

THE
**OCTOBER
REVOLUTION**
OF JAZZ & CONTEMPORARY MUSIC



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Images available upon request

A Revolution in Sound

In the birthplace of the American experiment, one festival is harnessing the spirit of artistic possibility

PHILADELPHIA – **Ars Nova Workshop** (ANW) and **FringeArts** present a new jazz and contemporary music festival unlike anything Philadelphia has seen – or heard: **The October Revolution of Jazz & Contemporary Music**. This four-day, multi-venue listening festival centers at FringeArts’ waterfront headquarters, 140 N. Columbus Blvd. (at Race Street) from **October 5-8, 2017**. Full festival passes start at \$165 and are available by phone at 215-413-1318 or online at FringeArts.com. Tickets are very limited.

In 1964, jazz legend Bill Dixon pioneered a seminal DIY jazz festival in New York City called The October Revolution in Jazz. The festival featured many artists ultimately presented by ANW and representative of ANW’s foundational curatorial focus, such as Dixon, John Tchicai, Paul Bley, Alan Silva, Giuseppi Logan, and Sun Ra – musicians who interrogated and redefined most of the conventions of jazz. Today, in 2017, Philadelphia’s premier experimental jazz presenter **Ars Nova Workshop** carries that torch with a four-day deep listening festival, The October Revolution (OctRev). OctRev is a dynamic festival experience constructed out of a variety of sonic adventures and revelations, led by musicians and artists who are pushing boundaries and opening borders.

Imagine a city attuned, a fellowship of listeners actively exploring an aural landscape. Composer Pauline Oliveros (ANW presented her last two Philadelphia appearances) referred to this as “deep listening” – the act of becoming aware of the vast range of sounds that we live within. “Deep listening” is the watchword of the OctRev Festival. The entire infrastructure of the festival will be focused on supporting that experience, to ensure that audiences have the comfort, freedom, time, and access to interact fully with the performances.

“In this kind of landscape, in which music of all kinds can play a central role, the participants do not listen *for* something,” says Mark Christman, Executive and Artistic Director of Ars Nova Workshop. “They are focusing instead on the experience of listening itself—tuning in.”

The inaugural OctRev will take place October 5-8 on the FringeArts campus, and will include performances at neighboring sites and venues. ANW is curating a line-up of the most thoughtful, adventurous music inventors and performers of our time, from across a diverse range of genres that span jazz, free improvisation, and contemporary classical and radiate outward. Confirmed acts include:

- NEA Jazz Master and AACM founding member **Anthony Braxton**
- MacArthur Fellow, International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) founder, and “young star of the modern flute” (The New Yorker) **Claire Chase**
- An ultra-rare appearance from **The Art Ensemble of Chicago**, one of the most influential ensembles of all time
- A new duo featuring harpist **Zeena Parkins** and drummer **Brian Chase**, best known for their extensive work with Bjork and the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, respectively
- **Tim Berne’s Snakeoil** in celebration of their new recording on ECM Records
- **Sun Ra Arkestra** performing their seminal 1973 Impulse Records album “**Space is the Place**” in its entirety

In addition to these virtuosic performances, the festival will feature a special VIP package that includes an exclusive brunch at La Peg with festival musicians, secret shows at intimate locations, receptions with artist meet & greets, rare jazz ephemera giveaways, guaranteed seating at all events, and free beer and wine at most events. Festival passes go on sale on May 24. Visit www.theoctoberrevolution.org for more information.

ABOUT ARS NOVA WORKSHOP

Winner of the ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming and *Philadelphia* magazine's “Best of Philly” award, Ars Nova Workshop (ANW) is an internationally recognized jazz, experimental, and new classical music presenter. ANW explores the intersection of many forms of contemporary music and “has made Philadelphia a welcome stop for premier avant-garde jazz” (*Spin*). It has been the subject of numerous articles in the local and national press, including *Wire* magazine, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Jazz Times*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. *The New York Times* referred to ANW’s work as a “textbook embodiment” of a “more site-specific and curatorial” approach to presenting jazz and contemporary music.

