

449B 23rd St.
(between Broadway and Telegraph)
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 444-7263
21grand@21grand.org
http://www.21grand.org



21 Grand Arts Group Inc. is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. Board of Directors: Darren Jenkins (Pres.), Ivan Blackshear (VP), Suki O'Kane (Sec.), Sarah Lockhart (Treas.), Elisabeth Beaird

MAY

S(t)imulate : Photography by Kira Grinberg

Grinberg's subjects represent the locus between technology's relentless aims at simulation and commercial culture's overwhelming acts of stimulation. One series is an untitled collection of "portraits" of automatons at San Francisco's Musee Mechanique. Each photograph implies the human presence and history associated with portrait photography, while simultaneously accentuating the flawed artificiality of the hand-painted faces of these precursors to Disneyland-style gadgetry. Her second series, digital photographs entitled, "S(t)imulation," leap through the history of technological advances from the earlier series. For these works, Grinberg pulled from an online marketplace of images, where everything, including the female body, becomes a commodity. These are 3-D "copies" of nude female bodies (think hyperrealistic video games) displayed in a manner derived from fashion photography. Grinberg has photographed these images from the computer screen, rather than employing more transparent digital collage techniques. The resulting images are intentionally blurred to accentuate the ambiguous border between digital and analog.



Exhibition: May 1—May 25, Artists' Reception Friday, May 2 7-10PM, free

Saturday, May 3 **Where's the Drummer?** 8PM, \$6-10



This evening of music, presented by Pole Vault records, has no snare or high-hat, and features Carla Kihlstedt's Two Foot Yard, Spore Attic, Able-Bodied Seamen, Festival of Stillness, Allen Willner, and Daniel Ari. Carla Kihlstedt is a founding member of both Tin Hat Trio and the art-rock band Sleepytime Gorilla Museum. In Two Foot Yard, Carla uses both her violin and her voice simultaneously. Spore Attic is pop sacrilege at its finest. Seth Lepore and Jimmie Crack Corn share a twin-like symbiosis. Their brain waves share a certain humorous twist that shines a light on the decaying cadavers of the human condition. Able-Bodied Seamen play tender, vital tunes for the cardigan lunchbox crew. These reclusive songwriters purposely duck the limelight by playing on piers and in living rooms almost exclusively. If you think QUIET is the new LOUD, then you'll want to stow away with these two. Merlin Coleman (voice/cello) performs a set of songs as Festival of Stillness. Her compositions are influenced by early European music, Eastern European

folk, Indonesian Gamelan, lullabies, surrealist texts, improvisation, and vocal experimentation. Allen Willner is a singer/guitarist who performs malcontented acoustic ditties with just an inkling of hope, dark and absurdly lyrical stories that draw the line at mentioning the unmentionable. Daniel Ari, Poet of the Oompocalypse, welcomes you to his quirky, warm, and human world of left-field accordion anthems and articulate social observations. He also performs with Bass Line Dada.

Sunday, May 4 **Plagiarism is Patriotic** 8PM, \$5-10

Big City Orchestra is a long-lived, legendary, local noise project with a revolving cast of collaborators. Sampling, distortion, video loops, and homemade and altered instruments and electronics are regular features in their performances. Evolution Control Committee is a "band", but like none you've ever seen or heard. No drums, guitar, bass, or even synth or sampler. The ECC performs with custom-built equipment to give the audience a truly original experience. In the world of The ECC's music, Public Enemy duke it out with Herb Alpert while Dan Rather is the new frontman for AC/DC. It's fun without being comedy, sample-based without being techno, and brainy without being arty. Value-Added Cinema is a new video work co-created by Steve Seid (PFA) and Peter Conheim (Wet Gate, Mono Pause, Negativland) that serves as a virtual compendium of product placement in cinema history. (47 min.)



