

Classical new age music?! Clay, glass and other art-ifacts

CHRIS BARNES

THE BRUNSWICKAN

Creative Arts UNB/STU proudly presents Array Music Ensemble as part of its Campus Classical series. Array Music has been one of Canada's leading music ensembles since 1971, and their innovative and fresh programming, combined with a high level of performance from the virtuoso musicians, should lend an imaginative sound to your ears when they play at Mem Hall tonight.

Array Music Ensemble is composed of eight dedicated musicians who all have highly individual "voices" in both their compositions and artistic performance talents. The versatility and wide diversity of the members bring multiple facets to the music. Some are classical based and some are contemporary based, rolling microtonal, classical, jazz, theatrical, studio, wind, strings, keyboard and percussion into the multiple pieces.

Regardless of their varied backgrounds, they are all involved with experimental work in performance and music media. This special group has developed a unique repertoire that reflects a post-modern sensibility and a distinctly North American eclecticism. Together, they instrument clarinet, trumpet, percussion, piano, violin, and double bass in their performance. Their distinctive sounds can be recognized in many interdisciplinary and theatrical field with collaborations between composers, choreographers, and visual artists. This has resulted in the production of several repertory programmes of dance and new music as well as full-length works such as *Personal History* by Henry Kucharczyk and *Big Pictures* by Michael J.

Baker.

They must be praised on their latest CD, entitled *New World*, for their artistic excellence, distinctively unique sound and the exceptionally high production quality which presents beautifully balanced and dynamic music.

They have also released two other CDs in conjunction with an annual concert in Toronto and tours across Canada and abroad. They have appeared at the Athens, Huddersfield and Belfast Festivals, New Music American, the North American New Music Festival, and the prestigious contemporary music festival in Lyon France (Music en Scene) - all to critical and successful acclaim.

This post-modern sensibility and distinct eclecticism can be best described as a combination of new age music with a touch of classical and the occasional resemblance to Enya. Some pieces are definitely not like anything I've ever heard, and maybe a little strange. "Cactus Rosary" by Terry Riley features slow, depressingly moody beats interspersed with chanting and downright weird lyrics.

The overall effect is surprisingly impressionable, though probably not very memorable. This isn't music that one would ever stick in one's head, but in the right atmosphere and mood (such as a weird mood with candles and a rosary) this CD can be very enchanting. All in all, the best way to fully understand and experience this music is by attending their performance.

The performance will be held tonight at Memorial Hall on the UNB campus, starting at 8 pm and followed with a reception. Tickets for students are \$10, and \$18 for adults and seniors.

ANTHONY DAVIS

THE BRUNSWICKAN

You might not be familiar with the name Peter Powning, but the New Brunswick Museum certainly is. His *Elemental Clay and Glass* exhibit just opened last Saturday.

The works of Peter Powning - who resides just outside of Sussex - are on display at the NB Museum until March. Most of the pieces on display - all of which are for sale - have been created over the past fifteen years. Although not all of Powning's works are on display, the ones that have been chosen for this exhibit give the viewer a basic education on clay and glass as a medium for art.



ANTHONY DAVIS PHOTO
One of the several pieces of art on display at the New Brunswick Museum.

Overall, this is just one more reason to head down to Saint John and check out the museum. There are many great exhibits on display at the museum over the next few months. Those exhibits will include: *Women of Invention*, an exhibit of the *History of Rock and Roll in New Brunswick*, a collection of Herzl Kashetsky's *Prayer for the Dead*, a series entitled *Delta: 3 Women*, and an exhibit called *Out of Ireland: Irish Immigration to New Brunswick 1750 - 1847*.

With only a one hour trip to Saint John from Fredericton, a visit to the museum is not a difficult evening to plan. Wednesday evenings, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm are free for students, although the quality of the work is definitely enough to inspire a donation from even the stingiest of students.

