

ARTS BROOKFIELD PRESENTS

New Sounds Live:

David Bowie's Berlin Trilogy

Curated by WNYC's John Schaefer

Wed, October 17 7:30pm Selections from *Discreet Music* (Brian Eno 1975) followed by *Lodger* (David Bowie 1979)

Thurs, October 18 7:30pm Selections from *Another Green World* (Brian Eno 1975) followed by "Heroes" (David Bowie 1978)

Fri, October 19 7:30pm Selections from *Body Love* (Klaus Schulze 1977) followed by *Low* (David Bowie 1977)

PERFORMERS

Timo Andres	Eliot Krimsky	Lucas Oswald
Angel Deradoorian	Travis Laplante	Sadie Powers
Dan Duszynski	Emily Lee	Ed Rodriguez
Greg Fox	Frank LoCresto	Jamie Stewart
Josh Halpern	Grey McMurray	
Clarice Jensen	Jonathan Meiburg	

The three albums of David Bowie's Berlin Trilogy – *Low* (1977), "*Heroes*" (1977), and *Lodger* (1979) – represent the sound of rock music exploding.

Bowie was deeply inspired by the contemporary art scene that was flourishing in the divided city of Berlin, and became interested in the German electronic music scene and the proto-ambient music that his countryman Brian Eno was making at the time. So-called *Krautrock* artists like Tangerine Dream, Cluster, Neu!, and Klaus Schulze were making music that drew on the work of the Minimalist composers in America, especially Terry Riley and Philip Glass. Eno's music was also changing under the influence of Minimalism, in his case the work of La Monte Young and, crucially, Steve Reich.

Bowie actually began referring to his "Berlin Trilogy" only in the promotional phase leading up to *Lodger's* release. In retrospect, all three albums reflect the city – its darkness, its cultural ferment, its isolation. Working with Brian Eno and producer Tony Visconti, Bowie produced some of his most memorable rock songs, and some of his edgiest. But he also surprised and confounded the listening public by devoting large stretches of each record to musical experiments that departed not only from the world of rock but from the song format itself.

The lasting impact of these three albums has been felt not just in

the world of rock but in contemporary classical music as well. Philip Glass was moved to write a series of symphonies based on the trilogy; his *Lodger Symphony* completes that trilogy and premieres next year. Subsequent generations of composers and musicians have grown up with the freedom to move among the various musical worlds that Bowie explored in these three pivotal albums. For proof, you need only look at the list of musicians in these concerts: they represent a gathering of the tribes, from the worlds of indie rock but also from New York's thriving contemporary music scene – many are part of both camps, and some are composers themselves.

It's worth noting that of the three records, only "*Heroes*" was made entirely in Berlin. (That one, the darkest and most dystopian of the lot, was recorded in the Hansa studio in the shadow of the Wall.) You could argue that *Station To Station* (1976) had a more German-inflected sound than *Lodger*, with its musical journeys into Eastern and African music. But Bowie felt that these three records made up a single, and singular, body of work; life in Berlin enabled him to make a creative leap that has few parallels in rock history.

- John Schaefer, WNYC

As a musician, performing the Berlin Trilogy is to feel that Bowie is daring you to walk out on a limb with him.

So much attention has been paid to Bowie's image that his music is sometimes taken for granted; but for many of us, these albums are the pinnacle of his musical and artistic output. Made with producer Tony Visconti, puckish pop genius Brian Eno, the exuberant rhythm section of Carlos Alomar, Dennis Davis, and George Murray, and guitar anti-heroes Robert Fripp and Adrian Belew, the Berlin Trilogy has everything: brooding, cinematic instrumentals, rave-ups that end almost before they begin, gorgeous ballads that threaten to collapse on themselves, and Bowie's most famous and expansive song.

These albums added to his legend even as they pricked at his commercial success; but on the 40th anniversary of "Heroes" they still sound fresh, exciting, and unique, with a haunting core of emotional honesty that their fiendishly detailed (and frequently chaotic) sound somehow enhances rather than obscures.