Wednesday, May 7 Jason Webley+Accordion Plague+New Bobby Sextet 8PM, \$5-10

Since his humble beginnings playing on street corners for spare change, Jason Webley, with his trademark accordion, gravel voice and vodka bottle shaker, has gone on to build up a sizeable and cooperative cult following in his hometown of Seattle, as well as the Bay Area which he tours frequently. In recent years this fan base has spread across much of the west coast and as far as Russia. Graduating from typical rock concerts, Webley's shows have evolved into one-of-a-kind theatrical performances. Webley's songs are filled with pirate ships, dancing devils, and absinthe. They're reminiscent of the Pogues and old Irish ballads, but Webley's vocal sincerity makes the material entirely his own. Accordion Plague is a Berkeley yuppie's worst nightmare: a horde of punk rock kids all wielding accordions and playing at once. New Bobby Sextet is an experiment in turntable synchronicity from Jon Brumit of Sliv and Dulet Enterprises. Six record players playing songs by various Bobbys in musical history.



Friday, May 9 Evidence of the King+Lauren Gudath+Mary Burger+Jenny Bitner \$5-10

The poets, Lauren Gudath, Mary Burger, and Jenny Bitner, will appear with and without musical accompaniment. A short film by Chris Vitello will also screen with an irreverent, original live score. Evidence of The King is a burst of instruments: voice, percussion, violin, cello, mandolin, electric bass, flute, trumpet, and even a tuba. Three architects, a virtuosic musicologist, and a poet. They will be playing mostly original tunes, and some that will only be played a single time in the history of music. The event will resemble a cabaret and a political rally. It'll also be like a revival meeting and a sweaty night at the symphony when you sneak candy in. Formal attire is encouraged— wacky ball gowns, cummerbunds, what have you.

SAN FRANCISCO ALTERNATIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL

All Shows at 8PM: Admission \$10 Advance. \$12 Door

Monday, May 12 Moe! Staiano, Viv Corringham from U.K. with Tom Bickley+Nancy Beckman, Bottomfeeders



Moe! Staiano is a percussionist who has experimented through the years through solo percussion using pipes, food pans, pressure caps, sheet metals, knick-knacks and other stuff that has been found, given or stolen. His shows can usually expect a big mess in one fashion or another, which he replies that the aftermath of his performances represents his life. Viv Corringham is based in London and works with improvisation, lo-tech electronics, Eastern Mediterranean music, listening, and soundscapes. Her solo project, Vocal Strolls, in which she sings live with the London soundscape, has been broadcast on radio (Radio 3's Mixing It, London Resonance fm) and TV (Channel 4's Richard and Judy show). She is currently studying under American composer Pauline Oliveros for a certificate in "Deep Listening". Corringham performs with Tom Bickley and Nancy Beckman. Cellist Danielle DeGruttola and double bass player, Ashley Adams are the Bottomfeeders. Sometime acoustic, sometimes electric, always eclectic. Like their aquatic namesakes, they glide through the musical jetsam of the last four centuries, stirring up disparate elements from classical, jazz, South Asian, and South-of-Market hardcore traditions. The result is a restless, effortless avant-garde sound, mastering the art of repetition and improvisation without swimming too far from eddies of profoundly beautiful melody.



SAN FRANCISCO ALTERNATIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL

All Shows at 8PM: Admission \$10 Advance, \$12 Door

Tuesday, May 13 Chadbourne+Perkis, The Abstractions + Ellis, Eisenstadt's Nu



Eugene Chadbourne (guitar, banjo) takes great pleasure in combining traditional Appalachian "oldtime" banjo music and avant garde electronic music. Electronics performer Tim Perkis (electronics) will be Chadbourne's performance partner. The two have performed together only once before. Chadbourne has also performed psychedelic music, straight ahead jazz, bluegrass, blues, classical Indian, classical Chinese, rockabilly and various combinations thereof. Lisle Ellis (electronics/bass) joins The Abstractions: Jesse Quattro (voice), Dina Emerson (voice) Sandor Finta (voice), Lance Grabmiller (laptop), Bob Marsh (cello, voice, accordian), Alwyn Quebido (guitar), Ernesto Diaz-Infante (guitars, 4-track, vocals), Phillip Everett (drums, percussion, auto harp) Rent Romus (reeds, CD player, zitherod, voice, percussion). The Abstractions present an unclassifiable raw set of new sonic surreal

textures forcing thought and feelings about life and culture in the real world. Lisle Ellis has been an active musician for more than 25 years. The force and beauty of his art, both visual and musical, is apparent in all that he creates. The current direction of his music is highly experimental integrating the bass with electronics. Harris Eisenstadt's Nu, features Harris Eisenstadt (drums), Jon Raskin (saxophones), Steve Adams (saxophones), Brett Lerner (koto), Darren Johnston (trumpet), and Bill Horvitz (guitar). Harris Eisenstadt is a drummer, percussionist, composer, and bandleader based in Los Angeles. Tonight, Harris is joined by an all star cast of some of the finest musicians in the Bay Area.



