



## CHRISTIAN MARCLAY: SCREEN PLAY

Thursday 22 November, 8pm

“I composed a silent collage of found film footage partially layered with computer graphics to provide a framework in which live music can develop. Moving images and graphics give musicians visual cues suggesting emotion, energy, rhythm, pitch, volume, and duration. I believe in the power of images to evoke sound.” *Christian Marclay*

“Having combined excerpts from Hollywood films to cacophonous effect in previous work, Mr. Marclay leapt back in film history, making a demonically spliced silent movie whose visually noisy pulsing black and white sequences were complicated by computer animations of bright, jumpy abstract dots, stripes and shapes reminiscent of work by John Baldessari... It was an extraordinary evening of looking and listening.” *Roberta Smith, The New York Times*

Forming part of **THE WIRE 25** anniversary celebrations marking 25 years of The Wire magazine and co-curated by **Electra**, London-based visual artist and composer **Christian Marclay** presents the UK premier of **Screen Play**, a moving image musical score in which found film footage is combined with computer animation to create a visual projection, to be interpreted by live musicians in an evening length performance.

In the tradition of graphic scores, Marclay has designed a “video score” to be interpreted by three small groups of musicians, to initiate performances while leaving ample room for interpretation and improvisation. For the London performance, Marclay has assembled three ensembles made up of a wide-ranging collective of musical talents, including **Vicki Bennett, Ergo Phizmiz, Steve Beresford, John Butcher, Roger Turner, Blevin Blectum** and **J G Thirlwell**.

**Screen Play** follows *The Bell and the Glass*, Marclay’s first experiment with the use of video projection to convey instructions to musicians, which was commissioned by the Relâche ensemble and performed at the Philadelphia Museum of Art in 2003.

THE WIRE 25 is a month-long season of music celebrating *The Wire* magazine’s 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, taking place in venues across London from 26 October - 22 November 2007. Highlights include The Boredoms, Michael

Gira, Matmos, The Soft Pink Truth, Jackie-O Motherfucker, Lydia Lunch, Laub. Full information on request or see [www.electra-productions.com](http://www.electra-productions.com) / [www.thewire.co.uk](http://www.thewire.co.uk) for more details.

#### Notes to Editors:

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 8pm  
THE WIRE 25: CHRISTIAN MARCLAY'S *SCREENPLAY*  
Trio I: Vicki Bennett, Ergo Phizmiz  
Trio II: Steve Beresford, John Butcher, Roger Turner  
Trio III: Blevin Blectum, J G Thirlwell

Bush Hall, 310 Uxbridge Road, London, W12 7LJ  
Tickets: £12 | [www.ticketweb.co.uk](http://www.ticketweb.co.uk) and on the door

*Screen Play* was made possible with support from Eyebeam's Moving Image Commission, and is co-presented by Eyebeam and PERFORMA.

#### About The Wire

*The Wire* has been called the most essential music magazine of the contemporary era. It was founded in 1982 in London, where it is still based, with a brief to "unravel the mysteries of music for those who look for fundamental answers about the nature of music". 25 years on, *The Wire* remains uncompromising in its mission to uncover and cast light on music that really matters, music that makes a difference. Editorially, the magazine starts from the position that the most exciting and influential developments in music are happening at the fringes of the culture, below the radar of most other titles. Each issue is filled with in-depth coverage of the most radical and innovative musicians (past and present) in the arenas of electronic music, avant rock, hip hop, jazz, noise, modern composition, traditional musics and beyond.

#### About ELECTRA

THE WIRE 25 has been co-curated with Electra, a London based curatorial agency, which specialises in cross-artform projects and commissions. Since its inception in 2003, Electra has established a track record of delivering high profile projects in the UK and abroad. Recent projects include Christian Marclay's *Sounds Of Christmas* (2004, Tate Modern), Kim Gordon, Tony Oursler and Phil Morrison's *Perfect Partner* (2005, The Barbican Centre and 6 venues across the UK and Europe), and group exhibition *Her Noise* (2005, South London Gallery).

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