

OREN AMBARCHI

Oren Ambarchi is an electronic guitarist and percussionist with longstanding interests in transcending conventional instrumental approaches. Born in Sydney in 1969, he has been performing live since 1986. His work focuses mainly on the exploration of the guitar, "re-routing the instrument into a zone of alien abstraction where it's no longer easily identifiable as itself. Instead, it's a laboratory for extended sonic investigation". (The Wire, UK).

His recent solo releases *Suspension* and *Insulation* (Touch, UK), have transcended the guitar into a zone of alien beauty and sonic impossibilities to critical acclaim.

He has performed and recorded with Martin Ng (Australia), Christian Fennesz (Austria), Otomo Yoshihide (Japan), Pimmon (Australia), John Zorn (USA), Voice Crack (Switzerland), Sachiko M (Japan), Keith Rowe (UK), Phill Niblock (USA), Gunter Muller (Switzerland), Evan Parker (UK) and many more.

Ambarchi is also co-organiser of the **What Is Music?** Festival, Australia's premier annual showcase of local and international experimental music. The **What Is Music?** festival has hosted over 200 local and international performers and is now in its eighth year.

Lectures

2002: **Hautz, Helsinki, Finland:** Lecture and workshop with **Keith Rowe**

2002: **Contemporary Centre for the Arts, CCA, Kita Kyushu, Japan:** Guest international lecturer and workshop July 2002

2002: **UWS, Nepean, Sydney:** Lecturer in New Musics course and Free Improvisation course

2001: **UWS, Nepean, Sydney:** Lecturer in Contemporary Arts 2 course and Free Improvisation course

2000: **UWS, Nepean, Sydney:** Lecturer in Free Improvisation course

Performances (selection)

2003

February

Transmediale Festival, Podewil, Berlin

Shibuya Nest, Tokyo, Japan

2002

Solo Tour March 2002

Kraak 3 festival, Hasselt, Belgium
Kontor, Cologne, Germany
CUBA, Munster, Germany
Zakk, Bremen, Germany
Bragagild, Copenhagen, Denmark
Fylkingen, Stockholm, Sweden

Collaborations March 2002

The Loft, Cologne, Germany, Duo with **Keith Rowe** (UK)
Lava, Kulterhuset, Stockholm, Sweden with **Hazard** (Sweden) and
Trad Gras Och Stenar (Sweden)

April 2002

Solo performance at **REV Festival**, Powerhouse, Brisbane
Trio with **Brendan Walls** and **Peter Blamey** at Brett Whiteley
Gallery
Trio with **Martin Ng** and **Brendan Walls** at Sydney University

May 2002

Trio with **Martin Ng** and **Brendan Walls** at Sydney University
Duo with **Scott Horscroft** at Electronic Festival, White Bay

Solo Tour June 2002

Ertz 2002 Festival, Bera (Nafarroa), Spain
Sonar Festival, Barcelona, Spain
ZDB Gallery, Lisbon, Portugal
Maus Habitots, Porto, Portugal

Collaborations June 2002

London Musicians Collective Festival, LMC, Southbank Centre,
London, UK with **Keith Rowe** (UK) & **Kaffe Matthews** (UK)
Errorclub, Bilbao, Spain with **Mattin** (Spain)
The Metro, Sydney with **Chris Townend**, **Clare Cooper**, **Scott
Horscroft**
Revolver, Melbourne with **Chris Townend**, **Clare Cooper**, **Scott
Horscroft**

Collaborations July 2002

Liquid Architecture Festival, Nth Melbourne Town Hall with **Martin Ng**

Corner Hotel, Melbourne with **Gunter Muller** (Switzerland) & **Phillip Samartzis**

Revolver, Melbourne with **Michael Stronheim** (Austria), **Brendan Walls** and **Scott Horscroft**

The Metro, Sydney with **Michael Stronheim** (Austria), **Brendan Walls** and **Scott Horscroft**, **Toshimaru Nakamura** (Japan) and **Tetuzi Akiyama** (Japan)

Opera House, Sydney with **Chris Abrahams** and **Rob Avenaim**
BJB, Sydney with **Voice Crack** (Switzerland) and **Gunter Muller** (Switzerland)

Solo Tour August 2002

Deluxe, Tokyo, Japan

Megahertz, Kita Kyushu, Japan

Collaborations August 2002

Megahertz, Kita Kyushu, Japan with **Matthias Gmachi** (Austria), **Francisco Lopez** (Spain), **Zbigniew Karkowski** (Poland) and **Scott Arford** (USA)

Offsite, Tokyo, Japan with **Toshimaru Nakamura** (Japan) and **Tetuzi Akiyama** (Japan)

Performance Space, Sydney with **Scott Horscroft**

Solo Tour September 2002

Cite Des Ondes, Video Et Art Electronique Festival Montreal, Canada

Collaborations September 2002

Cite Des Ondes, Video Et Art Electronique Festival Montreal, Canada with **Masami Akita/Merzbow** (Japan), **Francisco Lopez** (Spain), **Shun Okada** (Japan), **Daniel Menche** (USA) and **Michael Northam** (USA)

