

No. 9
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Immediate Release

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**WALKER ART CENTER PRESENTS
TEXT OF LIGHT, FEATURING LEE RANALDO, WILLIAM HOOKER,
MARINA ROSENFELD, ALAN LICHT, AND ULRICH KRIEGER**

"Their sonic soundscapes fit Brakhage's films with a well-seasoned and well-placed stew of restrained, yet occasionally explosive results." —*DMG Review*

The Walker Art Center presents a mesmerizing evening of sound and image featuring the improv supergroup **Text of Light** paying tribute to the work of the late American experimental filmmaker Stan Brakhage (1933-2003) at 8 pm Saturday, February 7, in the Auditorium. Explosive jazz drummer William Hooker and Sonic Youth's guitarist Lee Ranaldo are joined by New York City turntablist Marina Rosenfeld, guitarist Alan Licht, and Berlin-based saxophonist Ulrich Krieger for a live musical homage to Brakhage's 1974 film *Text of Light*. The experimental film focuses on light refracted and pulsing through a crystal ashtray.

Text of Light's inaugural performance in 1999 also accompanied the screening of Brakhage's *Text of Light*, from which the band takes its name. They have performed their improvised scores for avant-garde American films at venues in New York City and in Europe, and in 2002 headlined the Victoriaville Music Festival in Canada.

William Hooker

Bridging the gap between the jazz of the past and the possibilities of the future, William Hooker has been taking jazz composition to new levels for over 25 years. A Knitting Factory artist, he is known for his uncompromising style and sound developed in various ensemble settings. He has released several records on Homestead, Silkheart, and other independent labels.

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Lee Ranaldo

Musician, writer, and visual artist Lee Ranaldo is an original member of Sonic Youth, formed in 1981 in New York City. The group, whose most recent recording was *New York City Ghosts & Flowers*, recently completed a Goodbye 20th Century tour of Europe, performing compositions by John Cage, Christian Wolfe, George Maciunas, Yoko Ono, Steve Reich, and others. Among Lee's solo records are *Dirty Windows*—a collection of spoken texts with music—and *Amarillo Ramp (for Robert Smithson)*—pieces for the guitar. His books include *Bookstore*, *Road Movies*, and *Jrnl80s*. His book of writings on his Moroccan travels was published in 2002. His writing appears in the collections *Heights of the Marvelous* and *Verses that Hurt*, and his artwork has been included in exhibitions at the Hayward Gallery in London and the Sydney Museum of Contemporary Art.

Alan Licht

Guitarist Alan Licht has released four albums of work for solo and multiple guitars and recorded and performed as an improviser with Rashied Ali, Jim O'Rourke, Lee Ranaldo, Christian Marclay, Thurston Moore, Arto Lindsay, John Zorn, Zeena Parkins, Ikue Mori, Lukas Ligeti, Derek Bailey, Dean Roberts, Charles Curtis, Ulrich Krieger, Loren Mazzacane Connors, Nihilist Spasm Band, Fred Lonberg-Holm, William Hooker, Michael Snow, Keiji Haino, DJ Olive, Rudolph Grey, Fennesz, and DJ Spooky. The founding member of several bands, he also has toured with Tom Verlaine (2001), Brokeback (2001), Papa M (1999-present), Royal Trux (1999), and Plush (1999). He has created the sound installations *Today I Am A Fountain Pen*, Studio Five Beekman, NYC (1998) and *The Downsizing of Don Dokken*, part of the exhibition *Constrictions* at Pierogi 2000, Brooklyn (1996). He is the author of *An Emotional Memoir of Martha Quinn* (Drag City Press, 2001).

Ulrich Krieger

Ulrich Krieger studied composition, electronic music, and saxophone in New York and Berlin as well as didjeridu and research in Australian Aboriginal music and culture. His works have been performed by oh-ton ensemble, Ensemble United Berlin, zeitkratzer, Ensemble Klangwerkstatt, Seth Josel, Matias de Oliveira Pinto, Soldier String Quartet, Reinhold Friedl, and others. Krieger has collaborated with such artists as LaMonte Young, Phill Niblock, David First, Joseph Celli, Lee Ranaldo, Elliott Sharp, Nick Didkovski, Borah Bergman, Joshua Pierce, Johnny Reinhard, Witold Szalonek, Mario Bertoncini, Miriam Marbe, Hans-Joachim Hespos, Melvyn Poore, Merzbow, Dietmar Diesner, Wolfgang Fuchs, Bernhard Arndt, Maurice de Martin, and Reinhold Friedl. He has performed in solo and ensemble settings, with his groups and with the Ensemble Modern and the Berliner Philharmoniker in Europe, USA, Canada, Asia, and Australia. He is the recipient of international grants and prizes and has recorded CDs as saxophone and didjeridu player, improviser, and composer.

