

## **SYLVIE COURVOISIER - Quintet -**

**Mark Feldman (violin)**  
**Vincent Courtois (cello)**  
**Ikue Mori (electronics)**  
**Gerald Cleaver (Drums)**  
**Sylvie Courvoisier (piano& composition)**

Sylvie Courvoisier's new project is an exciting new synthesis of Avant-jazz, contemporary composition and live electronics. New York downtown musicians including electronic artist Ikue Mori and drummer Gerald Cleaver provide a dramatic rhythmic foundation; virtuoso French cellist Vincent Courtois and the American violinist Mark Feldman create textures that bring the new compositions of the pianist Sylvie Courvoisier to life in an exciting visceral way.

This band recorded in April 2006 live at the theatre of Vidy a new CD "Lonelyville" (coming out in January 2007 on Intakt Records).

### **Mark Feldman** violinist

Mark Feldman is an active performer in the worlds of jazz, Improvised Music and 20th Century Contemporary Music.

In 2002 He Premiered the Violin Concerto of Guus Janssen as soloist with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra in the Contemporary Music Festival Nederland Muziek Dagen Also that year he premiered the Concerto for Violin and Jazz Orchestra with the WDR Big Band of Cologne, Germany. In Years Past he has also been a soloist with the WDR Radio Orchestra and the Basel Symphony.

In Chamber music he has performed and Recorded the Complete String Quartets of John Zorn (Tzadik Records) and his own works for String Quartet Book of Tells (Enja Records)

With the Trio "Abaton" he performs the works of composer Sylvie Courvoisier resulting in the CD Abaton on ECM Records.

He is currently a member of the John Abercrombie Quartet. In addition to international concert tours the resulting Recordings "Open Land" "Cat n' Mouse" and "Class Trip" all on ECM records.

Composer John Zorn has included him in many concert and recording projects over the past 10 year including Masada String Trio, Bar Kakhba, film scores, chamber music and Performances of the Game Piece "Cobra"

With Composer-Performers Dave Douglas and Uri Caine Mr. Feldman performed many European and U.S. Concert Tours playing on many of their Recordings on RCA, Winter and Winter and Black Saint Records.

In past years he was also a member of groups lead by Saxophonist Joe Lovano and Drummer Billy Hart. These Groups also recorded and concretized.

He has also performed or recorded with Paul Bley, Richard Abrams, Kenny Wheeler, John Taylor, Tim Berne, Lee Konitz, Bill Frisell, Richard Galliano, Michael Formanek, Bobby Previte, The Arcado String Trio, Louis Sclavis, Ray Anderson and Kenny Warner among others.

Mr. Feldman is found on over 100 jazz recordings as a soloist including his own releases "Music for Violin Alone" (Tzadik) "Music for Violin and Piano" (avant) "Book of Tells" (enja) "Masada Recital, Masada Anniversary Vol.4" (tzadik) "Masada String Trio, 50th Vol 1 " (tzadik)

As a composer he has been commissioned and performed by the Kronos Quartet and the WDR Radio Orchestra.

In 1994, 95, 99, 2000 and 2001 violinist and composer Mark Feldman received the First Place award for "Talent Deserving Wider Recognition" in Down Beat magazine's critics poll.

In commercial music he has appeared as a Studio Musician with Such Groups as Cheryl Crow, The Manhattan Transfer, Diana Ross and Carol King among others.

Before moving to New York City in 1986 Mr. Feldman lived in Nashville Tennessee where he was member of the ensembles that traveled and accompanied country western singers Loretta Lynn and Ray Price.

In Nashville as a studio musician he appeared on over 200 Recordings including albums by Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson and George Jones, Jerry Lee Lewis and Television evangelist Jimmy Swaggart.

## **VINCENT COURTOIS**

Cellist

Vincent Courtois was born in Paris in 1968 and began playing the cello at six years of age. He took classical studies at the conservatory in Aubervillier with E. Fauré, R. Pidoux and F. Lodéon while discovering jazz and improvisation with Didier Levallet and Dominique Pifarely.

In 1988, Vincent began playing in various Parisian groups (Christian Escoudé and Michel Pétrucianni) and his first CD as a leader, titled "Cello News", was released in 1990. Since then Vincent has recorded eight CD's as a leader, among them; "Translucide" (with Michel Godard and Noel Akchoté) and "The Fitting Room" with (Dominique Pifarely and Marc Ducret) both for Enja Records.

Vincent played in several of Rabih Abou Khalil's bands ("Yara" and "The Cactus of Knowledge") and plays frequently with clarinetist Louis Sclavis ("L'affrontement des prétendants" and "Napoli's walls" on ECM Records). Vincent also plays regularly with trombonist Yves Robert ("In Touch", ECM).

