

Bhob Rainey @ EMS 14-28 September, 2015

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Bhob Rainey is an award-winning composer / performer, saxophonist, and sound designer. In 1998, with trumpeter Greg Kelley, he founded the duo Nmperign, which quickly became a model for a new phase of non-idiomatic improvisation often referred to as "lowercase" or "EAI" (Electroacoustic Improvisation). In 2000 he founded The BSC, an improvising large ensemble, in which he developed techniques for an improvisational discipline that were eventually outlined in his 2011 publication, *Manual* (<https://bhobrainey.bandcamp.com/album/manual>). Throughout the late 1990's and early 2000's he performed globally and collaborated with numerous improvisers of both the (then) current and previous generations, including Axel Dörner, Andrea Neumann, Günter Müller, Michel Doneda, Lê Quan Ninh, and many others.



By the mid-2000's, while continuing to work in the realm of improvisation, Rainey began to produce electronic and algorithmic works. He spent five years collaborating with German composer Ralf Wehowsky (RLW) on the 2007 release, *I don't think I can see you tonight* (<https://bhobrainey.bandcamp.com/album/i-dont-think-i-can-see-you-tonight>), which, along with Nmperign and Jason Lescalleet's *Love Me Two Times* (<https://nmperign.bandcamp.com/album/love-me-two-times>) (2006), established him as a formidable electronic composer who synthesizes streams of Musique Concrète, computer music, and improvisation.

Throughout his career, Rainey has sought out cross-discipline collaborations, working with dancers, filmmakers, and theater companies. From 2012-2014 he worked with theater company New Paradise Labs to create *The Adults* (http://www.pcah.us/news/129_in_the_news_new_paradise_laboratories_the_adults), which premiered at the 2014

Philadelphia Fringe Festival to much acclaim. He created the soundtrack to Leah Ross's 2013 film, *Levitate* (<https://bhobrainey.bandcamp.com/track/levitate>), which premiered that year at the Rooftop Film Festival in New York City, and he performed live in Jungwoong Kim's and Marion Ramirez's site-specific dance work, *Capsized* (<http://thinkingdance.net/articles/2014/10/11/I-Could-Barely-Breathe>), at the National Asian American Theater Festival in Philadelphia in 2014.

Rainey was awarded the Pew Fellowship in the Arts in 2013, and in 2014 he received a Subito grant from the American Composers Forum to complete a multimedia project with filmmaker Catherine Pancake (<http://www.catherinepancake.com/projects/axon-ladder.html>). Among other things, he is currently working on a long-term project with New Paradise Labs dealing with radical contingency, as well as creating multichannel electronic works in collaboration with Chris Cooper under the moniker "Prants" (<https://bhobrainey.bandcamp.com/album/hot-shaker-meet-lead-donut>). To date, Rainey has over 30 releases as a leader or co-leader.