things occuring over time and things having once existed. These become my experiences which I put back into my paintings.

Also participating are: **Phyllis Bulkin Lehrer** and **Whitfield Lovell**.

friDAY MAY 21

7:00pm **Joseph Jarman** *Opening Invocation*

Mystic, scholar, poet and visionary Joseph Jarman, one of the founding fathers of Chicago's A.A.C.M., offers the opening invocation for the Vision Festival once again this year, ushering in and welcoming the creative spirits that will inhabit this performance space for the 11 evenings of the festival.

7:30pm **Alan Silva w. Visions Orchestra**

An essential figure of the free jazz scene circa ESP and BYG, bassist and violinist Alan Silva was born in Bermuda and raised in New York. He played a critical role in albums by Cecil Taylor, Albert Ayler, Sun Ra and Archie Shepp, and tonight, in an all-too-rare New York appearance, he presents his latest reflections on eternity with a star-studded orchestra: Jackson Krall (drums), Wilber Morris (bass), Mark Hennen (piano), Stephen Haynes (trumpet, cornet, alto sax), Roy Campbell Jr. (trumpet, flugelhorn), Taylor Ho Bynum (flugelhorn), Mark Taylor (French horn), Steve Swell (trombone), Art Baron (trombone), Bill Lowe (bass trombone, tuba), Joe Daley (tuba), Will Connell Jr. (flute, bass clarinet), J.D. Parran (clarinet, alto clarinet, bass clarinet), Karen Borca (bassoon), Elliott Levin (soprano saxophone, flute, piccolo), Rob Brown (alto sax, flute), Ori Kaplan (alto sax, flute), Sabir Mateen (tenor sax, flute, clarinet), Andrew Lamb (tenor sax, flute), Scott Currie (baritone sax, flute).

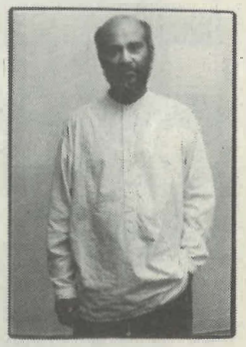
8:45pm **Aleta Hayes w. Joelle Leandre**

Choreographer, singer, dancer and actress Aleta Hayes has been performing all over. Recently she decided to devote her efforts to the challenges of working with avant-garde jazz. She is joined by the French gypsy bassist Joelle Leandre, one of Europe's most exceptional musicians, who straddles the line between contemporary composition and improv with ease and grace.

9:45pm **Whit Dickey Trio** **Rob Brown • Chris Lightcap**

Drummer Whit Dickey used to man the engine room in the David S. Ware Quartet and the Matthew Shipp Trio, and more than earned the hosannas showered upon him for his unfettered drumwork with each of these groups. In 1996 he parted ways with both groups in order to further his own compositional concerns, enlisting a pair of fellow travellers, sax and flute-man Rob Brown and bassist Chris Lightcap, to help him make his massive opening statement, Transonic. Tonight the trio serves notice of Dickey's further developments.

10:45pm **Cooper-Moore**



Cooper-Moore, the pianist in William Parker's In Order To Survive and Little Huey Orchestra among others, plays more than a few instruments of his own devising that you've perhaps never heard of, such as the twanger and the diddley-bo. But his flights of musicial invention - both in the literal and figurative senses - speak directly to the listener who brings to bear a well-tempered ear. This solo performance, which features Cooper-Moore on piano and selected instruments, is a chance to hear this versatile and intense artist straight up, no chaser.

11:45pm **Sunny Murray Quartet**

Byard Lancaster • Louie Belogenis • Wilber Morris

The man who provided the essential rhythmic key that unlocked the doors to the power station for Albert Ayler and Cecil Taylor, multidimensional drummer Sunny Murray splatters and shatters time like no one else. Here he propels fiery saxophonists Byard Lancaster and Louis Belogenis with his percussive maelstrom, while bassist Wilber Morris does his level best to keep things tethered to this planet.

saTurDAY MAY 22

7:00pm **Steve Dalachinsky w. Sabir Mateen, Stephanie Stone**

An action painter whose palate is language... a horn player who blows words instead of notes... an architect who builds worlds in variable typefaces. Part Ginsberg, part Bruce, part Baraka, and wholly Dalachinsky, Steve has probably heard more music than you, but he's always happy to share his experiences and his good will through his poetry. He is joined by Sabir Mateen (sax, flute) and Stephanie Stone (piano).

7:30pm **The Sun Ra Arkestra directed by Marshall Allen**

The most legendary big band of the latter half of the 20th century, and one of the few units dragging the big band concept kicking and screaming into the 21st century. Firebreathing altoist Marshall Allen leads the Sun Ra Arkestra as it pays tribute to those gone – John Gilmore, June Tyson, Pat Patrick, and of course Mr. Sonny Blount a.k.a. Le Sonyr Ra his own bad self. But the Arkestra doesn't merely pay respect to those who are gone; rather, it sets the stage for those yet to come, as it always has, and makes those us of in the here and now dance with reckless abandon, to boot.

