
will guthrie

drummer - percussionist

« Whether he's residing in Australia or Europe, Will Guthrie has many years of playing and organizing ahead of him. He's a young player with lots of promise; whatever the newest developments in the next ten or fifteen years of improv are, it's a good bet that Guthrie will be right in the middle of them. »

Charlie Wilmoth, Dusted Magazine



Will Guthrie
16 Chemin du Bois Coquelin. 44 400 Rezé. France
+33 (0)6 65 48 80 38
willwillguthrie@gmail.com
www.will-guthrie.com

will guthrie is a drummer, percussionist,
performer and composer of international
renown working in the realm of
experimental-improvised music(s).

He studied improvisation at the Victorian College Of The Arts as well as having private lessons with luminaries such as Tony Williams, Adrian Sherriff and Michael Jordan. After winning the *Wangaratta National Jazz Awards* for drums in 1997 he went on to play with many of Australia's most celebrated jazz and improvising musicians such as Mark Simmonds, Ren Walters, Paul Grabowsky, David Tolley, Julien Wilson, Steve Magnusson and a host of others.

In 1997 alongside Ren Walters he founded the (still running) *Make It Up Club*, a weekly listening space dedicated to presenting improvised and experimental music, which he curated and organized until 1999. Since relocating to Europe in 2003 (London, Paris and since 2004 Nantes) his organizational activities have not ceased, he is curator and organizer of *CABLE#*, a Nantes based association that organizes regular concerts of experimental music, and an international festival every February which has invited many of the most important figures working in experimental music. He also runs his own label *Antboy Music* that has released (to date) 11 Cds & Lps of his own music, as well as music by Australian artists such as Ernie Althoff, Greg Kingston, Tim Pledger, Matt Earl and Adam Sussmann. *Antboy Music* also operates a mail order in Europe distributing music by Australian and New Zealand artists.

Will Guthrie has been invited as artist in residence to the electro-acoustic music department at Dartmouth College (USA), as well as at the sound art organization *Apo33* in Nantes, France. He has received numerous commissions for his electro-acoustic compositions notably for the French performance company *Les Patries Imaginaires*, *Radio Jet FM*, and for the Polish label *Bocian Records*.

As an educator he has taught in many tertiary level institutions, worked extensively with *Pannonica* (a jazz club in Nantes) in which he leads workshops about improvisation in schools and in prisons. He is also regularly invited to give master classes and workshops, and he teaches privately since 1996.

Will Guthrie tries not to limit himself to any particular definition of where his music should belong, this attitude has led him to work in such diverse settings as *Elwood & Guthrie* (folk, Appalachian duo with American banjoist Scott Stroud), *Arte Kanela* (flamenco dance and music group), *Snuff Puppets* (giant puppet company with live music), *Christine Sullivan band* (with jazz folk singer), the French performance group *Les Patries Imaginaires*, in *The Ames Room* (maximal minimal terror free jazz with Clayton Thomas and Jean-Luc Guionnet), and *Thymolphthalein* (electro-acoustic quintet with Anthony Pateras, Jérôme Noetinger, Natasha Anderson and Clayton Thomas).

He has performed at most of the world's most prestigious festivals and concert series including *What Is Music?*, *Liquid Architecture*, *Impermanent Audio*, *Melbourne International Jazz Festival*, *Wangaratta Jazz Festival* (Australia), *Lampo*, *Bowerbird* (USA), *Festival Meteo*, *Musique Action*, *Les Instants Chavires* (France), *Beyond Innocance* (Japan), *Freedom In the City* (UK), *Konfrontation*, *Music Unlimited*, *Artacts* (Austria), *Baden Baden New Jazz Meeting* (Germany).

