

Homage to Josef Tal

In one of the last visits I paid Yosef Tal at his home in Jerusalem, he told me of the first encounter he had with electronic sounds as a possible source of music. He recalled a time when he was a student at the Musikhochschule in Berlin, and Hindemith, who was one of his teachers, told him to go and meet some visitors (Friedrich Trautwein, 1927) who were demonstrating some electronic equipment as a source of sounds. "This will be of interest to you Groenthal he told me," Tal said, leaving the end of the sentence left dangling. We both knew that Tal had the possibility to study, use, and disseminate electronic music only twenty or so years later because of the events of history. But it is not Tal the pioneer that is the source of inspiration for this homage. It is his compositional body of work, which encompasses electronic music as part of an interest in sound as a whole, that we honor in this concert series. As I was growing up in Israel as a composer in the 60s and 70s, Tal represented for me the possibility of having a clear and uncompromising aesthetic, representing an interest in music which is at the same time a highly sensory experience – dealing with minute details of sound – and an intellectual activity that represents complex and contradictory thoughts. Tal, like many artists and philosophers of his generation had to deal and come to terms with a set of very complex issues. This can be represented, only poorly, in political terms. What do you do when your home, culture and people turn against you as a member of a certain race, and then when it opens its arms to you again? How do you deal with such generalizations (and racism) when they are turned against you, and then later when the tables turn and you find yourself belonging to a group that does the same to others? Germany, the cultural home of Yosef Tal, rejected him and then invited him again. The resolution and the emotional turmoil that this represents never ended. Like many, Tal, seemingly, turned to logical constructions of music, but his true musical interest lies in the realm of sounds. Minute (and painful) details of electronic sounds and instrumental timbres were the world where Tal's conflicting emotions and thoughts resided. For us, artists working today within Israel's cultural environment, these conflicts are the present reality. This homage exhibits music by a group of artists who, like Tal, use sound to represent the struggle with our own cultural and political issues.

Amnon Wolman



Flyer design by Patrik Tanguay, 2009

ÉuCuE 27iii – “Plugged!” (28-30 Jan 2009)

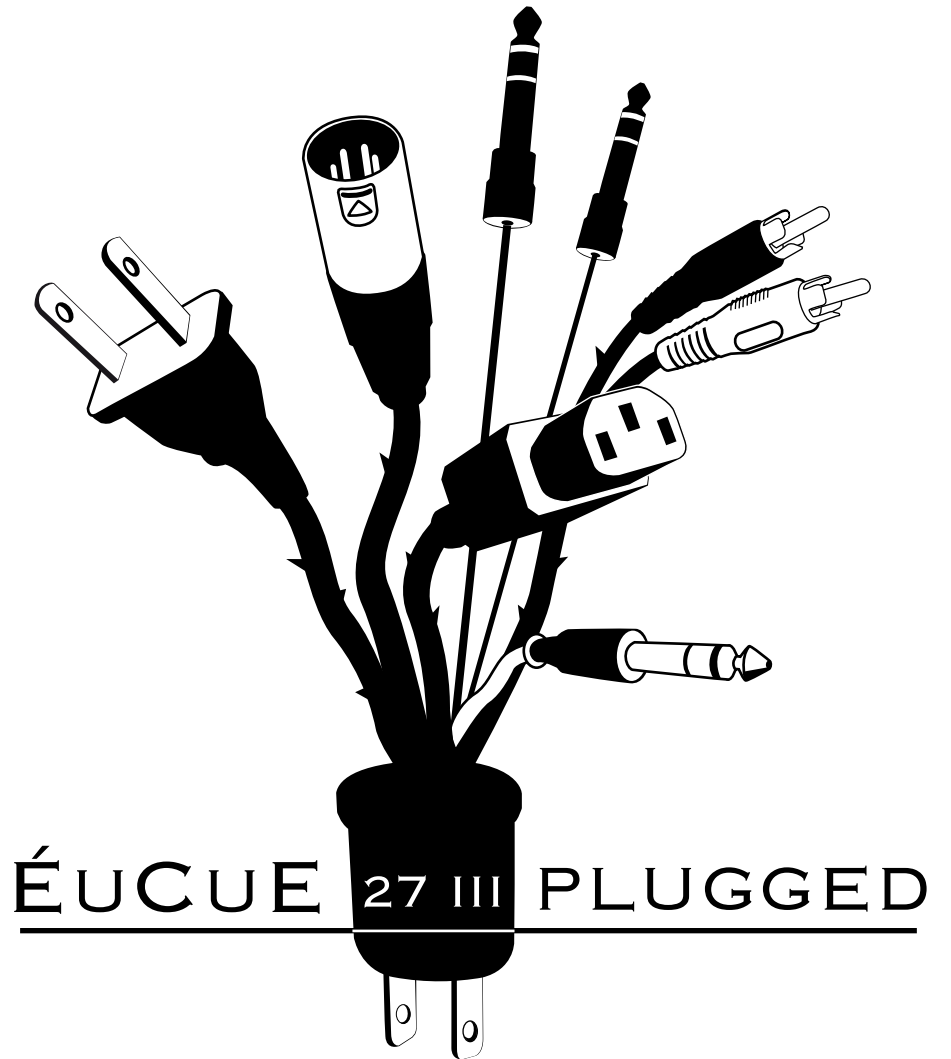
Université Concordia University // Salle Oscar Peterson Concert Hall
Montréal, QC // January 28, 29, 30 2009