9:00pm **Leroy Jenkins**

Violinist Leroy Jenkins is continually inventing his own musical language. His is an extraordinary bonding of a variety of sounds associated with the black music tradition, while simultaneously bridging with European styles. His intermeshing of jazz and classical influences leaves critics constantly wondering at his musical identity. However, all agree that "Jenkins is a master who cuts across all categories." (The San Francisco Chronicle) "He is as quick as a cat, emotional as an actor, and as precise as a mathematician." (St. Louis Post Dispatch) "No violinist in the field can touch Leroy Jenkins." (The Village Voice)

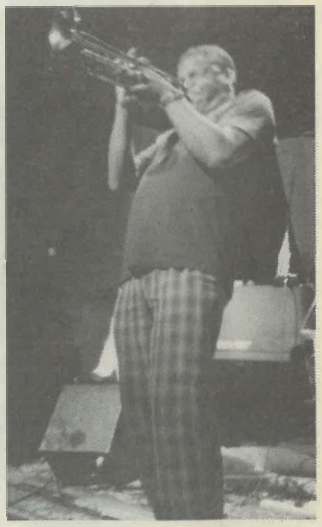
10:00pm **Maria Mitchell w. Craig Harris • Dean Bowman**

The founder of The Black Pearl Dancers and a Vision Fest regular, Maria Mitchell has been working with improvised music throughout her career. During the last four years, she has devoted herself to performances with some of the greats of this music. Tonight, she is joined by trombonist Craig Harris and vocalist Dean Bowman.

11:00pm **Roy Campbell Jr. and 'Taz'**

Zane Massey • Eugene Cooper • Patrick Polladian • Reggie Nicholson

His sound abounds. Trumpeter-plus Roy Campbell Jr. is a mainstay, a sparkplug and an always buoyant persona on the scene he has been restlessly engaged in since the 1970s. His brilliant command of trumpet language and the ease with which he leaps beyond the margins to the matter and the message is matched only by his sly, ribbing sense of humor. He is joined by 'Taz,' one of several outfits with which he regularly performs or leads: Zane Massey (saxophones), Eugene Cooper (bass), Patrick Polladian (piano), Reggie Nicholson (drums).



sUnDAY MAY 23

7:00pm **Rashied Ali Ensemble**

Greg Tardy • James Hurt • Omer Atival

Drummer Rashied Ali traveled "Interstellar Space" with John Coltrane on the master's final album, and he hasn't stopped since. One of the players who opened jazz up to new frontiers in the 1960s, Ali continues the voyage into the millennium with this immensely gifted young combo, which features pianist James Hurt, tenor saxophonist Greg Tardy and bassist Omer Avital.

8:00pm **Bill Cole • Joseph Daley**

Bill Cole is the man to call when you want to know what's what with all manner of double reed instruments, as Asia, Africa and the Americas dance with the ancestors around a serpentine fire of inspiration. (And, if you haven't, check out his invaluable oral biography, "Chasin' the Trane.") Cole, whose performances always offer "the sound of surprise," is joined by a man who knows how to put the bottom registers right up top: tuba player Joseph Daley.

9:00pm **Andrew Lamb Quartet**

Eugene Cooper • Andrei Strobert • Warren Smith

Tenor saxophonist Andrew Lamb is an up-and-coming player and composer who makes his Vision Festival debut. His 1995 album "Portraits in the Midst" (Delmark) shows him to be a fierce player and a fleet thinker, with the ability to move fluidly between "in" and "out" without sacrificing structure or energy. He is joined by Eugene Cooper (bass), Warren Smith (vibes) and Andrei Strobert (drums).

10:00pm **Sarah Jones**

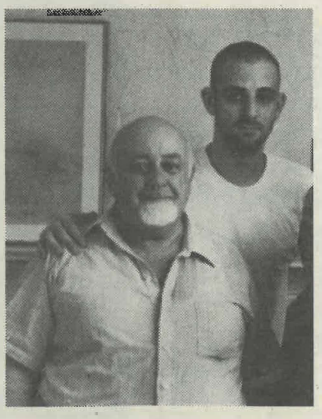
Acclaimed by the Village Voice as a "spoken word diva [who] captivates with wit and verve," poet Sarah Jones is the recipient of the 1998 Van Lier Literary Fellowship from the Bronx Council on the Arts and was recently chosen by Time Out New York as one of 99 people to watch in 1999. She lives in New York City and is working on a sitcom pilot for MTV and her first novel. She is joined by a musical guest to be announced.

10:45pm **Joe Maneri Trio**

Mat Maneri • Randy Peterson

+ Dance **Christine Coppola Maneri**

Educator, pioneer and genius, the multi-reedist Joe Maneri is like no one, and nothing, you've ever seen or heard. He employs his own compositional system of microtonal scales, and in league with his son, the sizzling violinist Mat Maneri, and drummer Randy Petersen, he creates a sound world unlike any other. Sometimes, he sings! Joining this eternally young elder statesman of avant-everything, is dancer Christine Coppola Maneri, who often performs in the realm of improvised music.



MonDAY MAY 24

7:00pm Mark Dresser Quartet

Brandon Evans • Denman Maroney • Kevin Norton

Throughout his rich and varied career, bassist Mark Dresser has pursued a full range of creative tangents. That includes everything from extended works for solo bass ("Invocation") to themes inspired by silent movies ("The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," "Un Chien Andalou") to ensemble statements with his group Force Green, to his membership in the Arcado String Trio and a decade with the Anthony Braxton Quartet. He is a player of genuine and alluring lyricism with an ear for turning what might be termed "experimental" into poetic patterns. Tonight's performance features Brandon Evans (reeds), Kevin Norton (drums), and Denman Maroney (piano).

8:00pm Joan Miller's Players w. Cooper-Moore

David Brown • Donna Clark • Manolo Medina • Johari Mayfield • Tyrone Monroe • Nanako Tsukiyama

Dancer and choreographer Joan Miller is a woman of great intensity. Her energy and movement have been important in redefining the links between dance, music and theater. Tonight, she and her company collaborate with multi-instrumentalist and musical inventor Cooper-Moore.