Since its inception, ANW has programmed over 700 unique events throughout Philadelphia, often in partnership with leading cultural institutions, including Philadelphia Museum of Art, University of Pennsylvania, The Barnes Foundation, Institute of Contemporary Art, Settlement Music School, and the Painted Bride Art

Center, and in unconventional spaces such as Bartram's Garden, the American Swedish Historical Museum, and Philadelphia's last active pre-World War I rowhouse synagogue Shivtei Yeshuron Ezras Israel, to name just a few.

Performances have featured many of the most significant contributors to modern music over the last 50 years, including Cecil Taylor, Pauline Oliveros, Rhys Chatham, Henry Threadgill, The Art Ensemble of Chicago, Tony Conrad, Darcy James Argue's Secret Society, and MacArthur fellows Anthony Braxton, Steve Coleman, Ken Vandermark, George Lewis, and John Zorn. ANW's acclaimed "Composer Portrait" series has featured the remarkable depth of such artists as Vijay Iyer, Tim Berne, Tyshawn Sorey, Julius Hemphill, Steve Lehman, and Roscoe Mitchell, and featured performances from S.E.M. Ensemble, JACK Quartet, Daedalus Quartet, Ursula Oppens, Crucible Quartet, Jennifer Choi, Joseph Kubera, and many others. Recent performances have also included concerts featuring adventurous composers who frequently work in the field of electronic music, such as Fennesz, Holly Herndon, Tyondai Braxton, Oneohtrix Point Never and Ben Frost. In addition, our 2015-16 season closed with a new partnership with the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, which united Philadelphia and British musicians performing newly-discovered works by Derek Bailey (including a reimagining of Stockhausen's "Plus- Minus") and Paul Rutherford.

ANW's 2016-17 season includes two Philadelphia premieres of George Lewis compositions with Ensemble Pamplemousse, John Hollenbeck's Claudia Quintet, Suzanne Ciani, Nels Cline, Wadada Leo Smith, Steve Lehman's Selebeyone, Donny McCaslin's Quartet, The Necks, Battle Trance, Odean Pope/Andrew Cyrille Duo, and a new site-specific commission by composer Jace Clayton for mixed ensemble, including the Prometheus Chamber Orchestra, entitled Room 21, based on a particular room of the collection at the Barnes Foundation.

ABOUT FRINGEARTS

FringeArts is Philadelphia's home for contemporary performance, presenting progressive, world-class art that stretches the imagination and boldly defies expectation. As the city's lead experimenter in the arts, FringeArts exposes audiences to unpredictable dance, theater and music performances by accomplished and emerging innovators who are pushing the boundaries of art-making and redefining the artistic landscape worldwide.

Year-round programming is presented at FringeArts' state-of-the-art center on the Delaware River Waterfront—a renovated historic building that also houses a restaurant and beer garden. Each September, the organization presents the annual Fringe Festival, a 17-day celebration that fills the city's neighborhoods with more than 1,000 curated and independently produced contemporary performances.

As a catalyst for cultural and community development, and a destination that brings artists and audiences together, FringeArts amplifies the vibrancy of the city's arts community and enriches the lives of those who reside, work and visit here.

FACT SHEET FOR THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION

SCHEDULE

The October Revolution in Jazz & Contemporary Music

(Evening) Thursday, October 5 – (Evening) Sunday, October 8

TICKET INFORMATION

VIP 4-Day Pass

\$400

Includes guaranteed seating at all events, exclusive access to secret concerts in intimate locations, receptions with artist meet & greets, rare collectible giveaways, and free beer & wine at most events.

On sale May 24 until sold out

Super Early Bird 4-Day Pass

\$165

On sale May 24 (limited availability!)

Early Bird 4-Day Pass

\$185

On sale June 8 (limited availability!)

4-Day Pass

\$200

On sale July 5

***One-day passes will be available on August 1, or when 4-day passes sell out. ***

Call FringeArts at 215-413-1318 or visit www.theoctoberrevolution.org to purchase passes.

CALENDAR LISTING (+/-)

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