In honor of that impulse, each night we're also performing music that inspired Bowie during the making of the trilogy. Two performances feature

compositions by Eno: the haunting *Discreet Music* and selections from his visionary 1975 album *Another Green World*; the third is an excerpt of *Body Love* by Klaus Schulze, a favorite of Eno's, and an influence as he and Bowie embarked on *Low*.

I'm deeply grateful to John Schaefer for believing in these shows, to Ronen Givony for connecting me with the incredible Wordless Music Orchestra, to the Arts Brookfield team for presenting these shows on an appropriately grand scale – and, of course, to Carlos Alomar, for his generous willingness to relive a moment of his past.

- Jonathan Meiburg

Performers

Timo Andres

PIANO, SYNTHESIZER

Timo Andres was born in 1985 in Palo Alto, CA. He studied at the Yale School of Music and lives in Brooklyn, NY. A Nonesuch Records artist, Andres's notable works include commissions for Carnegie Hall, San Francisco Performances, Concertgebouw, Barbican and Britten Sinfonia, Takács Quartet, Boston Symphony, LA Philharmonic, and (a 2016 Pulitzer Prize finalist) *The Blind Banister*, a piano concerto for Jonathan Biss. He has collaborated extensively with Philip Glass and Gabriel Kahane; performed solo recitals at Wigmore Hall, San Francisco Performances, Lincoln Center, and elsewhere. Upcoming commissions include the Calder Quartet through the LA Philharmonic and Orchester Cottbus Staatstheater.

Angel Deradoorian

FLUTE, VOICE, SYNTHESIZER

Angel Deradoorian launched a solo career after making a name for herself with well-known acts such as Dirty Projectors, Avey Tare, and Flying Lotus. In 2009, she appeared on Dirty Projectors' *Bitte Orca*, released her first solo EP under the name Deradoorian (*Mind Raft*, produced by David Longstreth), and lent her vocal talents to LP, the debut album from Discovery (founded by Rostam Batmanglij of Vampire Weekend and Wesley Miles of Ra Ra Riot). Since then, she's appeared on albums by the Roots, Flying Lotus, Matmos, Brandon Flowers, Boots, Hamilton Leithauser + Rotsam, and Avey Tare's Slasher Flicks (a solo project from the leader of Animal Collective). In 2015, she released her long-awaited solo album, *The Expanding Flower Planet* (2015), recorded and co-produced by Kenny Gilmore. *Eternal Recurrence*, her second release for Anticon was released in 2017.

Dan Duszynski

GUITAR, VOICE, PERCUSSION

Dan Duszynski runs Dandy Sounds recording in Dripping Springs, TX, where he produces, engineers, and mixes music for local and national artists. He is also the drummer of ethereal rock band Loma (Sub Pop).

Greg Fox

PERCUSSION

Greg Fox is a New York City born-and-bred drummer, multidisciplinary artist, and teacher. He has played on and released

49 records since 2008, including his work with Liturgy, ZS, Ben Frost, Colin Stetson, Skeletons, Hieroglyphic Being, Man Forever, and others, as well as with his solo work and his projects GDFX and Guardian Alien. Fox has toured worldwide with various groups and collaborations, held residencies at The Clocktower NYC and was named “Best Drummer in NYC” by the Village Voice in 2011. Currently spending most of his time in NYC, he is working on new collaborations and compositions, teaching individual and group drum lessons, and exploring new territory as a solo artist, using a hybridized electroacoustic drum setup to explore new dimensions through the traditional gestures of the modern drummer and the possibilities inherent in electronic and computer music.

Josh Halpern

PERCUSSION

Josh Halpern is a live and session drummer, singer, and producer based in Austin, Texas and is known for his infectiously animated performances. He’s most at home on the road with bands like Shearwater, Still Corners, Marmalakes and Palo Duro (but dreams of becoming a beach bum). His most recent studio recording is *Nights and Weekends*, a collaboration with songwriter Peter Shults, released under the name Teddy Glass. A great friend to all dogs, he’s managed to make a few feline friends along the way (don’t tell dogs).