9:00pm HamietBluiett Group

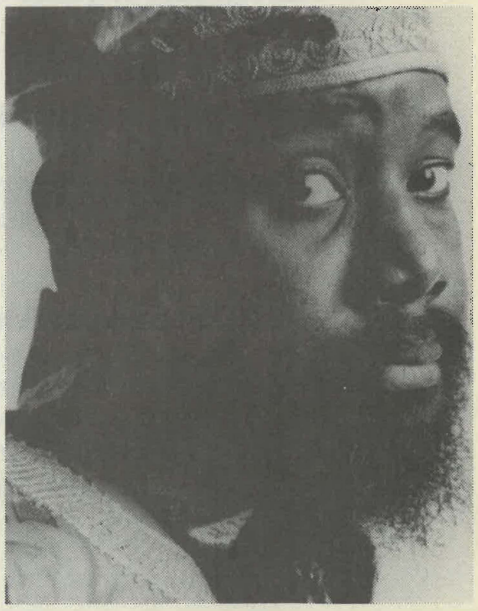
Hamiet Bluiett • Pheeroan Aklaff • Jaribu

Known for his mastery of the baritone saxophone, Hamiet Bluiett always stretches to find imaginative concepts for presenting his instrumental choices. Groups such as Baritone Nation and the Clarinet Family have helped to further the appreciation of often overlooked colors in the jazz palette. He has his own "line" of recordings on the Mapleshade label, which allows him to advance the efforts of numerous fellow musicians. His quartet features bassist Jaribu and drummer Nasheet Waits – a crackling powerhouse who clearly inherits the creative verve of his late father, drummer Freddie Waits.

10:00pm David S. Ware Quartet

Matthew Shipp • William Parker • Guillermo E. Brown

One of the most powerful and potent working groups in the history of jazz. David S. Ware, having fully absorbed the advances of the great tenors before him, has been steadfastly extending the great tenor sax tradition for the past decade. Featuring charter members Matthew Shipp (piano) and William Parker (bass), and relatively new recruit Guillermo E. Brown (drums), here is a band able to both fully plumb the depths of blues passion and expertly explode new openings in organized sound.



tUEsDAY MAY 25

7:00pm **J.D. Parran Quartet**

Stephen Haynes • Vejay Iyer • Donald Robinson

Multi-reedist J.D. Parran is a New York-based composer and educator who has worked with such artists as Paul Simon, Lena Horne and Stevie Wonder. Besides leading his own ensembles, Parran has collaborated with a diverse range of highly distinct personalities, including Hamiet Bluiett, Anthony Braxton, Don Byron, the Shaking Ray Levis and John Lindberg. He is joined by pianist Vejay Iyer, drummer Donald Robinson and bassist Larry Rolland.

8:00pm **Daniel Carter & Saturnalia Strings**

Jonathan LaMaster • Vic Rawlings • Mike Bullock • Matt Heyner

That breeze you feel in the subway ain't the No. 4 train. It's multi-reedist Daniel Carter, blowing in big circles that whir with crazy centrifugal force. Get caught in his orbit, and the dizziness you experience is merely the first step toward sonic hyper-reality. Often heard with Test (in the Astor Place subway, on street corners, in clubs, on furtive wavelengths) and Other Dimensions in Music, Carter is never less than one with the music. He's a sweet-natured mentor as well, inspiring such rising young outfits as Saturnalia, a string group that features bassist Mike Bullock and Matt Heyner, cellist Vic Rawlings and violinist Jonathan LaMaster.

9:00pm **Amiri Baraka and Amina Baraka**

The author of "Black Music," "Blues People," "The Dutchman," "The Dead Lecturer," "Preface To a Twenty Volume Suicide Note" and numerous other works of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama, criticism and autobiography, has been here from the start. "But the point of living seems to me to get to your actual feelings, as, say, these musicians want always to get to theirs. If you can find out who you are (you're no thing) then you can find out what you feel. Because we ARE our feelings, or our lack of them. The music, possible feeling, is here. Where ever you are. All you have to do is listen. Listen!" He is joined by his wife, the poet Amina Baraka, saxophonist Herbie Morgan and bassist Wilber Morris.

9:45pm **Zeena Parkins**

The first and last word in amplified harp and an influential part of New York's new music scene since the 1980s, Zeena Parkins composes and improvises haunted, hallucinatory soundscapes in which taut strings ripple across the texture of consciousness. Her albums include "No Way Back" (Atavistic), "Nightmare Alley" (Table of the Elements), and "Mouth=Maul-Betrayer" (Tzadik).

10:45pm **Thurston Moore/Jon Voight/Laurence Cook**

Reprising the trio that performed at the 1997 Vision Festival (and is featured on the soon to be out-of-print "Vision One" compilation on Aum Fidelity), guiterrorist Thurston Moore continues to bring the noise in as many different contexts as his fevered brain can conceive. His "day job" as a founder of the seminal post-punk/indie/underground/cult band Sonic Youth is often juxtaposed with Moore's forays into collaborative improv. Recent partners have included Cecil Taylor, Mats Gustafson and Yoko Ono. He is joined by bassist Jon Voight and drummer Laurence Cook.

wedNeSDAY MAY 26

7:00pm **Marilyn Crispell Trio**

Inspired by Cecil Taylor and John Coltrane, pianist Marilyn Crispell came to a jazz framework after an initial grounding in classical music (she graduated the New England Conservatory in 1968). A long and formative association with Anthony Braxton led to her emergence as a composer and bandleader whose playing is given to a captivating, even sweeping delicacy. Tonight, she joins two old friends and frequent bandmates going all the way back to the Braxton Years, when they were part of one of the most remarkable bands of the 1980s — drummer Gerry Hemingway and bassist Mark Dresser.