In the past fifteen years Vincent Courtois has played or recorded with artists such as Pierre Favre, James Newton, Laurent de Wilde, Julien Lourau, Jim Black, Tomas Stanko, Dave Douglas, Renaud Garcia Fons, Tom Raney, Mark Nauseef, Joachim Kuhn, Michel Portal, Henri Texier, Dave Holland, François Corneloup...

<http://vcourtoi.club.fr/index.html>

## **Ikue Mori**

electronics

Ikue Mori moved from her native city of Tokyo to New York in 1977. She started playing drums and soon formed the seminal NO WAVE band DNA, with fellow pioneers Arto Lindsay and Tim Wright. DNA enjoyed legendary cult status, while creating a new brand of radical rhythms and dissonant sounds; forever altering the face of rock music.

In the mid 80's Ikue started in employ drum machines in the unlikely context of improvised music. While limited to the standard technology provided by the drum machine, she has never the less forged her own highly sensitive signature style.

Through out in 90's She has subsequently collaborated with numerous improvisors throughout the US, Europe, and Asia, while continuing to produce and record her own music.

1998, She was invited to perform with Ensemble Modern as the soloist along with Zeena Parkins, and composer Fred Frith, also "One hundred Aspects of the Moon" commissioned by Roulette/Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust.

Ikue won the Distinctive Award for Prix Ars Electronics Digital Music category in 99.

In 2000 Ikue started using the laptop computer to expand on her already signature sound, thus broadening her scope of musical expression.

2000 commissioned by the KITCHEN ensemble, wrote and premired the piece "Aphorism"

also awarded Civitella Ranieri Foundation Fellowship

2003 commissioned by RELACHE Ensemble to write a piece for film In the Street and premiered in Philadelphia.

Current working groups include "Mephista" with Sylvie Courvoisier and Susie Ibarra, a quartet with Kim Gordon, DJ Olive and Jim O'Rourke, duo project with Zeena Parkins, Trio with Haco and Aki Onda and Hemophiliac with John Zorn and Mike Patton. Worked with the band with Dave Douglas's "Witness" "Freakin" ensemble and John Zorn's Electric Masada.

### **Gerald Cleaver**

Drums

Drummer Gerald Cleaver was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, and is a product of the rich music tradition found there and also in his home. Inspired by his father, John Cleaver, also a drummer, he began playing the drums at an early age. He also played violin in elementary school and switched to trumpet during junior high and high school. While in his teens, he gained early working experience with Detroit jazz masters Ali Muhammad Jackson, Lamont Hamilton, Earl Van Riper, and Pancho Hagood, the latter three of which may be heard, along with Gerald on, "A Night of Song", a compilation of live performances from the 1982 Montreux-Detroit Jazz Festival.

While attending the University of Michigan, as a music education major, Gerald was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Study Grant, to study with drummer Victor Lewis. He graduated in 1992 and began teaching in Detroit. Around this time he also began working with A. Spencer Barefield, Marcus Belgrave, Donald Walden, Wendell Harrison and with visiting musicians Eddie Harris, Cecil Bridgewater, Dennis Rowland, Howard Johnson, Diana Krall, and Don Byron, among others. In 1995 he accepted an appointment as Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies at the University of Michigan, and in 1998 also joined the jazz faculty at Michigan State University. Gerald moved to New York in 1999.

Gerald has toured in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan and Australia with a wide variety of artists: Franck Amsallem, Henry Threadgill's Very Very Circus, Rodney Whitaker, Kevin Mahogany, Charles Gayle, Jacky Terrasson, Roscoe Mitchell, Joe Morris, Detroit Jazz All-Stars, featuring Kenny Burrell, Hank Jones and Frank Foster, Bruce Barth, Steve Wilson, Muhal Richard Abrams, Craig Taborn, Marty Ehrlich's Traveler's Tales, David Berkman, Matt Shipp, and Mark Helias' Open-Loose. In addition, he has performed with Tommy Flanagan, Barry Harris, Tim Berne and Craig Taborn, Ray Bryant, Ellery Eskelin and Andrea Parkins, Bob James, John Lindberg, Mark Turner, Ralph Alessi and Reggie Workman and Marilyn Crispell.

Most recently, Gerald has formed Veil of Names, which features Andrew Bishop (clar, saxes); Mat Maneri (viola); Craig Taborn (kybds); Ben Monder (guitar); and Reid Anderson (elec. & acoustic bass), and has recorded his first CD as a leader, "Adjust", for the Fresh Sound New Talent label.