



# The Dither Extravaganza! 2013

Saturday, October 26, 2013, 7:00 pm - midnight

@ The Gowanus Loft: 61 9<sup>th</sup> St, Brooklyn, NY

F/G to Smith & 9th

\$8 admission

Funded by the Brooklyn Arts Council, Sponsored by Brooklyn Brewery!

## Dither

**Phantom Orchard: Ikue Mori & Zeena Parkins**

## JACK Quartet

**Weasel Walter, Mary Halvorson & Peter Evans**

## Blarvuster

## Dan Friel

**Probosci: Gyan Riley & Timba Harris**

## Vomit Fist

**Elliott Sharp's *Ile Tigre Lily* performed by Sharp, Dither & friends**

*"Be there or be square. Seriously."* – Time Out NY (of the 2012 Extravaganza)

**Brooklyn, NY** ~ The electric guitar quartet Dither announces their fourth *Dither Extravaganza!* – a raucous annual festival of creative music and art, taking place this year at the Gowanus Loft in Brooklyn. The Extravaganza showcases a cross-section of New York's diverse experimental music scene, including artists whose backgrounds span jazz, classical, metal, electronica and the avant garde. Past extravaganzas have been dubbed an "official concert on the edge" (The New Yorker) and "The here and now of New York's postclassical music scene" (Time Out NY)

There will be 10 short sets throughout the evening, featuring Dither and an eclectic line-up of New York's finest musicians: **Phantom Orchard**, a duo of reknowned improvisers Ikue Mori (electronics) and Zeena Parkins (harp); The illustrious **JACK Quartet** performing repertoire from their upcoming Danish tour; The powerhouse trio of **Weasel Walter** (drums) **Mary Halvorson** (guitar) and **Peter Evans** (trumpet); Bagpiper Matthew Welch's **Blarvuster** performing his signature blend of Scottish Highlands music, Balinese gamelan and free jazz; **Probosci**, an acoustic duo of accomplished performer/composers Gyan Riley (guitar) and Timba Harris (violin); The homegrown electronica of **Dan Friel** (of Parts & Labor); The driving chaos of metal trio **Vomit Fist** (Nick Didkovsky, Leo "Lurkrot" Didkovsky, and Malcom Hoyt aka "Skrag the Skreecher"); **Dither** will perform throughout the night, including two sets of repertoire from their upcoming album. They will be joined by legendary guitarist **Elliott Sharp** and an entourage of friends for a rousing rendition of Sharp's *Ile Tigre Lily*.

\$8 earns you admission for the entire evening, with affordable drinks courtesy of Brooklyn Brewery. Sets will begin at 7:00 and last until midnight. The Gowanus Loft is a beautiful new performance space in Gowanus, Brooklyn, located just off the F/G at Smith & 9<sup>th</sup>.

### General info:

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### Press inquiries:

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### Gowanus Loft:

George Del Barrio: george@vanderbiltrepublic.co

## **LINKS:**

Dither:	<a href="#">Website</a>	<a href="#">Elliott Sharp</a>
	<a href="#">Promotional Photos</a>	<a href="#">Weasel Walter</a>
	<a href="#">Audio and Video Samples</a>	<a href="#">Mary Halvorson</a>
	<a href="#">Press Kit</a>	<a href="#">Peter Evans</a>
<a href="#">The Gowanus Loft</a>		<a href="#">Dan Friel</a>
<a href="#">Ikue Mori</a>		<a href="#">Gyan Riley</a>
<a href="#">Zeena Parkins</a>		<a href="#">Timba Harris</a>
<a href="#">JACK Quartet</a>		<a href="#">Blarvuster</a>
		<a href="#">Vomit Fist</a>

## **ARTIST BIOS:**

~ **Dither**, a New York based electric guitar quartet, is dedicated to an eclectic mix of experimental repertoire which spans composed music, improvisation, and electronic manipulation. Formed in 2007, the quartet has performed across the United States and abroad, presenting new commissions, original compositions, improvisations, multimedia works, and large guitar ensemble pieces. The quartet's members are Taylor Levine, Joshua Lopes, James Moore and Gyan Riley.

Dither has worked with a wide range of artists, including Eve Beglarian, Elliott Sharp, David Lang, John Zorn, Fred Frith, Lois V. Vierk, Larry Polansky and Phill Niblock. Past performances include the Performa Biennial, The MATA Festival, the Whitney Museum of American Art, The Amsterdam Electric Guitar Heaven Festival, Hong Kong's Fringe Theater, and the Bang on a Can Marathon. Their critically acclaimed debut album was released on Henceforth Records in 2010.

~ Friends and colleagues since 1988, **Ikue Mori** (electronics) and **Zeena Parkins** (harp) are two of the strongest musical voices out of the downtown scene. Lynchpins of bands as diverse as DNA, Skeleton Crew, Electric Masada, Hemophiliac and Björk, their duo project **Phantom Orchard** is the perfect outlet for their unique and personal musical languages and their rapport is evident in each and every track. Mystery, lyricism and electronic soundscapes from this most dynamic of all dynamic duos.