8:00pm **Arthur Brooks Ensemble V and the Giants of Sciants**

Justin Perdue • Jeremy Harlos • Matthew Weston

+ Dance **Penny Campbell • Susan Sqorbati • Peter Schmitz • Terry Creach**

Trumpeter Arthur Brooks and choreographer Penny Campbell have been performing together for a decade. With Justin Perdue (guitar), Jeremy Harlos (bass) and Matthew Westin (drums). The dancers, all long-term collaborators bridging the gap between contact improvisation and avant-garde jazz, include Susan Squorbati, Peter Schmitz and Terry Creach.

9:00pm **Joseph Jarman Quintet**

Myra Melford • Alan Silva • Jessica Jones • Rob Garcia

An original member of the Art Ensemble of Chicago, Joseph Jarman left the group several years ago to pursue a different path, becoming a Buddhist monk and focusing on his own work within varying ensembles. He is a performer well-acquainted with the transit from the ethereal to the ecstatic. The multi-reedist is joined by regular associates Myra Melford (piano) and Rob Garcia (drums/percussion), with Jessica Jones (tenor flute) and Alan Silva (bass).

10:00pm First Meeting

Thomas Buckner • Roscoe Mitchell • Borah Bergman + Thurman Barker

Baritone Thomas Buckner is one of America's leading exponents of art song, and he finds within this ensemble a group of deep-thinking peers able to challenge convenient notions of sonic perception. Think of four planes intersecting in a virtual zone, with the reeds of Roscoe Mitchell (Art Ensemble of Chicago, The Note Factory, Space), the piano of Borah Bergman (complex and vigorous improviser) and the drums of Thurman Barker (indispensibly heard everywhere from Muhal Richard Abrams to the World Bass Violin Ensemble).

ThuRsDAY MAY 27

7:00pm Peter Brotzmann's Die Like a Dog Quartet

Toshinori Kondo • William Parker • Hamid Drake

You can read the name of this outfit, one of German tenor saxophone titan Peter Brotzmann's most significant configurations of the '90s, as a harrowing comment on the perils of the jazz life. The music is dedicated, of course, to Albert Ayler, the ur-outsider sonic spiritualist whose mysterious 1970 plunge into the East River tragically stilled one of the most vividly oscillating voices ever to blow truth through a reed. Perhaps, though, the group also represents a ferocious response to those who would deny such voices a place, however precariously poised, in a world on the brink. With William Parker (bass), Hamid Drake (drums) and Toshinori Kondo (trumpet), Die Like a Dog braves the chasm with an obliterating shout, then calls forth life from the void like blades of grass springing up after a thunderstorm.

8:00pm Ori Kaplan Quartet

Tom Abbs • Andy Bemkey • Geoff Mann

The young alto saxophonist is part of a new generation of adventurous players and composers staking out its turf in a committed bid to destroy boredom, passivity, ignorance and other manifestations of what George Clinton termed "the placebo syndrome." Hear the future today. With Tom Abb (bass, didgeridoo), Andy Bemkey (piano), and Geoff Mann (drums).

9:00pm Chris Jonas Quintet

Cuong Vu • Curtis Hasslebring • Sam Furnace • Andrew Barker

Ditto on that anti-placebo business. An enduring member of the Little Huey Creative Music Orchestra, the talented saxophonist leads his own ensemble of hard-working performers in his Vision Festival debut. Joining Chris will be Chong Vu (trumpet), Curtis Hasselbring (trombone), Sam Furnace (alto and baritone saxes) and Andrew Barker (drums).

10:00pm David Budbill w. William Parker

Poet Budbill's most recent collection is "Moment to Moment," from which comes the poems included in his collaboration with bassist Parker, "Zen Mountains-Zen Streets." Comments Budbill: "They grow out of my life long interest in Asian religions and culture, especially Taoism, and out of reading for 30 years "The Tao Teh Ching" and ancient Chinese poetry. I am especially fond of Tao Chien, Po Chu-i, Wang Wei, Han Shan, Meng Chiao, Pao Chao and Tu Fu and to a lesser, but still significant, extent Japanese poetry and poets, such as, perhaps my favorite poet from either culture, Ryokan."

10:45pm Joelle Leandre • Joe McPhee • Gerry Hemingway

French bassist and vocalist Leandre is a master of extended techniques and a valuable presence on the global improvisation scene. Her recent duo collaboration with William Parker, "Contrabasses" (Leo), is a must-have for any fan of four-stringed finesse. She is joined, in this festival debut, by multi-instrumental reed player Joe McPhee — Poughkeepsie, N.Y.'s gift to the Tone World — and drummer Gerry Hemingway, a deeply resourceful improviser making his second appearance at this year's extravaganza.

frIDAY MAY 28

7:00pm **Milford Graves • John Zorn**

Master percussionist, healer, teacher, shamanistic powerhouse Milford Graves is at once one of the avant-garde's greatest showmen and a seminal force in the music. Now you see him. Usually, you don't. So seize on this moment as you would the tail of a comet ripping across moonlit skies. John Zorn, an abidingly radical eminence whose music erupts in every direction, joins the fray with one of his favorite improvising partners. His alto saxophone in hand, Zorn will illustrate why he's a mighty showman himself. Yow. What a way to start the weekend!