Solo Tour October 2002

POL Festival, Frankfurt, Germany

Touch Festival, Rote Fabrik Kulturzentrum, Zurich, Switzerland

Happy New Ears Festival, Kortrijk, Belgium

Blumenladen, Berlin, Germany

Jumo Jazz Club, Helsinki, Finland

Blockhouse, Nantes, France

Bip Hop Festival, Avignon, France

Collaborations October 2002

Mental Alaska, Tampere, Finland duo with **Keith Rowe** (UK)

The WIRE 20TH Anniversary Festival, Instants Chavires, Paris, France with **Keith Rowe** (UK) and **Evan Parker** (UK)

The Guitar, Tokyo, Japan with **Keith Rowe** (UK), **Toshimaru Nakamura** (Japan), **Otomo Yoshihide** (Japan), **Taku Sugimoto** (Japan), **Tetuzi Akiyama** (Japan) and **Burkhard Stangl** (Austria) (including a performance of **Cornelius Cardew's "TREATISE"**)

Kid Ailac Hall, Meidaimae, Tokyo with **Keith Rowe** and **Toshimaru Nakamura**

Offsite Gallery, Tokyo, with **Absolute Antenna**

2001

Solo tour May/June/July 2001

Touch 2001 Festival Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, UK

BBC Radio 3 Live-to-air performance, London, UK

Global Café London, UK

Tramway Glasgow, Scotland

ZDB Gallery Lisbon, Portugal

OT 301 Amsterdam, Holland

VPRO Radio Live-to-air performance feature, Amsterdam, Holland

Extrapool, Nijmegen, Holland

SSK Cologne, Germany

CUBA Munster, Germany

AZ Conni Dresden, Germany

Volker Kassel, Germany

Rhiz Vienna, Austria

Tonic, New York, USA

Parkside New York, USA

Diapason New York, USA

Collaborations 2001

Musique Action Festival Nancy, France with **Keith Rowe** (UK), **Rob Avenaim**

Instant Chavires Paris, France with **Keith Rowe** (UK), **Sachiko M** (Japan), **Otomo Yoshihide** (Japan)

Pannonica Nante, France with **Keith Rowe** (UK), **Rob Avenaim**

American Institute Rennes, with **Keith Rowe** (UK), **Rob Avenaim**

Lugar Comum Lisbon, Portugal with **Phill Niblock** (USA)

OT 301 Amsterdam, Holland with **Cor Fuhler** (Holland)

Den Anden Opera Copenhagen, Denmark with **Martin Klapper** (Czech)

Tonic New York, USA with **John Zorn** (USA), **Susie Ibarra** (USA), **Alan Licht** (USA), **Ikue Mori** (Japan), **Cyro Baptista** (Brazil), **Annie Gosfield** (USA)

CBGB New York, USA with **Tim Barnes** (USA)

Subtonic New York, USA with **Toshio Kajiwara** (Japan), **Ras Mesinai** (USA), **DJ Olive** (USA)

Harbourside Brasserie, Sydney with **Ikue Mori** (Japan), **Jim Denley**, **Martin Ng**, **Rob Avenaim & Pimmon**

Revolver, Melbourne with **Farmers Manual** (Austria) and **Ilpo Vasainen** (Finland)

2000

Adelaide Festival, with **Otomo Yoshihide** (Japan), **David Moss** (USA), **Cor Fuhler** (Holland), **Stevie Wishart**, **Jim Denley**, **Rik Rue**

UWS, Nepean as member of **Phill Niblock's** (USA) ensemble

Artspace, Sydney as member of **Phill Niblock's** (USA) ensemble

Canberra University as member of **Phill Niblock's** (USA) ensemble
Revolver, Melbourne with **Christian Fennesz** (Austria), **Peter Rehberg** (Austria), **Keith Rowe** (UK) and **Pimmon**

Palladium, Sydney with **Keith Rowe** (UK), **Jim Denley**, **Rob Avenaim**

Side On, Sydney with **Cor Fuhler** (Holland), **Amanda Stewart**, **Jim Denley**

Big Day Out Festival Melbourne with **Matthew Thomas** and **Pimmon**

Side On, Sydney with **Satsuki Odamura** (Japan) and **Stevie Wishart**

Installations/Sound/Productions

2003: Music for **Kataisha** Butoh Troupe, Tokyo, Japan

2002: **Variable Resistance – 10 Hours Of Sound From Australia**
San Francisco Museum Of Modern Art

2002: Co-producer and researcher for **Subsonics**, Experimental Music Television show for **SBS Television, Australia**

2000: **Artspace**, Sydney, "Autonomous Audio" sound installation with **Martin Ng**

