

# eli namay

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## education

2008-2013 Columbia College Chicago (BA Instrumental Performance)

## private study

Greg Sarchet, Anton Hatwich, Dennis Luxion, Dan Anderson, Chuck Webb

## regular collaborators

Ishmael Ali, Luis Fernando Amaya, Jessica Aszodi, Emily Beisel, Jim Baker, David Fletcher, Carol Genetti, Zachary Good, Anton Hatwich, Bill Harris, Jeff Kimmel, Lia Kohl, Peter Maunu, Willis McKenna, Nick Meryhew, Ryan Packard, Phil Sudderberg, Katherine Young, and Bethany Younge.

## articles

2018: *A ≠ A: Capitalism, Symbols, and the Conditioning of Human Nature* – A writing on the origins of class society, how that relates to the human brain and the symbols it produces, and how a lack of reflection on the way in which symbols relate to material reality and create the basis for human knowledge affects humans both politically and culturally.

2017: *On 'On Cultural Struggle,' for Cacophony Magazine* – Reflections on the mode of presentation of my zine *On Cultural Struggle: Artistic Militance and the Abolition of Value*, which itself explores the concept of 'symbolic violence.'

2017: *Reflections on Objeto/Espacio*, for *Cacophony Magazine* – A look at the critique of Eurocentric notions of aesthetic value in Luis Fernando Amaya's piece for solo string instrument, *Objeto/Espacio: Variaciones y Bagatelas*.

2016: *Teasing Out Contradiction*, for the *Pianos Without Organs Festival* and *Cacophony Magazine* – Examining positivism and essentialism inherent in dominant modes of signification. Part 1: Framing the problem and reflections on visceral deconstruction in Alex Grimes' piece *An Object that is Not Oriented*.

2016: *In Response to Tamas Vilaghy's 'Dal Niente Season Opener 9.18'*, for *Cacophony Magazine* – A critique of Vilaghy's use of binary notions of value as applied to identity politics, composition, and curation.

2016: *Eli Namay and Joan Arnau Pamies*, for *Cacophony Magazine* – An interview on political economy, music, and Pamies' *Produktionsmittle III*.

2016: *Fay Victor/Tyshawn Sorey*, for *Cacophony Magazine* – A concert reaction and short interview with Fay Victor.

## presentations

2018 May: *A ≠ A: Capitalism, Symbols, and the Conditioning of Human Nature*, at Elk City Records in Charleston, WV – Presentation of solo double bass & electric bass music, along with a guided discussion on concepts from the writing.

2018 May: *A ≠ A: Capitalism, Symbols, and the Conditioning of Human Nature*, at Wooden Shoe Books in Philadelphia – Presentation of solo double bass & electric bass music, along with a guided discussion on concepts from the writing.

2018 May: *A ≠ A: Capitalism, Symbols, and the Conditioning of Human Nature*, at Pages Book Shop in Detroit – Presentation of solo double bass & electric bass music, along with a guided discussion on concepts from the writing.

2018 April: *Sound Mass* at School of the Art Institute Chicago – A presentation for Katharine Young's improvised music class that involved leading the class in a performance of the piece, as well as a presentation of concepts from the writing.

2018 April: *Sound Mass[3]* at *Elastic Arts* – An interpretation of the text score carried out by an all strings ensemble alongside a presentation of the generative ideas present in the work. W/ Anton Hatwich, Jakob Heinemann, Billie Howard, Peter Maunu, Wilson Tanner Smith, Kimberly Sutton, & Andrew Scott Young.

2018 March: *Sound Mass[2]* at *Comfort Station*, organized by Katharine Young for her *SAIC* improvisation class – An interpretation of the text score carried out by an all percussion ensemble alongside a presentation of the generative ideas present

in the work. W/ Ben Baker Billington, Matt Carroll, Bill Harris, Lia Kohl, & Phil Sudderberg.

2018 February: *Sound Mass* at *Cafe Mustache* – An interpretation of the text score carried out by a large mixed ensemble alongside a presentation of the generative ideas present in the work. W/ Angel Bat Dawid, Emily Beisel, Zachary Good, Carol Genetti, Anton Hatwich, Chris Kimmons, Lia Kohl, N.W. Long, Peter Maunu, Nick Meryhew, Ryan Packard, & Macie Stewart.

2016 July: *Beisel/Namay Composition 2* w/ Emily Beisel & Tyler Berg as part of *Comfort Station Presents Fonema Consort Soloists* – Post performance presentation of compositional process and philosophical foundations.