8:00pm **Rocky Bornstein w. Robert Ian**

Dancer, choreographer and improviser with her own company, Otrabanda, Bornstein is a longtime scholar in Yoshiko Chuma's School of Hard Knocks. She blurs the boundaries between dance and music in this collaboration with cellist Robert Een.

9:00pm **John Blum Trio Jackson Krall • Joseph Daley**

A pianist with a knack for making complex creative statements with physical and intellectual drive, John Blum makes his debut as a leader at this year's festival. He's joined by drummer Jackson Krall, a powerful player who has anchored Cecil Taylor's recent groups, and the tuba player Joseph Daley, an original and lively voice who lends robust hues to many a far-reaching ensemble.

10:00pm **Daniel Berrigan w. Jason Kao Hwang**

The celebrated poet, activist, pacifist and spiritual force reads from his work. He is accompanied by the superb, thoughtful and congenial violinist, Jason Kao Hwang.

10:45pm **Rob Brown Sextet**

Joe Morris • Karen Borca • Mat Maneri • Roy Campbell • Gary Joynes

A special Vision Festival ensemble led by one of the downtown jazz world's most volatile exponents of alto madness. Even Houdini couldn't untie the complex structural knots Brown so vigorously lashes together, yet every ear shall be liberated. And, mercy, what a band: Joe Morris (guitar), Karen Borca (bassoon), Roy Campbell (trumpet), Mat Maneri (violin), Gary Joynes (tenor saxophone).

11:45pm **Fred Anderson • Hamid Drake • William Parker**

There is nothing in jazz like the sound of a Chicago tenor saxophonist steeped in decades of blues, bop and unfettered bursts of soul-deep expression. Still burning as he begins his eighth decade on the planet, Fred Anderson is the source of that sound. Hear how he flourishes in this extremely rare New York appearance (while someone else runs the bar at the Velvet Lounge, the downhome Windy City bar where Anderson tends shop, pours cold draft and runs the regular Sunday jam session). He's joined by drummer Hamid Drake, a musician he helped to nurture and now one of the world's leading percussive improvisers, and bassist William Parker, whose generous and intuitive nature guarantees trilateral transcendance.

SATurDAY MAY 29

7:00pm

James Blood Ulmer's Odyssey:

Charles Burnham • Warren Benbow

Are you glad to be in America? If Odyssey is. The trio's electrified gospel harmolodic root juju country honk blues explosion is, in its very ruptured indigo fabric, America. James "Blood" Ulmer's most acclaimed combo sets the funky rumble and pit-bull bite of the leader's guitar against the plugged-in cries and whispers of Charles Burnham's violin, while drummer Warren Benbow ensures everyone's standing on shaky ground. Shout if the spirit moves you.

8:00pm

Raphe Malik Quartet

Cody Moffett • Sabir Mateen • Larry Rolland

Part of the great Cecil Taylor Unit that recorded the classic "One Too Many Swift and None Goodbye" in 1978, trumpeter Raphe Malik has sustained a solo career dedicated to profound investigations of his instrument's possibilities, while avoiding the cliches that often make technical trickery a sad dead end. His quartet is more than equal to Malik's challenging agenda. It features Sabir Mateen (reeds), Cody Moffet (drums) and Larry Rolland (bass).

9:00pm

Nadine Mozon w. Nioka Workman

Nadine Mozon, an actress, poet and writer, is an artist-in-residence with Tribeca Performing Arts. She continues to perform her one-woman show, "Confirming the Search: That Girl's Still Here Somewhere," for which she won an AUDELCO nomination in New York and a Drama-Logue Award in Los Angeles. She reads from her work, accompanied by Nioka Workman on cello.

9:45pm

Noah Howard Quartet

Sonelius Smith • Wilber Morris • Warren Smith

Wildly underdocumented as a recording artist, alto saxophonist Noah Howard established a presence on the now-legendary ESP Disk label in the mid-1960s and has returned to studio output only in the past few years – with only rarities inbetween. Which means you better catch him live, 'cause they're ain't no Memorex! Here, the author of "Schizophrenic Blues" appears with pianist Sonelius Smith, bassist Wilber Morris and drummer Calyer Duncan.

10:45pm

William Parker • Alan Silva • Kidd Jordan

Convened exclusively for the 1999 Vision Festival, this trio of master improvisers brings a mature wealth of inspiration, hard knocks, searing technical agility, transfiguring imagination, hyperdrive verve and knowing humor to the stage. Bassist William Parker has been a force in avant-garde jazz since debuting, in 1973, on Frank Lowe's "Black Beings" (ESP Disk). Compiling his discography is a more Herculean task than making America's infrastructure safe for Y2K. No problem: Even if all the power fails, Parker will still be playing bass. Keyboardist Alan Silva, who also plays a variety of other instruments, is a veteran of the '60s scene that included Albert Ayler, Sun Ra, Cecil Taylor, Archie Shepp, Sunny Murray and his own Celestial Communication Orchestra. This set marks another of his frequent collaborations with Parker. Visiting, once again, from New Orleans, Edward "Kidd" Jordan is to the tenor saxophone what cayenne pepper is to the spice world: an essential ingredient that will enliven any gathering where nourishment is the goal. A sublime bluesman who can go horn to horn with the baddest honkers, shouters and skronkers on the planet, Jordan also has his eye on the future: He runs a summer jazz camp for kids.

sUNDAY MAY 30

7:00pm **David 'Fathead' Newman Quartet**

Bryan Carrott • Melissa Slocum • Winard Harper

The living definition of "Texas Tenor," the 66-year-old native of Corsicana is all about some gutsy, gusty, full-throttle blues. He's one of those complete characters who is equally at home in the studio (where he racked up stacks of classic sides in sessions with Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, Aaron Neville and others), leading an orchestra, jamming some R&B or soulful small combo jazz. He came up alongside a nascent Ornette Coleman in the 1950s, but is most commonly associated with a fellow soul man, the saxophonist Hank Crawford. Making his Vision Festival debut, Newman will be joined by vibraphonist Bryan Carrott, bassist Melissa Slocum and drummer Winard Harper.