Clarice Jensen

CELLO, ELECTRONICS

Clarice Jensen is the artistic director of ACME, the American Contemporary Music Ensemble. A graduate of The Juilliard School, she studied with Joel Krosnick and Harvey Shapiro and has taken master classes with many composers such as Milton Babbitt, Elliott Carter and Roger Reynolds. She has collaborated with composers and recording artists, including Jóhann Jóhannsson, Stars of the Lid, Owen Pallett, Max Richter, Tyondai Braxton, and numerous others. Her most recent performances include concerts at The Kings Theatre, Elbphilharmonie (Hamburg), Disney Hall, Benaroya Hall, The Sydney Opera House, Big Ears Festival, Duke Performances, BAM, (le) Poisson Rouge, Roulette, and the Isamu Noguchi Museum. Recording collaborations have been released on Deutsche Grammophone, Kranky, Warp, Matador, Brassland, Domino, Merge, Jagjaguwar, New World, 4AD, and many others.

Eliot Krimsky

SYNTHESIZER

Eliot Krimsky (synthesizer) grew up in Cambridge MA, where he started composing and improvising on piano at age 6. His early influences—including Public Enemy, Bob Dylan, and Miles Davis—led him to make beats and sample collages. After studying jazz at New England Conservatory, he moved to Brooklyn where he was the lead singer and co-founder of the band Glass Ghost. Krimsky has conceived multimedia performances with Performance Space New York, played keyboards with Here We Go Magic and Meshell Ndegeocello, performed with Open House at BAM Next Wave, and composed the score for the documentary *Supergirl*. He is currently preparing his first solo album, *Wave in Time*.

Travis Laplante

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Travis Laplante is a saxophonist, composer, and qigong practitioner living in Brooklyn, New York, and southern Vermont. Laplante leads Battle Trance, the acclaimed tenor saxophone quartet, as well as Subtle Degrees, his duo with drummer Gerald Cleaver. Laplante has recently performed and recorded with Trevor Dunn, Ches Smith, Peter Evans, So Percussion, Little Women, Michael Formanek, Buke and Gase, Darius Jones, Mat Maneri, and Matt Mitchell, among others. He has toured his music extensively and has appeared at many major international festivals throughout the US, Canada, and Europe. Laplante's music can be found on New Amsterdam Records, NNA Tapes, AUM Fidelity, and Skirl Records.

Emily Lee

MUSICAL DIRECTOR, KEYBOARDS, VOICE, KOTO, VIOLIN

Emily Lee is a New York-based multi-instrumentalist and vocalist. She performs in Shearwater, Loma, and Snake Oil, and plays keyboards with Mutoid Man for the heavy metal talk show *Two Minutes to Late Night*. She is also a veteran music supervisor, whose credits include *Great Performances*, *American Masters*, and *Patti Smith: Dream of Life* for WNET, as well as the 2017 Oscar-nominated documentary *Knife Skills*. She can be found on social media as [@sfxmaven](#).

Frank LoCraсто

SYNTHESIZER

Frank LoCraсто is a Texas-born, Brooklyn-based musician, specializing in piano and synthesizer. He studied music at The New School and has toured and recorded extensively as a sideman and leader since arriving in New York City in 2001. He has also composed and

recorded original scores for independent films. In addition to solo projects, LoCraсто has recorded and toured internationally with artists including Pat Martino, Jeremy Pelt, Nicholas Payton, Greg Osby, Wallace Rooney, and James Iha. Other collaborations include Lapland, Breastfist, Cass McCombs, Nightlands, and Julian Velard. He has appeared on more than 40 records.

