

*The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Department of Music,
as part of the Conversations in Modern Music series,
presents*

The Pluta/Evans Duo

Peter Evans, trumpet
Sam Pluta, electronics

Saturday, March 25, 2023, 8:00 PM
Kenan Music Building, Rehearsal Hall

Program

The music on tonight's program will be completely improvised.

About the Pluta/Evans Duo

Sam Pluta (live electronics) and **Peter Evans** (trumpet) have been working together since 2009. Their work extends from duo collaborations to large ensemble performances of music composed by each, Evans' Quintet, work with Wet Ink, The International Contemporary Ensemble, Evan Parker's Electro-Acoustic Ensemble, Rocket Science (with Parker and Craig Taborn), and music commissioned by the Harlem Jazz Museum. In their duo music, improvisation is used to bridge uncharted sonic worlds for Evans' traditional acoustic instrument with Pluta's customized and highly flexible software. Their instruments are at some points fused into a unified sonic entity indistinguishable as two voices, while at others engaged in violent counterpoint. The Pluta/Evans duo has released several recordings to date: *Sum/Difference* (2011), *Event Horizon* (2014), and *Two Live Sets* (2019) all on Carrier Records.

This concert is funded by the Jaroslav F. and Barbara S. Hulka Fund for Music in the Community.

About Peter Evans and Sam Pluta

Peter Evans is a composer, trumpet player, improviser and bandleader based in New York City since 2003. Evans is part of a broad, hybridized scene of musical experimentation, and his work cuts across a wide range of modern musical practices and traditions. Peter is committed to the simultaneously self-determining and collaborative nature of musical improvisation as a compositional tool, and works with an ever-expanding group of musicians and composers in the creation of new music.

He leads and composes for several different ensembles, primarily Being & Becoming (with Joel Ross, Nick Jozwiak and Michael Ode) and SYMPHONY (with Alice Teyssier, Jozwiak and Levy Lorenzo). He leads the improvisational trio Forever 21 with virtuosos Andy Berman (guitar) and Michael Ode (drums). As well as collaborative projects such as his duo with Elias Stemeseder and Pulverize the Sound (with Mike Pride and Tim Dahl), Evans continues to work in a variety of new formations, exploring through-composed music, group improvisation, arranging, and electronic music.

In addition to touring and presenting his groups internationally since 2007, Evans has been exploring solo trumpet music since 2002 and is widely recognized as a leading voice in the field, having released 7 albums of solo music since 2006, including the critically acclaimed *More is More* and *Lifeblood*. He has performed solo concerts in the USA, Europe, Asia, and South America.

As a composer, Evans has been commissioned by the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), Wet Ink, Yarn/Wire, the Donaueschingen Musiktage Festival, the Jerome Foundation's Emerging Artist Program, and the Doris Duke Foundation. Evans has presented and/or performed his works at major festivals worldwide. He has composed works for his own ensembles, soloists, chamber ensembles, and choir. In 2022 Evans was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in Music Composition.

As an educator, Evans has given masterclasses and conducted workshops on improvisation, composition, instrumental practice and creativity at the Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, the New School of Social Research, Royal Academy of Music, Trinity College of Music, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Hochschule für Musik Köln, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, Institute of Sonology, Melbourne University, UC San Diego, UC Irvine, University of Toronto, University of Oregon, Cornish College, Oberlin Conservatory, and Cleveland Institute of Music. Between 2019 and 2022 Evans conducted a series of performance-centered workshops with young musicians in Lisbon, Portugal, a series called *Som Crescente*. In 2020 he received a grant from the US Embassy in Lisbon to further develop this series, expanding this work to students in the Azores.

Evans has worked with some of the leading figures in contemporary music: John Zorn, Pauline Oliveros, Brian Ferneyhough, Kanye West, George Lewis, Anthony Braxton, Mary Halvorson, Craig Taborn, Ambrose Akinmusere, Lydia Lunch, Weasel Walter, George Benjamin, Dave Liebman, Ingrid Laubrock, Jeff "Tain" Watts, Tyshawn Sorey, Ikue Mori, Steve Schick, and others. As an interpreter of notated concert music, Evans has performed works by Varese, Xenakis, J.S. Bach, Stravinsky, Elliott Carter, Marcos Balter, Julio Estrada, Augusta Read Thomas, Wagner, Ligeti, and many more.

Peter Evans has been releasing recordings on his own label, *More is More*, since 2011 beginning with his quintet's critically acclaimed album *Ghosts*. MIM has 20 releases as of 2023. Evans' also hosts video and recordings of his music on his Youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@peterevanstrumpet>

Sam Pluta is a composer and electronics performer whose work explores the intersections between instrumental forces, reactive computerized sound worlds, traditionally notated scores, and improvisation. Since 2009, Sam has served as Technical Director, electronics performer, and composing member of Wet Ink Ensemble. Laptop improvisation is a core part of Pluta's artistic practice. Performing on his custom software instrument, he has toured internationally with groups like Wet Ink, Rocket Science, and the Peter Evans Ensemble. Sam appears as a composer and performer on over thirty albums of new music and jazz, many of which are released on the label he co-runs, Carrier Records <http://carrierrecords.bandcamp.com>.

Sam is Associate Professor and Director of Computer Music at Peabody Institute where he teaches composition, studio techniques, and computer music programming. Sam has led workshops in Computer Music and improvisation internationally from Europe to the United States to China. Prior to working at Peabody Institute Sam was Assistant Professor of Composition at the University of Chicago, where he was director of the CHIME Studio. Formerly he was also on faculty at Manhattan School of Music and Bennington College. During the summers, Sam teaches at the Walden School Creative Musicians Retreat, and for 16 summers was on faculty at the Walden School Young Musicians Program, where he was Academic Dean and Chair of Electronic Music.

For more info, check out: www.sampluta.com.