8:00pm **Wilber Morris Wilberforce**

Herbie Morgan • Vincent Chancey • Reggie Nicholson • Will Connell, Jr. • Leena Conquest

Known for his long-term affiliations with bandleaders such as David Murray and as organizing force behind the improvising collective One World Ensemble, bassist Wilber Morris here leads his namesake combo. Expect the unexpected, as Morris is joined by tenor saxophonist Herbie Morgan, French horn player Vincent Chauncey and drummer Reggie Nicholson.

9:00pm **Gus Solomons jr. w. Walter Thompson**

Dancer, choreographer, writer, teacher and puzzle fan Gus Solomons Jr. has danced in the companies of Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, Pearl Lang, Donald McKayle and his own. He bicycles everywhere and hates reading. Since 1996, as a guest artist with Donald Byrd/The Group, he has played the lead role in national tours of "The Harlem Nutcracker." For his performance, he is accompanied by saxophonist Walter Thompson.

9:45pm **Louis Reyes Rivera w. Quartet**

Ahmed Abdullah • Choqui Cantlo • Atiba Wilson • Radu

Poet Louis Reyes Rivera has been called the "Janitor of History." His words speak on behalf of the disinherited and take aim at the distortions of history. His poems cut through pain and hope and human capacity. Their intention is to confront our refusal to admit what we do to one another. Their mission is to advance the clearest definition of ourselves. He will be joined by Admed Abdullah on trumpet, Atiba Wilson on flute, Radu on bass and Choqui Cantlo on drums.

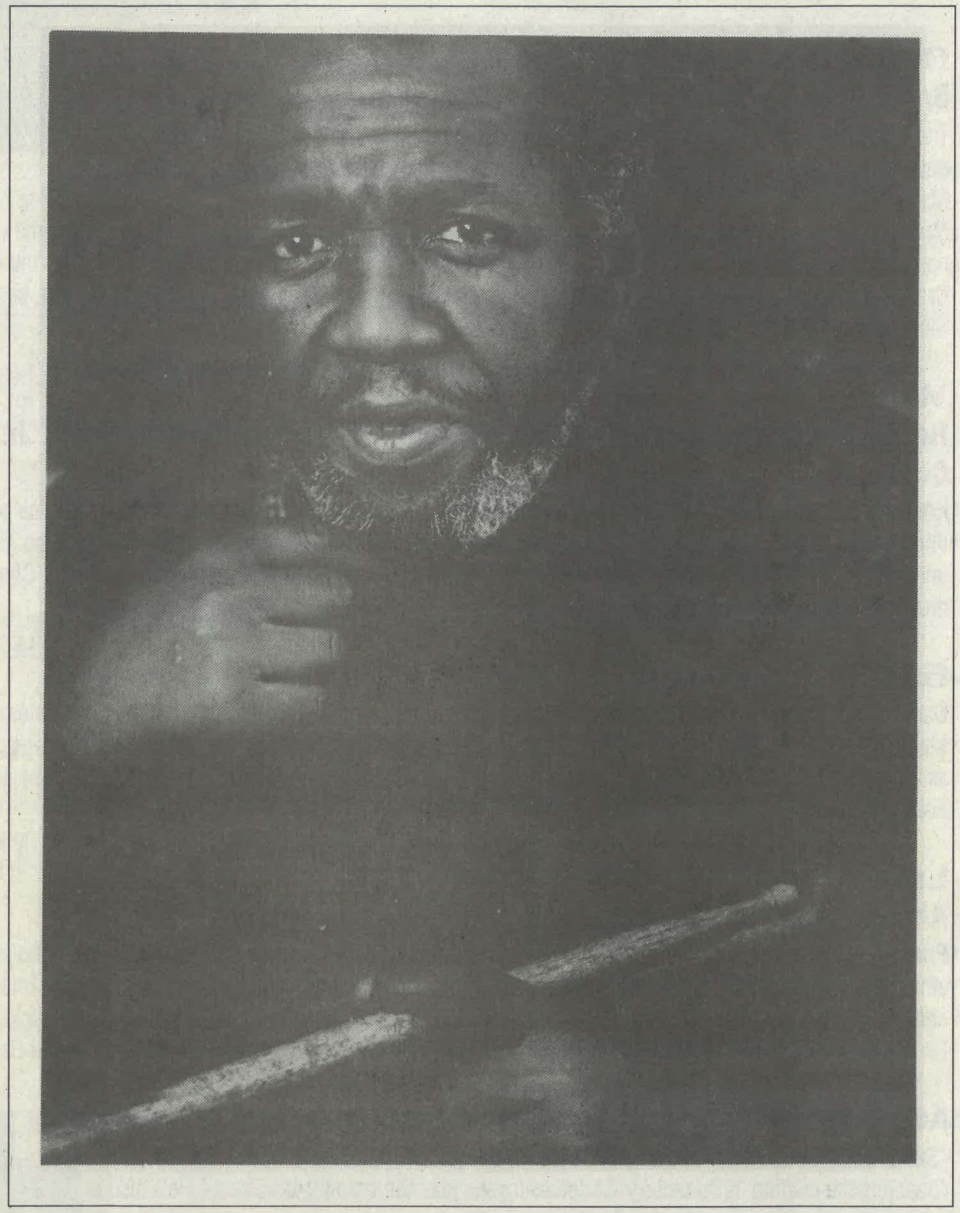
10:45pm **Matthew Shipp • William Parker**