2016 February: w/ Nick Meryhew & Bethany Younge – performance and panel discussion on politics and the philosophy of improvisation for the DePaul Philosophy Department hosted by Maria del Rosario Acosta Lopez.

## selected performances

2018 May: solo tour for *A ≠ A: Capitalism, Symbols, and the Conditioning of Human Nature* w/ stops in Detroit, Pittsburgh, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Baltimore, D.C., & Charleston. This included solo performances / presentations of *A ≠ A*, as well as improvised performances w/ (in order of appearance) Ben Willis, Kirsten Carey, Molly Jones, Marcus Elliot, Nick Tallidis, Jonathan Taylor, Cory Siby Tripathy, John McCowen, Nina Dante, Jarrett Gilgore, Ian McColm, the Big Possum String Band, John Smith, & Mark Price.

2018 January: w/ *Jessica Aszodi* – A collaboratively pre-structured improvisation played as a part of Aszodi's final workshop concert for her *High Concept Labs* residency.

2017 November: w/ Kathrine Young – A large improvising group curated by Young for a live recording session that was part *The Bridge* series that connects Improvisers from France and Chicago.

2017 September: w/ *Nakatani Gong Orchestra* – Tatsua Nakatani's traveling gong oriented Percussion orchestra.

2017 May: *The Only Authentic Expression of Self is Gastrointestinal* w/ *Immanence Front* – A Piece by Eli Namay for voice and electronics performed at *Helltrap Nightmare*.

2017 April: *Canciones Desde Xilitla* w/ *Fonema Consort* – A multi-media song cycle by Francisco Castillo Trigueros performed at *Instituto Cervantes*.

2017 April: *The Only Improvisation is Being Born* w/ *Fonema Consort* – A duo written by Alex Grimes for amplified upright bass and amplified bass clarinet performed at the *Resonance Series*.

2016 October: *Gazillion Fears* w/ James Davis, Jim Baker, & Phil Sudderberg // Sam Pluta, Kyle Bruckman, & Katie Young.

2016 October: duo performance of *An Object that is Not Oriented* w/ Phil Sudderberg as part of the *Pianos Without Organs Festival*.

2016 August: solo, duo, & trio performances w/ Emily Beisel & Tyler Berg as part of *The Option Series* at Experimental Sound Studios – solo improvisations, *Smile* (Namay/Pinto/Grimes/Amortegui), *Namay/Beisel Composition 2*, & *The Only Improvisation is Being Born*.

2016 August: *The Eli Namay Trio* & Jessica Aszodi w/ Bill Harris & Steve Kaiser – duo improvisations w/ Jessica Aszodi // works by Anthony Braxton, Steve Lacy, & Jimmy Giuffre.

2016 July: trio performance w/ Emily Beisel & Tyler Berg as part of *Comfort Station Presents Fonema Consort Soloists – Beisel/Namay Composition 2*.

2016 June: *Fonema Consort Presents: Emily Beisel* – collaboratively written duo pieces w/ Emily Beisel.

2015 September: *Text/Grain* w/ Jessica Aszodi, Jenna Lyle, Nick Meryhew, Bethany Younge, Katie Young, Emily Beisel, & Nomi Epstein – trio improvisations w/ Nick Meryhew & Emily Beisel // *How to Assemble* by Carolyn Chen.

2015 May: *Mocrep Presents Ludwig Abraham* – opening improvisation set w/ Carol Genetti, Nick Meryhew, & Zach Good

2015 February: *Ten x Ten Chicago* w/ musicians: Josh Berman, Paul Gialloenzo, Anton Hatwich, Keefe Jackson, Peter Maunu, Eli Namay, Ryan Packard, Cameron Pfiffner, Jason Stein, & Phil Sudderberg // visual artists: Salvador Andrade Arevalo, Jerome Bryerton, Uriel Correa, Rob Funderburk, Trevor Goosen, Andrew Holmquist, Hannah Ireland, Vesna Jovanovic, Alexander Stewart, and Cynthia Weiss -- live recording of compositions from each musician/visual artist pair.

## selected compositions

2018: *Sound Mass*

2017: *The Only Authentic Expression of Self is Gastrointestinal* // *Salinity*

2016: *Smile // Beisel/Namay Compositions 1&2*

2015: *Fire in the Raucous Wire // Composition 6 // Composition 7 // Composition 9*

2013: *Deterioration // Jiggle // Spectral Study II 27*

## bandleader

2016: The Eli Namay Trio – Music by Anthony Braxton, Steve Lacy, Jimmy Giuffre, & Wayne Shorter.