Marina Rosenfeld

Marina Rosenfeld lives and works in New York City. Her performances and installations have been presented by the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Kitchen, Creative Time, the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions; festivals including Ars Electronica, Musikprotokoll, Pro Musica Nova, Maerz Musik, and many others. Recent projects include the commission and performance of a new work for large ensemble by the Kitchen (NYC), *bone canopy/tine palace*; a public sound installation for New York's Winter Garden; a surround-sound installation for the last Whitney Biennial; and participation in the "Turntable Hell" touring ensemble mounted by the London Musicians Collective. In 2004 she will premiere Bernhard Lang's *DW8*, a concerto for two turntablists and orchestra, with the Radio Symphony Orchestra of Munich. Rosenfeld has collaborated with many artists, including Christian Marclay's DJTrio with Marclay, Toshio Kajiwarra and DJ Olive, as well as Ikue Mori, Kaffe Matthews, Nels Cline and

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Martin Tétreault, Otomo Yoshihide, Philip Jeck, Tony Conrad, Kim Gordon, Christof Kurzmann, Elliot Sharp, and Norbert Mösling (Voicecrack).

Stan Brakhage

Stan Brakhage(1933-2003) completed his first film, *Interim*, in 1952 at the age of 19, and over 50 years of filmmaking completed more than 300 personal, independent works ranging in length from nine seconds to four hours and incorporating a wide variety of innovative and uniquely expressive forms and techniques. In addition, he wrote several books, including *Metaphors on Vision*, *A Moving Picture Giving and Taking Book*, *The Brakhage Lectures*, *Seen*, *Film Biographies*, *The Brakhage Scrapbook*, *Film at Wit's End*, *I . . . Sleeping and The Domain of Aura*.

Brakhage lectured extensively at universities, colleges, museums, galleries, film societies, and film festivals throughout the world, his interests and areas of knowledge including the histories and aesthetics of music, painting, poetry, and film. In addition to his public lecturing, Brakhage taught film history and aesthetics from 1969 through 1981 at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and from 1981 to 2002 taught in the Department of Film Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where he was a Distinguished Professor.

Brakhage lived for many years with his growing family in the Colorado mountains near Boulder and during that time made films primarily inspired by and expressive of the environment in which he lived (though that source being "as diverse as to have included love-making, childbirth, children's play, mountains in snow-storm, potted plants, flames of heart and forest fires, trips to town and, even, journeys around the world"). From 1986 Brakhage lived in the town of Boulder, where he gave ongoing support to many younger filmmakers while continuing his own prolific output of work, creating work that was photographed, hand-painted on film and, in the last few years, films created by scratching and gouging the film emulsion itself.

Stan Brakhage received a number of honors and awards for his contributions to the arts, including: The Brussels World Fair Protest Award (1958), Film Culture's Fourth Independent Film Award (1962), a Rockefeller Fellowship (1967-1969), three Museum of Modern Art Retrospectives (1971, 1977 & 1996), a Brandeis Citation (1973), the Colorado Governor's Award for the Arts and Humanities (1974), a Guggenheim Fellowship (1978), the Jimmy Fyan Morris Memorial Foundation Award (1979), a Telluride Film Festival Medallion (1981), an Honorary Doctorate from the San Francisco Art Institute (1981), the Maya Deren Award for Independent Film and Video Artists (1986), the Denver International Film Festival Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Art of Film (1988), a University of Colorado Medal (1988), and the MacDowell Colony Medal (1990).

Stan Brakhage presented his work at the Walker in 1981, and again during a Regis Dialogue and Retrospective in 1991. He died in March 2003 in Victoria, British Columbia.

Tickets for Text of Light are \$18 (\$14 Walker members) and are available at the Walker box office or by calling 612.375.7622; or visit www.walkerart.org/tickets/. Patrons with special needs are asked to call two weeks in advance.

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**The Walker Art Center is located at 725 Vineland Place,
at Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, one block off Highway I-94.
For public information, call 612.375.7622.
Gallery hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 10 am–5 pm;
Thursday, 10 am–9 pm; Sunday, 11 am–5 pm; closed Monday.
<http://www.walkerart.org>**

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