"Stone Cold" Steve Austin fan and freelance metaphysician, Matthew Shipp claims he is "possibly the leading 12th-century-Christian-mystic jazzman below 14th Street." He's also a helluva piano player. The 38-year-old Delaware native has sustained a feverish creative pace for much of the '90s, establishing himself as a key composer and a startlingly reflexive improviser in a rapidly maturing scene that's taking jazz to its next logical stage. His collaborative duo with bassist William Parker is one of the wonders of the day. The duo celebrates the release of its album "DNA," which Shipp calls the culmination of his recording career.

11:45pm **Jim Staley • Phoebe Legere • Ikue Mori**

The guiding force behind the non-profit performance space Roulette, which began in 1980, trombonist Jim Staley is one of the most important figures on the downtown music scene. His collaborative trio features the widely seen performance and recording artist Phoebe Legere ("Last Tango in Bubbleland") on vocals and electronic percussionist Ikue Mori, who first made noise in the late '70s as the drummer with No Wave icons DNA and continues to work as a solo artist and collaborator with such performers as Marc Ribot, Zeena Parkins and many others.

mOnDAY MAY 31



We Remember Denis

Born into this family called music, we are wrapped in vision and poetry. Our lives are filled with melodies, rhythm and song; on and off the bandstand. At times we shine brilliantly, at other times not as bright. In the end we are called back home to the mouth of the river where sound began. Those of us who are left to continue the vision of music remain chilled and envious of the mysterious cycle called creation.

7:00pm **Andrew Cyrille Quartet**

Mark Helias • Greg Tardy • Andy Bemkey

Drummer, composer and metamusical stomper Andrew Cyrille embodies the history of jazz on the move, from his groundbreaking role alongside Cecil Taylor on such mid-'60s peaks as "Unit Structures," through fruitful associations with master musicians such as Peter Brotzmann, Milford Graves, Rashied Ali, Billy Bang, Sirone, Anthony Braxton, Joseph Jarman and Jimmy Lyons. Though his solo performances offer witty, swinging commentary on the role of the artist in contemporary flux, tonight he joins us with a quartet: Mark Helias (bass), Greg Tardy (tenor sax) and Andy Bemkey (piano).

8:00pm **Patricia Nicholson w. William Parker**

Choreographer, dancer, improviser. Patricia Nicholson is a champion and pioneer in developing new language in dance improvisation and choreography, creating a link through a common aesthetic with new jazz. She is accompanied by bassist William Parker and saxophonist Joseph Jarman.

9:00pm **The Jazz Doctors**

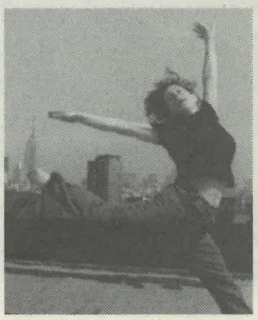
Frank Lowe • Billy Bang • Abbie Radar • Ed Schuller

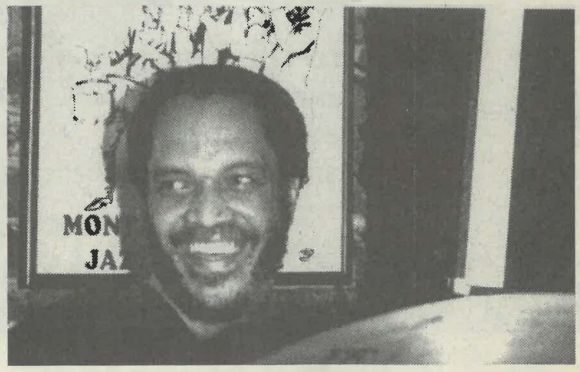
This spirited collective ensemble brings together the talents of violinist Billy Bang, saxophonist Frank Lowe, bassist Ed Schuller and drummer Abbie Rader. Fireworks are a given, as is lyricism, iconoclasm, propulsion and soul.