~ **The JACK Quartet** electrifies audiences worldwide with "explosive virtuosity" (*Boston Globe*) and "viscerally exciting performances" (*New York Times*). The recipient of New Music USA's 2013 Trailblazer Award, the quartet has performed to critical acclaim at Carnegie Hall (USA), Lincoln Center (USA), Wigmore Hall (United Kingdom), Suntory Hall (Japan), the Lucerne Festival (Switzerland), Bali Arts Festival (Indonesia), Darmstadt Internationale Ferienkurse für Neue Musik (Germany) and many others. Comprising violinists Christopher Otto and Ari Streisfeld, violist John Pickford Richards, and cellist Kevin McFarland, JACK is focused on the commissioning and performance of new works, educational programs, and diversifying the audience for new music.

~ The dynamic trio of **Weasel Walter**, **Mary Halvorson** and **Peter Evans** is an ongoing formation featuring three of New York's most distinctive improvisers. The modus operandi of the trio is pure free improvisation performed with lightning reflexes and a blisteringly articulate combination of speed, structure and sensitivity. The trio recently released their second album *Mechanical Malfunction* on Thirsty Ear to critical acclaim.

~ **Blarvuster** is a chamber ensemble/rock band hybrid featuring **Mathew Welch** on bagpipes, sax, and voice. In the infectiously ecstatic fervor of Blarvuster's music Scottish bagpipes, Balinese gamelan, minimalism, improvisation and rock converge in a labyrinthine, multi-textural sound. It is a unique form of music played with extreme virtuosity and sensitivity by a stellar line-up of the brightest young musicians in New York. Blarvuster has been a mainstay at New York venues The Stone, Issue Project Room, Zebulon, and The Cornelia Street Café. They have delivered commanding commissioned performances at The Kitchen, MOMA's PS1, Roulette, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (EMPAC), and The Western Front (Vancouver). Blarvuster's self-titled debut CD was released on John Zorn's Tzadik Label in 2010. "The ensemble's border-busting music is original and catchy. . . Blarvuster is worth sticking around for." – The New York Times

~ Armed with an arsenal of thriftstore pedals and noisemakers, **Dan Friel** has spent the last decade homebrewing electronic music that is equal parts ragged, punk, psychedelic and glorious. Friel was a founding member of Parts & Labor and has been releasing solo records since 2001. His latest album *Total Folklore* retains the melodic prowess of Friel's previous work while harnessing considerable rhythmic power to back it up. In a preview of the LP after his sold out show with Black Dice in London, No Ripcord said it was "an experimental record to savour and further confirm Dan Friel as one of the most exciting musical witchdoctors around."

~ **Probosci** is a new collaboration between guitarist **Gyan Riley** (Gyan Riley Trio, Eviyan, Terry Riley) and violinist **Timba Harris** (Secret Chiefs 3, Estradasphere). Both composers, whose work is featured in John Zorn's Tzadik Records Composers' Series, contribute to the interplay between composition and improvisation, steeped with intricacy, subtlety, and shape-shifting energy. They adventurously explore the sonic landscape, from purely acoustic music to unfamiliar electroacoustic textures, able to dance between delicacy and aggression. Probosci is the next evolution of these two musicians' years-long musical partnership, which has taken them across the globe together in numerous ensembles.

~ **Vomit Fist** is a metal band comprised of Nick Didkovsky (sick strings), Leo Lurkrot Didkovsky (bludgeon homicide) and Malcolm Wazakwa Hoyt aka Skrag the Screecher (esophageal violence). Vomit fist began as a father/son duo and expanded to a trio, performing in New York recently at the NYX II festival. Members of the group currently play in the bands Doctor Nerve, Häßliche Luftmasken, Diabolicus, and Adela and the Ucars.

~ **Elliott Sharp** has been a central figure in the avant-garde music scene in New York City for over thirty years. As a composer and guitarist, he leads the groups Orchestra Carbon, Tectonics, and Terraplane, in addition to countless solo projects and collaborations. His collaborators have included Ensemble Modern, Qawwali singer Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, Radio-Sinfonie Frankfurt, pop singer Debbie Harry, blues legends Hubert Sumlin and Pops Staples, jazz greats Jack deJohnette and Sonny Sharrock, turntable innovator Christian Marclay, and Bachir Attar, leader of the Master Musicians of Jahjouka. His scores for film and theater include Toni Dove's sci-fi feature Spectropia, the feature-documentary Commune by Jonathan Berman, and Yellowman and Raw Boys, both plays by Dael Orlandersmith. Sharp's music-theater work Binibon premiered in May 2009 at The Kitchen in New York City. Sharp was curator for Contemporary Music 2004-2006 for WPS1.org as well as for the gargantuan sound-art exhibition Volume: Bed of sound for PS1 Contemporary Art Center in 2001.