Featuring:

Live EA, multimedia, and fixed-media presentations

A homage to Josef Tal (1910-2008) curated by Amnon Wolman

Pieces from Cache 2008 (the top 10 pieces from JTTP 2008)



Wednesday 28/1 19:30

Ricardo DAL FARRA	<i>Tierra Y Sol</i>	2 ch	11'
Phil BATTIKHA	<i>Narcissus</i>	Trumpet + electronics	9'
Raylene CAMBELL	<i>Live improvisation</i>	Accordion & live electronics	15'
Francis DHOMONT	<i>Premières traces du Choucas</i>	2 ch	15'
Paul SCRIVER	<i>Talking Bush</i>	2 ch	10'
Nimalaan YOGANATHAN	<i>"And if thou shalt refuse to let them go, behold, I will smite all thy borders with shoes"</i>	Live electronics	15'

Thursday 29/1 14:00

Arne EIGENFELDT	<i>Rajas</i>	8 ch	8'
Antonin PROVOST	<i>Bourrasques</i>	(Cache 2008) 2ch	9'
Jean-François BLOUIN	<i>Catacombes</i>	(2nd place, JTTP 2008) 2ch	10'
Nick STORRING	<i>Artifacts (I)</i>	(1st place, JTTP 2008) 2ch	8'
Peter KUTIN	<i>Dampf</i>	(Visiting artist) 8ch	12'
Dale PERKINS	<i>Dark Bird</i>	2ch	8'
Yossi MAR-CHAIM	<i>Istanbul</i>	(Homage to Josef Tal) 2ch	10'

Thursday 29/1 19:30

Mike PINSONNEAULT	<i>Fragments</i>	8ch	12'
Denis CHABOT -animation Stéphane ROY -music	<i>Une âme nue glisse à l'eau vive (A naked soul sliding into vivid waters)</i>		15'
Sandeep BHAGWATI	<i>Stele I</i> Linda Brady, prepared piano Charles Ellison, trumpet Navid Navab, sound processing and spatialisation Krista Martynes, Julie Loranger, Isak Goldschneider and Sandeep Bhagwati, Claves		12'
Intermission			10'
Debashis SINHA	<i>Shruti</i>	Live electronics + harmonium	15'
Rosemary MOUNTAIN	<i>Eddies in the River of Memory</i>	2ch	9'
Sébastien LAVOIE	<i>The Rocket Richard</i>	2ch	5'
Navid NAVAB	<i>Sonic Investigations #1</i>	8ch	6'

Friday 30/1 14:00

Kevin AUSTIN	<i>Concrete Studies</i>	7ch	8'
Adam STANSBIE	<i>Parenthesis</i>	2ch	9'
Ido GOVRIN	<i>Titled (Homage to Josef Tal)</i>	2ch	4'
Eran SACHS	<i>Mute (Homage to Josef Tal)</i>	2ch	10'
Arie SHAPIRA	<i>Gustel (Homage to Josef Tal)</i>	2ch	8'
Émilie PAYEUR	<i>Écholocation (Cache 2008)</i>	2ch	8'
Mathieu ARSENAULT	<i>Edges (5th place, JTTP 2008)</i>	2ch	6'
Yota KOBAYASHI	<i>Tensho (Cache 2008; 1st place, Musica Nova 2008)</i>	2ch	12'

Friday 30/1 16:30

Jeff RABENA	<i>Violance</i>		3'
Mike MCFERRON	<i>Shape Study: Music for Metamorphoses</i>		7'
Philippe-Aubert GAUTHIER	<i>Fréquences urbaines : Chicoutimi, vue du port</i>		8'
Kiki KEREN-HUSS	<i>A Poem</i> (Homage to Josef Tal)		7'
Amnon WOLMAN	<i>Attention Step #2</i> (Homage to Josef Tal)		12'
Steve LALONDE	<i>Quand la nuit se referm</i> (Cache 2008)		5'
Félix-Antoine MORIN	<i>Feed Metal Dirt</i> (3rd place, JTTP 2008)		7'
Thierry GAUTHIER	<i>[pjanistik]</i> (4rd place, JTTP 2008)		5'
Adam BASANTA	<i>Transients and Resonance</i> (Cache 2008)		8'

Friday 30/1 19:30

Alessandro CORTINI	<i>Blindoldfreak</i>	Live electronics (4 ch)	45'
Intermission			10'
James HARLEY and Ellen WATERMAN	<i>~spin~</i>	Flute + live electronics (8 ch)	45'

Special thanks to the following participants in this concert:

Vicki Tansey, voice // Kathy Kennedy, voice // Phil Raphals, cello // Emilie Girard-Charest, cello // Anna Brzeski, piano