10:00pm **Drum Choir For Denis led by Billy Higgins**

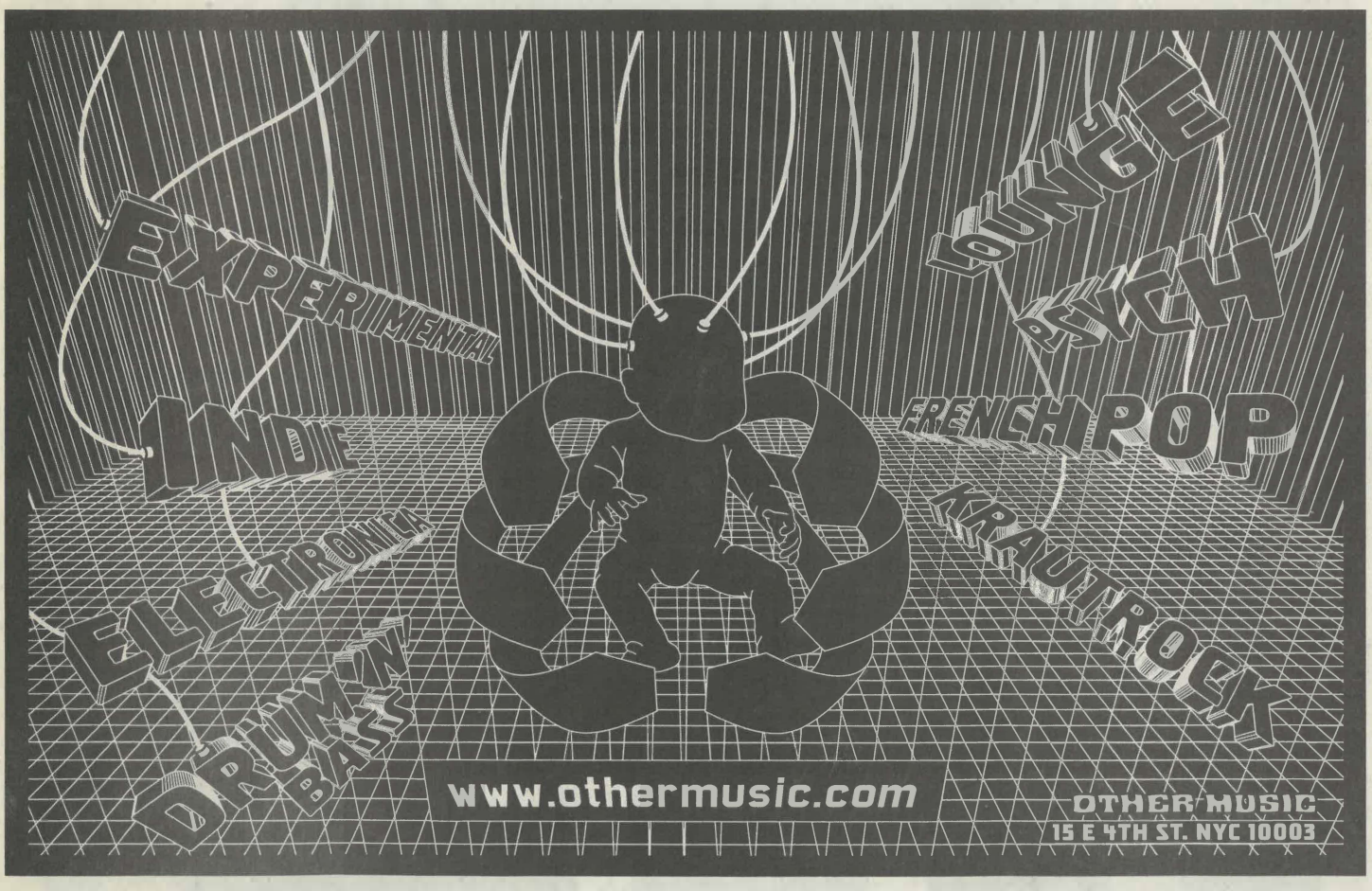
Rashied Ali • Andrew Cyrille • Sunny Murray • Warren Smith

Probably the most unique and ambitious gathering of natural forces ever to erupt on a Vision Festival program, and certain to be remembered for years to come. This fraternity of drummers convenes to honor the late Denis Charles, an abiding spirit who shares each of their paths through music, art, life, history and mystery. This dialogue of the drums unites five unique talents, four of which have been featured as leaders or performers during earlier stages of the Vision Festival. Leading this enterprise is Billy Higgins, visiting from Los Angeles, where his association with Ornette Coleman began in the late 1950s. Along with the late Ed Blackwell, who also shared the drum chair, Higgins was the rhythmic impulse of Coleman's "classic" quartet, the group that heralded "The Shape of Jazz To Come." His subsequent career has been one of the most illuminating in the history of jazz. A shortlist of key sessions includes work with Thelonious Monk, John Coltrane, Jackie McLean, David Murray, Steve Lacy, Lee Morgan, Sonny Rollins, Sonny Clark, Joe Henderson, Dexter Gordon and Mal Waldron. Prepare to be uplifted.





The Vision Festival presents art on the terms that uphold and expand the concepts of each musician, dancer, painter and poet – those who have died and laid down the tracks and those who are still creating. A masterpiece is an ongoing project that lasts a lifetime. Art must be presented, it must be seen and heard. It is for the enrichment of all those who attend and those who do not. It is about lights shining and not being buried. It is ultimately about the greatest art, that is, living.



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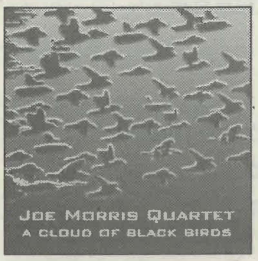

AUM009 CD

AUM006 CD

AUM005 CD

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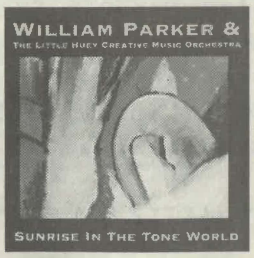
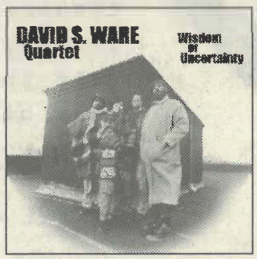


AUM002/3 2xCD



AUM001 CD

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The 8 albums above represent the culmination of Phase 1: Survival. They are all masterworks; they are all available here at Vision Fest, and at finer stores nationwide.

Next up will be an AUM Fidelity Compilation featuring previously unreleased material; forthcoming will be Other Dimensions In Music Special Quintet with Matthew Shipp, the Whit Dickey/Daniel Carter/Matthew Shipp improv trio, Vision Two, and more very special surprises. We recommend you complete your own AUM catalog in preparation.. :-) Your continued enjoyment is assured.

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