

CITY DREAMS INC.

MULTIMEDIA PERFORMANCE

JESSICA LURIE

SAXOPHONES / ACCORDION / VOICE

ANDREW DRURY

DRUMS / PERCUSSION

DANIJEL ZEZEJLJ

ACRYLIC PAINT / BRUSHES / ROLLERS



Jessica Lurie and Andrew Drury join forces with Danijel Zezelj in City Dreams Inc., an oddly captivating multimedia performance that evolves into a storytelling ritual in sound and paint. The combination of painting and music highlights much overlooked dimensions of temporality and sensuality in painting and adds a visual frame to music. Audience members inevitably construct private, inner narratives and generate meaning. An exuberant spirit animates the music, nearly all of which is improvised and rooted in high energy free jazz with influences from the Balkans, Brazil, Cuba, klezmer, the blues, and funk. The painting (black and white acrylic on a board, canvas, wall, or any available surface) combines the expressionism of graffiti and murals with the atmosphere of silent movies. It grows from the abstract towards the figurative, following a precise narrative line. Brushes and rollers create sounds and become musical elements themselves, merging with the rhythms and melodies of the horns and drums. Audiences have described the City Dreams as "slow motion animation" and "eavesdropping on a collective dream."

Jessica Lurie is an instrumentalist/composer who performs and records internationally with the Tiptons Sax Quartet, Living Daylights Trio and the Jessica Lurie Ensemble. Her music can be heard on over thirty CDs, and she has collaborated with a wide range of artists such as Bill Frisell, Ne Zhdali, The Indigo Girls, Nels Cline, James Blood Ulmer, Kenny Wolleson, DJ Logic, Zeno de Rossi, and others.

<http://www.jessicalurie.com>

Andrew Drury is a drummer/composer whose work has been noted for its lyricism and adventurous spirit. Drury can be heard on fifteen CDs and has performed internationally with Michel Doneda, Myra Melford, Chris Speed, Jack Wright, and others.

<http://www.andrewdrury.com>

Danijel Zezelj is a graphic artist and illustrator and author of more than twenty graphic novels. His comics and illustrations have appeared in magazines and anthologies in Europe and the USA. His work has been published by DC Comics/Vertigo, Marvel Comics, The New York Times Book Review, Harper's Magazine, The San Francisco Guardian, Washington Chronicle, etc.

<http://www.dzezelj.com>

On Lurie's and Drury's music:

"Their... music has a joyous and uplifting vibe... Sometimes funky, sometimes swinging, sometimes rocking, but always connecting. This is a perfectly balanced duo that remains earthy and enchanting throughout..." - Bruce Gallanter, Downtown Music Gallery, NYC
"...exhilarating!" - Taran Singh, Radio Angers

About Zezelj's painting and graphic novels:

"...a tribute to the refuge and grace of imagination." - Cate McQuaid, The Boston Globe

"I am fascinated by Zezelj's threatening and ghostly perspectives, the way he manages to use his stories and characters to express the sense of melancholy, of some impending doom..."

- Federico Fellini, introduction to graphic novel The Rhythm of the Heart

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