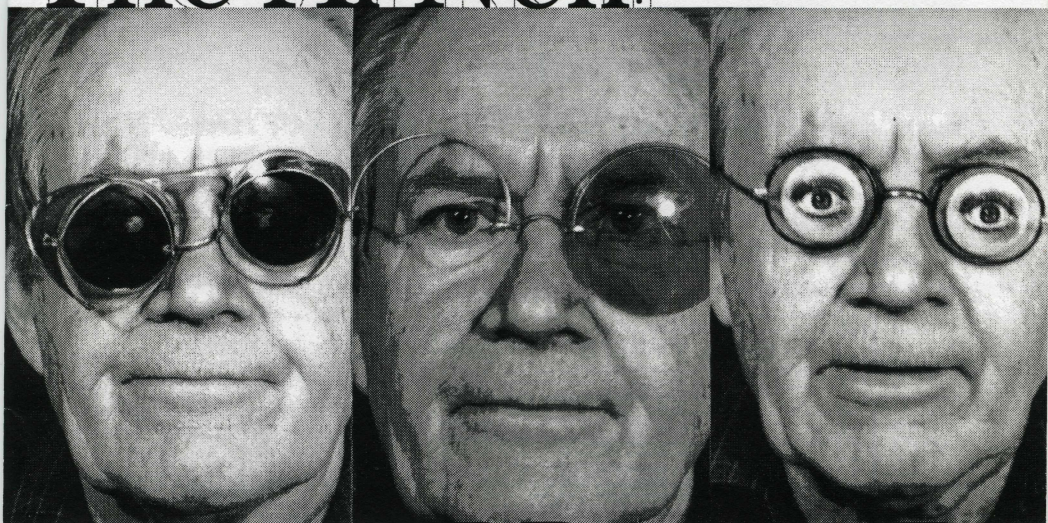


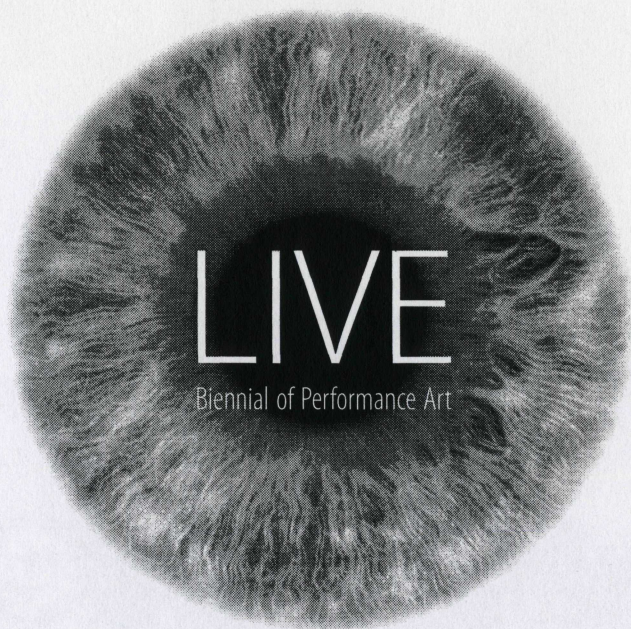
# The Al Neil



# PROJECT

Gregg Simpson  
Paul Plimley  
Clyde Reed  
Giorgio Magnanensi  
Kedrick James  
Carole Itter  
Krista Lomax





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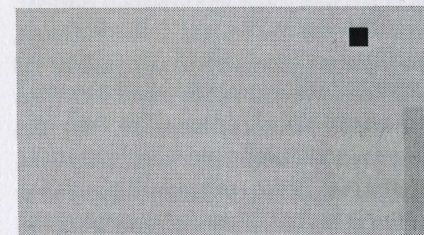
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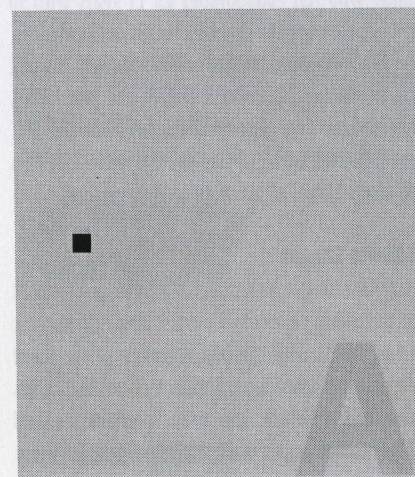
# The Al Neil PROJECT

