

Roulette and High Zero to Co-Present High Zero's 20th Festival of Experimental Improvised Music in September

July 26, 2018

The High Zero Foundation and Roulette have announced that High Zero's 20th annual Festival of Experimental Improvised Music will include two dates in New York City, at Roulette on September 19-20, 2018.

The High Zero Festival usually brings musicians from all over the world to Baltimore, but this year's 20th anniversary concert series flips the format by bringing High Zero Collective members to Roulette in NYC for two nights of improvised sets with NY musicians. The Baltimore musicians will also present concerts in Chicago and Baltimore as part of the anniversary-celebration festival.

The Roulette performances will follow the festival's intriguing model: Each evening's four curated sets aim to combine musicians who have never played together before. These musicians will improvise together for typically 20-30 minutes.

September 19

Set 1: Tom Boram*, Ikue Mori, C Spencer Yeh

Set 2: Owen Gardner, Margaret Schedel, Shelly Purdy*

Set 3: Jamal Moore, Jeff Carey*, Ras Moshe, JD Parran, Andrew Bernstein

Set 4: Samuel Burt, Lea Bertucci, Michael Evans*

September 20

Set 1: Bonnie Jones, Leila Bordreuil*

Set 2: Sandy Ewen, Rose Hammer Burt, M.C. Schmidt

Set 3: Amirtha Kidambi, CK Barlow, John Berndt, Tom Hamilton

Set 4: Chuck Bettis, Stewart Mostofsky, Jaimie Branch*

* *Indicates that a high-res press photo is available [here](#)*

Since 1999, the annual High Zero Festival of Experimental Improvised Music has brought together more than 200 musicians and performers from around the world, mixing and matching them in all new combinations with local Baltimore improvisers in never-before-seen collaborations. *Signal to Noise* magazine has called the festival "a fertile laboratory of musical possibility without equal."

Press Photos: [Selection of 2018 Performers](#) • [Past Festivals](#)

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Full Lineups confirmed as of this release

High Zero Chicago — Fri Sept 14-Sat Sept 15 at [Elastic Arts](#)

Jim Baker (synthesizer, piano)
Ben Baker Billington (drums, electronics)
Angel Bat Dawid (clarinet, piano)
Carol Genetti (vocals)
Jen Hill (miscellaneous)*
Eric Leonardson (springboard)
Julie Pomerleau (violin, viola)
Tomeka Reid (violoncello)
Cristal Sabbagh (dance)
Jason Soliday (electronics, ipad)
Katherine Young (bassoon, electronics)
Michael Zerang (percussion)*

High Zero New York — Wed Sept 19- Thu Sept 20 at [Roulette](#)

Lea Bertucci (bass clarinet, alto sax, electronics)
Chuck Bettis (electronics, throat)
Leila Bordreuil (cello)*
Jaimie Branch (trumpet)*
Michael Evans (percussion, theremin)*
Sandy Ewen (guitar)
Tom Hamilton (electronics)
Amirtha Kidambi (voice)
Ikue Mori (electronics)
Ras Moshe (sax)
JD Parran (woodwinds)
Margaret Schedel (violoncello, electronics)
C Spencer Yeh (voice, violin)

High Zero Baltimore — Fri Sept 28-Sat Sept 29 at [Theater Project](#)

Susan Alcorn (pedal steel)
Stephanie Barber (performance, spoken word)
Shelly Blake-Plock (electric guitar)
April Camlin (drums)
Patrick Crossland (trombone)
Neil Feather (invented instruments)
Carrie Fucile (objects, cassettes)
Alison Clendaniel (voice, piano, cello)
Sarah Hughes (reeds, flute)*
Orlando Johnson (mandolin, found objects)
Wendel Patrick (electronics, keyboards)*
Ada Pinkston (dance)
Peter Redgrave (dance)*
Bob Wagner (drums)
Jason Willett (electronics)

High Zero Collective (Touring & Baltimore)

CK Barlow (electronics, sampling)
John Berndt (reeds, computer, invented instruments)
Andrew Bernstein (saxophone)
Tom Boram (thocolate tynapple panipulator)*
Rose Hammer Burt (reeds)
Samuel Burt (daxophone, bass clarinet)
Jeff Carey (computer, lights)*
Owen Gardner (guitar, cello)
Bonnie Jones (electronics)
Jamal Moore (reeds)
Stewart Mostofsky (electronics)
Paul Neidhardt (percussion)
Shelly Purdy (percussion)*
Jimmy Joe Roche (electronics)
M.C. Schmidt (electronics, balloon)

** Indicates that a high-res press photo is available [here](#)*

Press Quotes from Past Festivals

They aren't just playing outside the box; the box is set on fire, its ashes mixed with water, the subsequent clay is shaped into something just outside the periphery of recognizable. It's good to watch sound broken and remade from the ground up, to let go of expectation. High Zero is an exhausting, invaluable gem of a performance series that enriches anyone who experiences it, whether they bring earplugs or not. – BmoreArt

<http://www.bmoreart.com/2016/10/improvisation-in-real-time.html>

Some of the most intense new music being made anywhere, on everything from oboes and one-of-a-kind instruments to the human body itself... unforgettable performances. – The Washington Post

A fertile laboratory of musical possibility without equal. – Signal to Noise Magazine

The resulting collaborations challenge the limits of music and delight by their audacity, expressiveness, immediacy, and innovation. It isn't about stars or established projects; it is about the most uncompromising and stimulating new improvised music we can bring together. – New Music USA <https://www.newmusicusa.org/projects/high-zero-festival-2014/>