2015: The People's Trio – original compositions (Namay).

2013 – 2014: The People's Quartet – original compositions (Namay).

2008 – 2013: Actual Rhinoceros – composition forum.

## selected recordings

2018: *A ≠ A: Capitalism, Symbols, and the Conditioning of Human Nature*. – Solo double bass and electric bass music released with along with a political writing.

2017: *Devouring the Guilt* – Improvised trio music recorded live at the Empty Bottle.

2017: *Objeto/Espacio* recorded at North Western University

2016: live recording of *An Object that is Not Oriented* by Alex Grimes at the *Pianos without Organs Festival*.

2015: live recording of solo, duo, & trio performance at Experimental Sound Studio as part of *The Option Series*.

2015: *Zinc* w/ Carol Genetti, Nick Meryhew, & Zach Good.

2014: *Entropy EP/An Object that is Not Oriented* w/ Phil Sudderberg – original improvisations and *AOTiNO* by Alex Grimes.

2014: *Vibrating Skull Trio* w/ Phil Sudderberg & John McCowen – original improvisations.

# curation

2014 – Present: *The Foundation Series* curated w/ Phil Sudderberg as *Gilded Records*.

2014 March: Anton Hatwich // Josh Berman // Keefe Jackson, Phil Sudderberg, & Eli Namay.

2014 May: John McCowen & Phil Sudderberg // Spencer Jenich & Eli Namay // Spencer Jenich, Elle Sutherland & Chris Kimmons.

2014 June: Nick Mazarella // Eli Namay & Albert Wildeman // Keefe Jackson, Julian Kirshner & Daniel Fandino.

2014 July: Zach Moore & Nick Meryhew // John Niekrasz & Kurt Oren // Spencer Jenich, Eli Namay, & Daniel Garlington.

2014 October: *Rooms Trio* Dan Pierson, Charlie Kirchen, & Matt Caroll // *The People's Quartet* Kedrick Pullums, Spencer Jenich, Phil Sudderberg, & Eli Namay.

2014 November: Rob Jacobs // Keefe Jackson & Danny Andrade.

2014 December: Jacob Wick // Fred Lonberg-Holm, Keefe Jackson, Julian Kirshner // Peter Maunu, Carol Genetti, Ryan Packard Zach Good, Zach Moore.

2015 January: Vivian McConnell & Tommy Trafton // Bill MacKay & Katinka Kleijn // Jim Baker & Michael Zerang.

2015 March: Albert Wildeman & Jessica Cornish // Chris Kimmons & Spencer Jenich.

2015 April: Tim Daisy, Albert Wildeman & Anderw Clinkman // Tatsuya Nakatani.

2015 May: *Wrest + 1* Jack Wright, Evan Lipson, Ben Bennett, & Carol Genetti // Tollef Ostvang, Josh Berman, & Jim Baker.

2015 August: Jarrett Gilgore & Deric Dickens // Jarett Gilgore, Jason Stein, Eli Namay, & Julian Kirshner.

2015 September: Steve Marquette, Macie Stewart, & Charlie Kirchen // Phil Sudderberg & Gerrit Hatcher.

2015 November: Jack Wright & Zach Darrup // Chris Riggs.

2016 January: Albert Wildeman // Jessica Aszodi & Jenna Lyle // Will Greene & Devin Drobka.

2016 April: Oscar Jan Hoogland & Ryan Packard // Keefe Jackson & Josh Berman // Emily Beisel, Craig Davis Pinson, & Luis Fernando Amaya.

2016 May: *Vibrating Skull Trio* John McCowen, Eli Namay, & Phil Sudderberg // Jason Stein & Aaron Zarzutzki.

2016 December: Macie Stewart & Katie Ernst // Aarton Zarzutzki, Benjamin Vergara, & Fred Lonberg-Holm.

2017 January: Nicky Martin // A.J. McClenon // Steve Schaberg // Kelly Sheehan & Jill DeGroot

2017 December: Plus Sign // Carol Genetti & Andrew Clinkman // A.J. McClenon, Alex Grimes, & Chris Kimmons // Danny Andrade, Eli Namay, Phil Sudderberg.

2018 July: Emily Beisel, David Fletcher, Keefe Jackson, & Benjamin Vergara // Nick Alvarez, Xris ESP, Matt Lux, & Matt Murphy