Key collaborators past and present include Keith Rowe, Helmut Schäfer, Jérôme Noetinger, Jean-Luc Guionnet, John Butcher, Ren Walters, David Tolley, Julien Wilson, Anthony Pateras, Rhys Chatham, Jim Denley, Matt Earl, Adam Sussmann, Robbie Avenaim, Erell Latimier & Scott Stroud. His music has been released on important labels such as *Mego Editions* (Austria), *Erstwhile Records* (USA), *23five* (USA), *Monotype* (Poland), *Pica Disc* (Norway), *Cathnor* (UK), *Emamnem* (UK) and *Gaffer Records* (France).



discography

- 1999** - Heavy Water - w/New Blood (Adam Simmons, Ben Carr, Will Guthrie), CD - Fatrain - Melbourne
- 2002** - Rose Coded - solo - CDR - (antboy-01) - Melbourne
- 2003** - Hills Hoist - w/Greg Kingston, miniCDR - (antboy-02) - Melbourne
- 2003** - Building Blocks - solo - CD - (antboy-04) - Melbourne
- 2003** - Bridges - w/Matthew Earle & Adam Sussmann, CD - (antboy-03) - Sydney
- 2003** - Document 04 - w/Matthew Earle & Adam Sussmann, CDR - (document-04) - Melbourne
- 2003** - no 5 - w/Kazushige Kinoshita, Takefumi Naoshima & Yasuo Totsuka, CDR - Fronmusic - Tokyo
- 2003** - facet - w/Takefumi Naoshima, CDR - Horma - Tokyo
- 2003** - Assumptions2 - w/Julien Wlison & Steve Magnusson, CD - Newmarket - Melbourne
- 2004** - Departures - w/Julien Wlison & Steve Magnusson, CD - (Newmarket) - Melbourne
- 2004** - Leave me Bitter - w/Alexandre Bellenger & Miho, CDR - (ARR-16) - Paris
- 2005** - Spear - solo - miniCDR - Antboy - Nantes
- 2005** - Charlie Charlie presents La Respiration des Saintes, mini CDR - Antboy - Nantes
- 2005** - Cinabri - w/Ferran Fages, CDR - Absurd - Paris/Barcelona
- 2005** - November Quebec - w/[N:Q] (Keith Rowe, Julien Ottavi, Manu Leduc, Will Guthrie), CD - Esquilo - Nantes
- 2005** - Live at LMC's 14th Festival - w/Jean-Philippe Gross & Ferran Fages, CDR - antboy/LMC - London
- 2006** - Body and limbs still look to light - solo - CD - Cathnor - Nantes
- 2007** - What's Left - w/Ren Walters & Chris Bekker, CD - Listening02 - Melbourne
- 2008** - Elwood & Guthrie - CDR - Rural Faune, 2008 - Nantes
- 2008** - Patrice Grente, Will Guthrie, Cedric Piromalli - CDR - Petit Label - Caen
- 2009** - Will Guthrie/Martin Kuchen - split 3" CDR - Compost & Height - Brittany
- 2009** - Spike(s) - solo - 7" single - Pica Disc - Brittany

- 2009** - IN - w/The Ames Room - LP - Monotype, 2009 - Noirt, Poznan
- 2009** - Ni maitre, Ni Marteau - w/Thymolphthalein - LP - Editions MEGO, 2009 - Basel
- 2010** - Perversion Discrète w/Sieur Et Dame - CD/LP - 2 tracks only - Kythibong - Nantes
- 2011** - Face Off w/Jérôme Noetinger - CD - Erstwhile Records - Nantes / Rives
- 2011** - Bird Dies - w/The Ames Room - CD - Clean Feed - Lille
- 2012** - Thought Provoking III - w/Helmut Schäfer - CD - 23five records - Rec in Graz 2006
- 2012** - Sticks, Stones & Breaking Bones - solo - CD & LP - Antboy/Pourricords/Gaffer/Electric Junk - Le Havre