Wednesday, May 14 Haco, Forward Energy+Gale, Tri-Cornered Tent Show



Haco was a core member of one of the first Japanese bands to gain a following abroad. Around 1995, she began performing improvisations with compact samplers, self-produced electronic units, electric mandolin, percussion and toys along with voice. Her performances with a "howling pot" have met with a particularly warm reception everywhere. Her original style of vocalizing and experimental pop sound surpasses conventional genres and national borders. Eddie Gale (trumpet), joins Forward Energy: Jim Ryan (reeds, flute), Marshall Trammell (drums), Kristjan Bondesson (doublebass), and Scott R. Looney (piano). Eddie Gale's early jazz education included trumpet lessons from Kenny Dorham and sitting in with Art Blakely and Max Roach. Sun Ra dubbed Gale the original avant garde trumpeter. Gale first came to California with the Cecil Taylor Unit and played at the Berkeley Jazz Festival, which also featured Miles Davis and Carmen McRae. Tri-Cornered Tent Show is urban, Electro-Acoustic Folk Improv, Free improvisation and orchestrated sound sculpture and is composed of Philip Everett (percussion), Ray Schaeffer (bass), and Andre Custodio (electronics, percussion).

Friday, May 16 Peoples Bizarre and Glass Bead Game

8:30PM, \$7-10

Peoples Bizarre is inspired by the new developments of traditional Balkan and Eastern European folk music. A look into the ensemble reveals an eclectic equilibrium of elements: cello, violin, upright bass, clarinet, accordion, musical saw, and drums. An instrumentation common to both orchestral traditions and folk music allows the band stylistic flexibility, while the improvisational integrity of the group is tandem with modern rock and jazz genres. The Glass Bead Game takes its name from the novel about an intricate and sophisticated past-time of futuristic aesthetes. Intricate and sophisticated describe the band's music and Cera's lyrics, which feature skewed rhyme and complex toyings with poetic language. Bassist, JD Schreiber, Drummer Dean Cook, and violinist Jeff Hobbs have graced the group with their super powers, adding powerful vintage rhythms and atmospheric harmony to Cera's emotionally charged and sporadic melodies.



Monday, May 19 Eddie Gale Jam Session/Workshop 7-10PM, \$5 suggested donation

This is a public opportunity to improvise with legendary jazz trumpeter, Eddie Gale. Gale's early jazz education included trumpet lessons from Kenny Dorham and sitting in with Art Blakely, and Max Roach. Gale was introduced to Sun Ra and became part of his Arkestra. Sun Ra dubbed Gale the original avant garde trumpeter. Gale first came to California with the Cecil Taylor Unit and played at the Berkeley Jazz Festival, which also featured Miles Davis and Carmen McRae. One of Gale's most memorable performances was at The Half Note Club where he and John Gilmore played with Coltrane in a set that featured Elvin Jones, McCoy Tyner and Jimmy Garrison. Gale lives in San Jose.

449B 23RD ST. (between Broadway & Telegraph)
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 444-7263
<http://www.21grand.org>
21grand@21grand.org



21 Grand Arts Group Inc. is a
501(c)3 non-profit organization.
GALLERY HOURS:
Thursday 4-8PM
Friday 4-6PM
Saturday & Sunday 1-6PM

Friday, May 23

Art Rock: Barbez+Red Pocket+Trilectic

9PM, \$5-10

Barbez, from Brooklyn is a post-cabaret, punk chamber ensemble, provoked by such musics as Slavic folksong, Argentine tango, post-war classical, and pre-MTV punk. Their instrumentation includes theremin and toys. Last summer, the group completed a nationwide tour, which included shows with avant-rock legends Sleepytime Gorilla Museum. Red Pocket is fronted by Jewlia Eisenberg of Charming Hostess and features tight harmonies and exceptional musicianship. Drawing upon traditions from doo-wop to Meredith Monk, Eskimo throat singing, to Hebrew cantillation and more, Trilectic is as charming as it is challenging.



