



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Zeitgeist Announces HERE AND THERE 2023-2024 with No Exit New Music Ensemble**

Zeitgeist and Cleveland-based No Exit New Music Ensemble continue their long-standing collaboration with new works celebrating contemporary surrealism with **HERE AND THERE 2023-2024** January 11-13, 2024 in Red Wing and Saint Paul, MN. In this installment, the two ensembles will present **THE UNCONSCIOUS**, a concert event that explores surrealism and the world of dreams and hallucination through newly created films and music.

Zeitgeist's work, "Between Here and There", draws upon a well of individual, collective, and universal dreams, memories, and ancestral connections to create a "house" filled with rooms of imagery and sonic possibility. The work utilizes film imagery, musical improvisation, set pieces, and traditional, newly invented, and occasionally improbable musical instruments. It was created collaboratively by Zeitgeist members Heather Barringer, Patti Cudd, Pat O'Keefe, and Nikki Melville plus composer/instrument inventor/filmmaker Philip Blackburn.

No Exit will contribute three films which will bring the dreamworld into this world, two of which, created by composers/filmmakers James Praznik and Luke Haaksma, will be accompanied by world premiere live music and a silent film by Timothy Beyer. About his film "Breathing Room," Haaksma said, "I decided that using stop-motion to focus on a single character residing in subliminal space would allow me to explore the technical and aesthetic considerations I find most engaging. The music is as integral to the film as the film is to the music. All of the "foley" (sound effects) are produced by the live musicians, and the line between "film-sound" and "film-music" is in effect blurred."

"Here and There" is an ongoing touring exchange partnership with No Exit New Music Ensemble through which the two ensembles present joint concerts in both Ohio and Minnesota. Now in its 9th year, the partnership has presented more than 50 concerts and presented dozens of works by Minnesota and Ohio composers.

Performances:

**January 11, 2024 7:00pm**  
The Anderson Center at Tower View:  
163 Tower View Drive, Red Wing, MN

**January 12-13, 2024 7:00pm**

Studio Z:

275 East Fourth Street, Suite 200, Saint Paul, MN

**Tickets:** \$20 / \$15 students & seniors

Tickets and details at [zeitgeistnewmusic.org](http://zeitgeistnewmusic.org).

**About Philip Blackburn:**

Philip Blackburn was born in Cambridge, England, and studied music there as a Choral Scholar at Clare College. He earned his Ph.D. in Composition from the University of Iowa where he studied with Kenneth Gaburo and began work on publishing the Harry Partch archives. Blackburn's book, *Enclosure Three: Harry Partch*, won an ASCAP Deems Taylor Award. He has worked at the American Composers Forum since 1991, running the *innova* Recordings label and developing re-granting programs and opportunities for composers.

He is also a composer/environmental sound artist and has served as teaching artist for school residencies connected with the Flint Hills International Children's Festival, creating multimedia performances using home-made instruments.

Blackburn has published articles on topics such as Vietnamese, Garifuna, and Cuban music, the social dynamics of ensemble performance, and the use of sound in public art. He received a 2003 Bush Artist Fellowship and built an art-house in Belize.

**About No Exit New Music Ensemble:**

Since its inception, No Exit's mission has been to serve as an outlet for the commission and performance of contemporary avant-garde concert music. Now in their ninth season and with over fifty commissions to date, No Exit continues to promote the music of living composers and to be an impetus for the creation of new works. They create exciting, meaningful and thought-provoking programs with the philosophy of bringing the concert hall to the community, and by presenting programs in a manner which allows for audiences to connect with the experience. No Exit New Music Ensemble is Sean Gabriel, flute; Gunnar Owen Hirthe, clarinet; Cara Tweed, violin; James Rhodes, viola; Nick Diodore, cello; Luke Rinderknecht, percussion; Rob Kovacs, piano; Timothy Beyer, Artistic Director; James Praznik, Associate Director

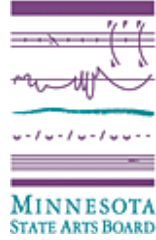
**About Zeitgeist:**

Lauded for providing "a once-in-a-lifetime experience for adventurous concertgoers," Zeitgeist is a new music chamber ensemble comprised of two percussion, piano and woodwinds. One of the longest established new music groups in the country, Zeitgeist commissions and presents a wide variety of new music for audiences in the Twin Cities and on tour. Always eager to explore new artistic frontiers, Zeitgeist collaborates with poets, choreographers, directors, visual artists and sound artists of all types to create imaginative new work that challenges the boundaries of traditional chamber music. The members of Zeitgeist are: Heather Barringer, percussion; Patti Cudd, percussion; Pat O'Keefe, woodwinds; Nicola Melville, piano.

This activity is made possible with support from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

Zeitgeist is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, The City of St. Paul's Cultural STAR Program, The Amphion Foundation, The Knight Foundation, The Lowertown Future Fund, the Target Foundation, the McKnight Foundation, the Jerome Foundation, the Albrecht Family

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