

Magda Mayas and Per Anders Nilsson perform as a duo for the first time at the Aha festival 2017.

Pianist Magda Mayas has developed a vocabulary utilizing both the inside as well as the exterior parts of the piano, using amplification, preparations and objects that become extensions of the instrument itself.

She amplifies the piano in a multi speaker set up with the piano in the middle of the space and the audience moving around it, creating an immersive listening experience, at times mapping the space through overlapping recorded and live performance.

Per Anders Nilsson plays live electronics, and have designed and developed his own hyper instrument during the course of the years. In this concert Nilsson will entirely use sound material from Maya's piano, both pre-recorded and live sampled. This material is then processed in various ways, and then diffused and blended with Magda's piano in a quadrasonic sound system. One salient feature in Maya's performances is her Memory Pieces, where she plays together with pre-recorded performances of her own. Here Nilsson replaces the pre-recorded part in real time, however filtered through Nilsson's instruments, which in turn reflect his aesthetics.

Bios

Magda Mayas, born 1979, is a pianist living in Berlin.

Over the past 20 years she developed a vocabulary utilizing both the inside as well as the exterior parts of the piano, using amplification, preparations and objects that become extensions of the instrument itself.

Mayas explores textural, linear sound collage, and has developed a set of techniques that draw on the history of prepared and inside piano vocabulary, but are highly individualized and expand the language for internal piano music making.

Alongside the piano, Mayas performs on a Clavinet/Pianet, an electric piano from the 60s with strings and metal chimes, where she engages with noise and more visceral sound material, equally extending the instrumental sound palette using extended techniques and devices.

She is currently undertaking Phd studies at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, investigating instrumental techniques, timbre and spatiality in improvised music performance.

Mayas performs internationally solo and in collaboration with a large number of musicians and composers.

Current projects are "Spill", a duo with drummer Tony Buck, a duo with Christine Abdelnour (sax) and "Great Waitress", a trio with Monika Brooks (acc) and Laura Altman (cl).

Magda Mayas has performed and toured in Europe, the USA, Australia, Mexico and Lebanon and collaborated with many leading figures in improvisation and composers such as John Butcher, Andy Moor, Eddie Prévost, Phill Niblock, Zeena Parkins, Hamid Drake, Joelle Leandre, Paul Lovens, Ikue Mori, Andrea Neumann and Axel Dörner.

She has performed at festivals and exhibitions such as Maerz Musik (2012,2015), Documenta (2012), the Berlin Biennale (2014) and Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival (2015).

She was awarded a residency at Villa Aurora, Los Angeles in 2016 and at the Montalvo Arts Centre, USA in 2017. Additionally, she has been curating, producing radio pieces for ABC Australia and Deutschlandradio Kultur and released over 20 CDS to date.

www.magdamayas.com

Per Anders Nilsson, born 1954 plays live electronics and lives in the Gothenburg area.

Professor in Music and Media at Academy of Music and Drama at University of Gothenburg. Improvising musician and composer. Studied saxophone and electroacoustic music from 1981-87 at the University of Gothenburg.

In 2011 Nilsson defended his doctoral thesis *A Field of Possibilities*, which is about designing and improvising with digital music instruments.

Nilsson has been played at several ICMC (international Computer Music Conference), and was music coordinator for ICMC 2002, has been commissioned at GRM, Paris, and has also been a visiting scholar at CNMAT in Berkeley, CREATE in Santa Barbara as well as CCRMA at Stanford. Nilsson and Palle Dahlstedt are currently running the research project "Systemic Improvisation" supported by the Swedish Research Council.

In the 70s and 80s he managed his own bands as well performed occasionally with artists such as Willem Breuker, Antony Braxton, and Karin Krog . In 2009 Nilsson toured Sweden with the legendary saxophone player Evan Parker. In 2014 duo pantoMorf with Palle Dahlstedt toured with British group AMM in Sweden.

Nilsson has released several CDs since the nineties: the solo CD *Random Rhapsody* in 1993, the group *Natural Artefacts* released CDs in 2001, 2005 and 2014 plus *Strings and objects* with Nilsson/Sandell, *Duo duo pantoMorf* with Palle Dahlstedt (www.lj-records.se), in 2008 and in april 2009 with *Beam Stone* on the English label PSI.