Saturday, May 24

Vista College Digital Video Shorts

8PM, \$5-10

Come to an evening of new digital film shorts by students of Vista College's Digital Video Arts Program. Reflecting the distinct voices and visions of our local community's up-and-coming filmmakers, these works encompass a broad range of documentary and experimental pieces as well as fictional shorts and trailers. The showcased filmmakers are students in Vista Community College's Digital Video Arts Program, which offers a full curriculum in video editing and design, cinematography & camera technique, motion graphics and compositing, sound design, aesthetic theory, and film studies. Part of the proceeds from this evening will go to support the Vista Multimedia Arts Program.

Sunday, May 25 New Brutalism: Book Release —Josely Vianna Baptista 7-9PM \$4

Celebrate the release of Manifest Press' new book "On the Shining Screen of the Eyelids" by Brazilian poet Josely Vianna Baptista, as translated by local star Chris Daniels. Chris will be reading from the book. Richard Greenfield will be reading from his new book "Carnage in the Lovetrees," recently released by the University of California Press. Baptista's work is considered somewhere between prose and poetry. Her style could be considered Brazilian Baroque: exuberant rhythms and images, fashioned by the "feeling for the measure", in the words of William Carlos Williams.

Friday, May 30

21 Grand 3rd Annual Benefit Art Sale

7-11 PM, free

Purchase or peruse visual art by a host of local artists at our 3rd Annual Benefit Art Sale. Works are for sale at exceptionally low prices, with nothing priced higher than \$75. Proceeds from the sale defray our operating expenses and ensure that we can continue presenting innovative visual art and performances. Artists include: Attaboy, Michelle Valdez, Devin Satterfield, Nik Phelps & Sprocket Ensemble, Lisa Pesch, JD Schreiber, Pete Glover, Narangkar Khalsa, Miya Masaoka, Jon Brumit, Jeannie Lydon, Dara Santhai, Matt Volla, Christian Lunch, Christopher Ruess, Lauren Ari, Lydia Von Nostrand, Carolyn Cooley, David Thorp, Ivan Blackshear, Conrad Lewbel, Kimric Smythe, Vinny, Nora Auston, Nate Scott, Chela Fielding, James Stark, Tim Jag, Marc Horowitz, Benjamin Hirschhoff, Justin Walsh, Justin Seligman, Victoria Brill, Sean Aaberg, Katie Aaberg, Norman Long, Chris Bassett, Nancy Elliott, John Rogers, Adrienne Peterson, Adrienne Miller, Kira Grinberg, Joshua Churchill, and Nat Swope Refreshments generously donated in part by Trader Joe's. Musical entertainment courtesy of the New Bobby Sextet. The sale continues during gallery hours, Saturday and Sunday, May 31 and June 1, 1-6 PM.



Saturday, May 31 Experimental Video by Trigilio+Liss+Talisman 8PM, \$5-10

Michael Trigilio's short videos co-opt the pop standard of "chunking information," without degenerating into slickness themselves. His "Untitled Book Series" are short videos between 30 seconds and 5 minutes that are non-linear conceptually insular packets of cultural, literary, personal or historical information that may or may not maintain direct relationships to the books to which they refer. Heike Liss' work straddles the universal and the individual, focusing on rites of passage and the passing of time. Her work, "Classroom Portrait," is a series of interviews with ten year-old children about their aspirations. In front of the camera, the children speak in the voices of their "appropriated" twenty year-old selves. Nomi Talisman edits and re-animates scanned ephemeral film footage (home movies, educational, industrial film) to materially comment on cinema as cultural phenomenon through selecting images and shots that refer to iconic elements of various popular Hollywood genres.

