

## Guy Livingston: two performances about music and architecture

“A pianist with a flair for modernism” –The New York Times

“skillful, audacious” –The New Yorker

### *program one: Bauhaus Centennial*



#### **BEYOND BAUHAUS**

*with: piano, silent films, lighting, historic audio, narration...*

Livingston was recently appointed artist in residence at a former embassy designed by the Bauhaus architect Marcel Breuer. This brutalist concrete and granite building inspired him to create a geometric and surreal celebration of Bauhaus style.

Featuring both classic and unknown silent films by Brocksieper, Egging, Graeff, Richter & Schwerdtfeger; plus music by Hindemith, Antheil, Schulhoff, Wolpe & Webern.

### *program two: Audible Architecture*

#### **TRANSCENDENT BUILDINGS**

*Scored for: amplified piano, film, 4-channel audio, live video, multiple screens, & narration.*

**An interactive, immersive experience for the audience: *not* suitable for traditional concert halls! The concept is to illustrate and illuminate unusual spaces, so each performance is unique and cannot be repeated. The format resembles a TedTalk: High energy, with unexpected insights presented in an entertaining manner.**



*The first preview of Transcending Buildings will take place in September at the historic Theo Van Doesburg House (Paris)*

**This performance is about discovering and “playing the building” and is intended for unusual performance spaces: factories, industrial and spectacular buildings: *audible architecture.***

## BEYOND BAUHAUS

In concert, Guy's trademark relaxed style, honed through years of podcasting and radio work, is used as a narrative tool to bring us back to his freshman year in college, and his first architecture class at Yale, with the legendary art historian Vincent Scully.

From there Livingston guides us through his graduate work measuring medieval temples in the Thar Desert, on up to the Bauhaus and how it came to influence him personally.

The show is presented with costumes, décor, and silent films, all inspired by Bauhaus...plus compositions of **Hindemith, Antheil, Schulhoff, Wolpe, and Webern**. The program closes with the ambient sound of **Brian Eno's** "Music for Airports", looking towards the future.

**Guy Livingston is a unique performer who combines music, storytelling, and design onstage in brilliant combinations. A graduate of Yale University, the New England Conservatory, and the Royal Conservatory of the Netherlands, he won the Gaudeamus prize in piano. He has worked with John Cage (Atlas Eclipticalis, Mode Records), William Bolcom (multiple commissions), Annie Gosfield, Gene Pritsker, and hundreds of young composers. His CD *Don't Panic* (Wergo Records) featured 60 compositions of 60-seconds each, by 60 composers from around the world, and was featured in *The New York Times*, *Le Monde*, *Diapason*, *Gramophone*, and on NPR's *Sunday Weekend Edition*.**

In addition to his pianistic skills, Guy Livingston, who studied both architecture and music at Yale University, has his studio at the former US Embassy in The Hague, designed by Marcel Breuer, a major Bauhaus figure.

## Contact

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## TRANSCENDENT BUILDINGS

Each performance is adapted to the particular building, and involves two days of residency/setup time, filming and recording the sounds of the building so they can then be incorporated into the performance.

The visuals and the program sequence are being developed in conjunction with architecture firm.

Seated unconventionally, breaking the 4th wall, or even lying on the floor during Canto Ostinato, this concert is an experiential, immersive one for the audience; an eye and ear opener.

*world premieres by Vanessa Lann and Rosalie Hirs*; music by **Simeon ten Holt**, new videos by **Newt Hinton** and **Cléo Palacio Quintin**; interactive video and audio with live electronics. Plus audience participation in music of **Cornelius Cardew** and **John Cage**.