1999: **Jewish Museum**, Melbourne, "Art and Kaballah" video and sound installation in collaboration with **Janet Laurence**

Selected Discography

Solo Releases

Stacte.4

Released on **En/Of**, Holland in collaboration with visual artist Simon Starling (Art Edition LP 2002)

Triste

Complete live performance from Extrapool, Nijmegen, Holland 14/06/2001 with bonus 7" remix from Tom Recchion (USA)
Released on **Idea**, USA (LP + 7" 2003)

Suspension + Bonus Remixes from Jim O'Rourke (USA), Tim Barnes (USA), Phill Niblock (USA), Michael J Schumacher (USA), Brendan Walls (Australia), Pimmon (Australia)
Released on **Staubgold**, Germany (LP 2002)

Mort Aux Vaches Live recording from VPRO Radio Broadcast, Amsterdam, Holland
Released on **Staalplaat**, Holland (CD 2002)

Der Kleine Konig

Released on **Tonschacht**, Germany (7" 2002)

Suspension

Released on **Touch**, UK (CD 2001)

Persona

Released on **E.R.S.** Netherlands (LP 2001)

Stacte.3

Released on **Plate Lunch**, Germany (LP 2000)

Insulation

Released on **Touch**, UK (CD 2000)

Stacte.2

Released on **Jerker**, Australia (LP 1999)

Stacte

Released on **Jerker**, Australia (LP 1998)

Collaborative Releases (selection)

Oren Ambarchi, Gunter Muller and Voice Crack – **Oystered**
Released on **Audiosphere**, Belgium (CD 2003)

Keith Rowe/Oren Ambarchi/Sachiko M/Otomo Yoshihide/Rob
Avenaim – **Thumb**
Live collaborative recording from Paris 2001
Released on **Grob**, Germany (CD 2003)

Keith Rowe & Oren Ambarchi – **Flypaper**
Guitar duo collaboration recorded in France & Australia
Released on **Staubgold**, Germany (CD 2002)

Oren Ambarchi & Chris Townend – **Sun**
Released on **Preservation**, Australia (CD 2001)

Oren Ambarchi & Martin Ng – **Reconnaissance**
Released on **Staubgold**, Germany (CD/LP 2001)

Oren Ambarchi, Christian Fennesz, Pimmon, Peter Rehberg, Keith
Rowe - **Afternoon Tea**
Australia/Austria/UK collaboration
Released on **Ritornell**, Germany (CD 2000)

Oren Ambarchi and Robbie Avenaim – **Clockwork**
Released on **Jerker**, Australia (3"CD 2000)

Oren Ambarchi and Robbie Avenaim – **The Alter Rebbe's Nigun**
Released on **Tzadik**, USA (CD 1999)

Guest Appearances (selection)

Tina Frank – Fuzzymotion – Pictures Without Legs 1995-2002
Music for 2 Music Videos composed & performed with Martin Ng
Released on **Gas**, Japan (DVD 2003)

Gcttcatt – Amperase
Austria/Australia collaborative release
Released on **Mego**, Austria (CD 2001)

Brendan Walls – Cassia Fistula
Production, mixing and mastering
Released on **Idea**, USA (CD 2002)

Solo tracks on compilations (selection)

“Stacte.3b Edit” on **Variable Resistance – Ten Hours of Sound From Australia**
Released on **23five Inc/San Francisco Museum Of Modern Art**
USA (CD 2002)

“Reach For The Sky (Pluramon Remix)/Sun” on **The Wire Tapper 09**
Released by **The Wire**, UK (CD/Mag 2002)

“Soliel” on **Sul – Dedicated to Chris Marker**
Released on **Sirr**, Portugal (CD 2002)

“Excerpt from Krev kids celebration” on **KREV 1992-2002**
Released on **Ash International**, UK (CD 2002)

“Kozel” on **Strewth! – Electronic Music From Australia and New Zealand**
Released on **Synaesthesia**, Australia (CD 2002)

“Skadooor” on **Ringtones**
Compositions for mobile phones
Released on **Touch**, UK (CD 2002)

“George” on **Bananafish 16 USA**
U.S. magazine feature with bonus cd
Released on **Tedium House** (Magazine & CD 2002)

“Alma” on **Kraak 3 Festival Sampler**
Released on **Kraak**, Belgium (CD 2002)

"My Melancholy Baby Parts 1 & 2" on **Live & Direct**
Released on **Spunk**, Australia (CD 2001)

"Ring King" on **Communication Problem**
Released on **Vibragun**, Australia (LP 2000)

3 x Locked Grooves on **Lockers**
Released on **E.R.S.** Holland (LP 2000)

"Strategem (distortus)" on **Lowercase compilation**
Released on **Bremsstrahlung**, USA (CD 2000)

"No Title" on **Maschinelle Straegeme**
Collaborative track with Christian Fennesz, Pimmon, Peter Rehberg
and Keith Rowe
Released on **Ritornell**, Germany (CD 2000)