The museum opened last year in the Market Square shopping centre. It's quite a fascinating place, as the entire inside of Market Square has been redone for the museum, all as a part of an effort to rejuvenate business and to attract tourists to the area. The museum - and the more than 50,000 people that have visited it since it opened - are drawing businesses back to the uptown area. It is definitely a pleasant place to visit.

Keep on rockin' for charity

JIM BUDROW

THE BRUNSWICKAN

Last Saturday night The Cellar was alive with an eclectic variety of music. It was a benefit concert to support of the local chapter of Amnesty International, and raised several hundred for its cause.

The first of the four bands that played was Alder Knot, with a heavy alternative sound. Next was the multi talented 3 foot 7 who mixed jazz and alternative. The first two had a decent sound (as the mosh pit was evidence of), but it was a bit too much for the confines of The Cellar. The next band, Smiley, is an up-and-coming group from Fredericton with a video on out MuchMusic, and they hit it right on for me. Their playing was energetic - obviously well-rehearsed - and diversified enough to include bongo drums and tin cans for percussion. Their tempo varied from hard to soft, and from mellow to powerful. Their performance was one of the best I have seen from local talent in Fredericton, and they show great promise for future success. The night concluded with the folksy music of Brent Mason. His accoustical guitar, backed by a violin, percussion, and a strong base ended the evening on the right note. The near overwhelming beats from the earlier bands countered Mason to make an entertaining blend of music. It was a night of awareness ... and fun.

CHSR Top 30 - February 2, 1997

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | rheostatics | the blue hysteria | cargo |
| 2 | orange glass | interstellar interstellar | squirt |
| 3 | the poumons | by surprise | indie |
| 4 | v/a | chupotera | quango |
| 5 | knockout pill | can I open the big present first? | indie |
| 6 | tricky | pre-millennium session | island |
| 7 | thrush hermit | rock n' roll detective | elektra |
| 8 | enigma | fashion magnet | virgin |
| 9 | cake | in defense of animals vol 2 | capricorn |
| 10 | v/a | city according | caroline |
| 11 | joan osborne | muddy waters | mercury |
| 12 | redman | becoming | def jam |
| 13 | sneaker pimps | travelling without moving | clean up |
| 14 | jamiroq | underground / take suicide 12" | columbia |
| 15 | sneaker pimps | the miracle of meditation | virgin |
| 16 | v/a | sugar is sweeter 12" | gentle giant |
| 17 | cj bolland | wrath of the math | fir |
| 18 | jeru the damaja | backwards may | pyrexia / fir |
| 19 | elevator to hell | the gift (12" single) | sapp |
| 20 | way out west | not your business | the |
| 21 | atari teenage riot | carry-on mentality 7" | the |
| 22 | hayden | | |

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 23 | buzzkill | up | alternative tentacles |
| 24 | headcramp | no more smiles | meathead |
| 25 | v/a | safe and sound | mercury |
| 26 | jar. | harsh and discord | indie |
| 27 | bill ding | trust in god, but tie up your camel | hefty |
| 28 | bloodhound gang | one finger beer coaster | republic |
| 29 | lit | five smokin' tracks from... | malicious vinyl |
| 30 | n.o.t.a. | give 'em enough dope | unclean |

BeatBox Top 10 - February 2, 1997

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|----|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | v/a | Rhyme And Reason | Priority |
| 2 | Redman | That's How It's 12" | Def Jam |
| 3 | Jeru The Damaja | Wrath of Math | Payday / FFRR |
| 4 | Ghostface Killah | Camay / Datsun 500 | RazorSharp |
| 5 | Roots | What The Do | DEC |
| 6 | v/a | Beat Factory Rap Essentials Vol 1 | Beat Factory |
| 7 | KRS One | Can't Stop, Won't Stop 1 | live |
| 8 | Nas | Sweet Dreams | Columbia |
| 9 | Mobb Deep | Front Lines (Hell on Earth) | Mercury |
| 10 | Xzibit | The Foundation | Mercury |

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