

NOISY PEOPLE

improvising a musical life

a film by **TIM PERKIS**

www.noisypeople.com

contact: tim@noisypeople.com +1 510 717 3450



NOISY PEOPLE is a feature length video documentary that opens a window into a tightly-knit group of unusual sound artists and musicians from the San Francisco improvisational music community.

Filmmaker Tim Perkis, himself a well-respected player in the Bay Area experimental music scene, followed his subjects for a year, filming them in their homes and studios, rehearsals and performances. What emerges is a set of funny and lively portraits of some very creative and quirky people – and a portrait of a way of life outside the commercial musical mainstream of America.

FEATURING: George Cremaschi, Tom Djill, Greg Goodman, Phillip Greenlief, Cheryl Leonard, Dan Plonsey, Gino Robair, Damon Smith. Also appearing are dozens of other creative musicians from the improvisational sound community, including Anthony Braxton, Fred Frith and Jack Wright.

Noisy People premiered in April 2007 to a sold-out house at Berkeley's Pacific Film Archive.

What people are saying about *Noisy People*:

Made by an insider in this scene of outsiders, *Noisy People* beautifully captures one of the most vibrant and unusual music communities in America. Through his series of affectionate portraits, Tim Perkis illuminates the glimmers and glitches of true invention. This film belongs in the canon of brilliant movies about artistic innovation. **Funny, profound, and deeply inspiring!**

– Beth Lisick, author of *Everybody Into the Pool*

It's hard to find a more daring and tenacious experimental music scene than the one emanating from the Bay Area. Nowhere, not even New York, are the musicians, composers, and technologists more committed to confounding our expectations.... From Phillip Greenlief's challenge to encounter composition differently, to Cheryl Leonard's search for sounds in nature; from Dan Plonsey's desire to find the musical not in every sound, but in every person, to Gino Robair's instruction to "play nothing, but intensely": these artists are in a constant state of revelation.

– Steve Seid, Pacific Film Archive

[A] vivid portrayal of the San Francisco Bay Area's improvised music scene. The movie delivers its message through interviews, concert performances, revealing footage of the musicians' living spaces and backyards and evocative shots of less-than-fashionable Bay Area neighborhoods.... The appearances of certain high-profile musicians, including saxophonist Anthony Braxton and guitarist Fred Frith, indicate how the local improv scene's borders blur both geographically and artistically.... The Bay Area improv scene may be a serially homeless and occasionally ephemeral entity, but thanks to Perkis, it now has a good, permanent, slice-of-life document of its quirky creativity.... ***Noisy People* nails a niche that, as *Down Beat* used to say, deserves wider attention.**

–Derk Richardson, *SF Gate*

What a trip! ...a curiously refreshing musical tour through one of the East Bay's least understood (but hella deep) pools of creativity.

– Kelly Vance, *East Bay Express*, Oakland