Grey McMurray

GUITAR, BASS, VOICE

Grey McMurray has been called “sublimely odd” (New York Magazine), and “the world’s least obtrusive guitarist” (The Guardian). Recently he has been performing as a duo with Beth Orton, Colin Stetson’s Sorrow Ensemble, and the American Contemporary Music Ensemble (ACME), and will be releasing his first solo record in the winter of 2019. He has performed/recorded with a wide range of artists including Gil-Scott Heron, Meshell Ndegeocello, Tyondai Braxton, Alarm Will Sound, Olga Bell, Skuli Sverrissonn, Ali Sethi, Theo Bleckmann, So Percussion, Shahzad Ismaili, and John Cale. He is the co-leader of the duo itsnotyouitsme with Caleb Burhans, with four releases on New Amsterdam Records. He hopes every day to provoke joyful tears in strangers’ eyes.

Jonathan Meiburg

VOICE, GUITAR

Jonathan Meiburg leads the band Shearwater, which has released six albums since 2006 on Matador and Sub Pop Records. The most recent, 2016’s *Jet Plane* and *Oxbow*, was hailed by Pitchfork as “not only their grandest statement to date, but their most grounded as well”; and the band’s live performance of *Lodger* for the Onion’s A.V. Club inspired them to take on Bowie’s entire Berlin Trilogy. Meiburg also performs with Loma, whose self-titled debut was released this year by Sub Pop and is currently finishing a book about South America’s strangest birds of prey. He lives in Brooklyn.

Lucas Oswald

GUITAR, VOICE

Lucas Oswald is a songwriter, audio engineer, and multi-instrumentalist from Boonville, MI. He has toured internationally with Minus Story, Old Canes, Appleseed Cast, Jesca Hoop, and Shearwater. When not on the road, Lucas engineers and produces recording sessions around Austin, TX. He released a critically-acclaimed solo album in 2017 called *Whet* and is the founder of Podcast Pigeon.

Sadie Powers

BASS

Sadie Powers is a bassist and composer living in Pittsburgh, PA. She tours with Shearwater and recently toured with Lucy Dacus. Her composition, *Wick* (for french horn, water glasses, and electronics), was recorded in Spring 2018 by the avant-garde trio How Things Are Made and appears on the trio's album, *HTAM S3E09*. Powers currently collaborates with PearlArts Studios on sound design for *sym*, a dance piece inspired by Octavia Butler's novel, *Fledgling*. She comprises half the electroacoustic ambient duo, *Triptychs*, and was the bassist for the new romantic band *Dead Fame*, which released albums *Frontiers* (2011) and *Vicious Design* (2014).

Ed Rodriguez

GUITAR

Ed Rodriguez (guitar) has been around far too long and has played instruments in the bands Iceburn, Gorge Trio, Colossamite, Sicbay, Burmese, xbrx and The Flying Luttenbachers. He currently plays guitar in Deerhoof.

Jamie Stewart

VOICE, PERCUSSION

Jamie Stewart was born in 1978 in Los Angeles. He began the musical group Xiu Xiu in 2002 and then wasted his life.

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Special Guest, Carlos Alomar

Carlos Alomar was David Bowie's rhythm guitarist and music director for almost thirty years. His songwriting credits include *Fame* with Bowie and John Lennon, as well as *DJ* and *The Secret Life Of Arabia* with Bowie and Brian Eno. He is currently the Distinguished Artist in Residence at Stevens Institute of Technology.

Audio Engineer, Richie Clarke

Richie Clarke (audio engineer) is an Audio Engineer, Production Manager, Sound Designer, and Technical Director. He has worked in the recording studio with artists and composers such as Herbie Hancock, Kool & The Gang, Timbaland, David Byrne, Missy Elliott, Elliott Goldenthal, Carter Burwell, and Terence Blanchard just to name a few. Currently, he is the Technical Director and Chief Audio Engineer for the Wordless Music Orchestra which allows him to showcase his work on a domestic and international platform. Richie has also worked with the Kaufmann Music Center, The Red Bull Music Festival, Look + Listen Festival, BRIC Arts Media, NY Pro Audio Connection, and NPR.

ABOUT BROOKFIELD PLACE

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ABOUT ARTS BROOKFIELD

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