past performances

- 1997** - Wangaratta Jazz Festival, Melbourne Jazz Festival (Melbourne, AUS)
- 1998** - Wangaratta Jazz Festival, SIMA (Sydney, AUS), Melbourne Jazz at the Make It Up Club (Melbourne, AUS)
- 1999** - Make It Up Club Festival (Melbourne, AUS), east coast tour with Bohjass and Archaeopteryx
- 2002** - What Is Music? Festival (Melbourne, AUS), Articulating Space Festival (Melbourne, AUS), Wellington Jazz Festival (NZ), Bath Theater Festival (UK), concerts in Holland
- 2003** - Impermanent Audio Festival (Sydney, AUS), the NowNow festival (Sydney, AUS), Beyond Innocence Festival (Osaka, JAP), solo tour in Europe & Japan
- 2004** - Wangaratta Jazz Festival (Australia), Centre Pompidou (Paris, FR), Raum (Bologna, IT), Instants Chavires (Paris, FR), Australian tour with Assumptions Trio
- 2005** - Setmana de la musica experimental a Metronom, Barcelona, ESP, Festival Densities (Verdun, FR), Total Music Meeting (Tours, FR), tours in Europe
- 2006** - Solo & with Charlie Charlie, tours in Sweden and Finland, Ruin Festival (Vienna, AT), Malzet Jazz Festival (Caen, FR)
- 2007** - Festival Musique Insolentes (Lorgues, FR), Musica Genera (Szczecin, PL), Festival Musique Action (Nancy, FR), solo tours in the UK
- 2008** - Festival Jazz Mulhouse (FR), Lampo (Chicago, USA), Dartmouth New Music Festival (Hanover USA) Resistance Festival, Riddarhyttan (SWE), Festival NPAI (Noirt, FR), Rotterdam Film Festival, NL
- 2009** - Baden Baden New Jazz Meeting (DL), Festival Konfrontationen (Nickelsdorf, AT), Umea Jazz Festival (Umea SWE), Festival Cable# (Nantes, FR), tours in France, Holland & Germany
- 2010** - Festival Total Meeting (Tours, FR), Music Unlimited Festival (Wels, AT), Echtzeitmusik Festival (Berlin, DL), tours in Norway & France.
- 2011** - Festival Bruisme (Poitiers, FR), Melbourne International Jazz Festival (AUS), Mozg Festival (Bydgoszcz, PL), Festival Meteo (Mulhouse, FR), Kongsberg Jazz Festival (NO), All Ears Festival (Oslo, NO).
- 2012** - Performances at Sonore Festival (Brest, FR), Tou Scene (Trondheim, Stavanger, NO), Festival Artifacts (St Johann, AT)

REVIEWS

“ Over the last decade or so Australian born now French resident percussionist and sound artist Will Guthrie has repeatedly demonstrated his ability to move between jazz, rock and quite musical realms and into more experimental directions using contact microphones and junk to create these incredibly articulate musique concrete sound pieces. It’s pretty clear that the guy can play almost anything.

Bob Baker Fish - Cyclic Defrost ”

“ Guthrie goes for a very full sound, something that befits his personal history as a student of Tony Williams. There’s almost ceaseless activity, constantly churning, as one has the impression of peering into some alien hive bubbling with industry. He has a marvelous ability to coalesce a wealth of seemingly casual sounds, events that have no apparent relationship, into an entirely convincing, cohesive whole.

Brian Olewnick - Bagatellen ”

“ The tribal drive of momentum and repetition can give birth to timelessness. While listening to Will Guthrie’s latest solo release, *Sticks, Stones & Breaking Bones*, I am transported to a very particular zone where time yields its felicitous importance in favour of the endless here and now.

Matthew Revert - Trashcomplex ”

“ This live performance from March, 2010 owes a good portion of its success to Guthrie, who creates waves of relentless rhythm, sounding liked an updated version of Ed Blackwell (perhaps with a trace of Ronald Shannon Jackson as well), never randomly thrashing always dead on point, not just prodding his band mates but thwacking them.

The Squid’s Ear ”

“ Whether it is the way things are left to shudder to a halt, the way that a series of grey scrapes and metallic grazes are often followed by a metallic chime of colour, or just something about the fidgety pacing of the piece *I’m not sure*, but I would have instantly identified Will Guthrie as the musician behind this piece in a blind test. This is not a criticism at all either. Its a compliment to the musician that his music is so non-derivative that it can easily be indentified as his.

Richard Pinnell - The Watchful Ear ”