In conjunction with the 4th LIVE Biennial of Performance Art, **The Al Neil Project** presents four evenings of interdisciplinary work by, and inspired by, Vancouver innovator Al Neil, a seminal force in the multi-disciplinary practices that have flourished on the West Coast over the past 50 years.



Al Neil's career as a musician, composer, writer, *bricoleur*, and performance artist has spanned 60 years. His influence on Vancouver's artistic communities has been profound and enduring. This project endeavors to both assess and celebrate Neil's contribution to the development of avant-garde art practices in Vancouver. LIVE 2005 will feature four events celebrating Al Neil's legacy in the community, including concerts, screenings, readings and performances.

Tonight, at the Roundhouse Community Centre we bring together a stellar group of Vancouver musicians in a tribute to the Al Neil Trio. Gregg Simpson was an original member of the Al Neil Trio and the work of Paul Plimley and Clyde Reed has been an extension of the traditions Neil worked within. Carole Itter is a longtime collaborator with Neil and she worked with VJ Krista Lomax to produce tonight's visuals. The images are from photographs by Carole Itter of Al Neil's collages on paper and his assemblages at his cabin. Krista Lomax has designed the motion graphics of these images. Giorgio Magnanensi's use of samples echoes the Al Neil Trio groundbreaking use of them in the 1960's. Kedrick Jame's work in performance poetry is a continuation of Al's early work in this form.



The Al Neil Trio was a seminal force in 1960's Vancouver artistic history leaving serious influences tracing through the jazz, writing, performance art and visual arts communities.

The Al Neil Trio has been documented on the 2001 Blue Minor recording *RETROSPECTIVE Al Neil Trio 1965 - 1968*.



# Bios

## ■ Gregg Simpson

Gregg Simpson (born 1947) began playing jazz in the early 1960's joining the Al Neil Trio in 1965. Later he helped form groups such as Sunship Ensemble, New Orchestra Quintet, and Lunar Adventures, making several recordings and touring Canada and the US many times. He has played with Frank Foster, Jack Wilson, Flip Nunez, P.J. Perry, Don Thompson, Karl Berger, John Tchcai, Vinny Golia, Marilyn Crispell, Peter Brotzman and opened for Keith Jarrett, Michael Brecker, Roscoe Mitchell and Ornette Coleman.

## ■ Paul Plimley

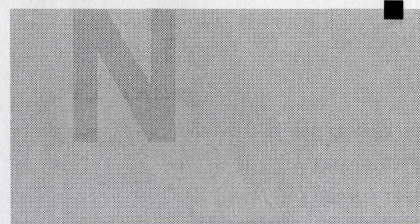
Since the mid 1970's Paul Plimley has been actively developing his music out of the continuum of American and European music traditions. He has played and toured with many great improvisers in jazz and new music from around the globe. Plimley has released over 30 CDs, LPs and TV music documentaries, which have been well received by many who show a passion for music beyond disco. His hundreds of compositions cover all media: orchestra, jazz bands, solo piano/marimba/guitar, CD ROM, electronic music, music for modern dance, and movie soundtracks.

## ■ Clyde Reed

Clyde Reed has enjoyed long-term musical collaborations with internationally-known artists such as Rob Blakeslee, Bobby Bradford, Vinny Golia, Rich Halley, George Lewis, Paul Plimley, and Claude Ranger. His playing has been featured on a large number of critically acclaimed recordings.

## ■ Giorgio Magnanensi

Giorgio Magnanensi works with sound and devotes lots of time to practice intensity and perfect imagination.



## ■ Kedrick James

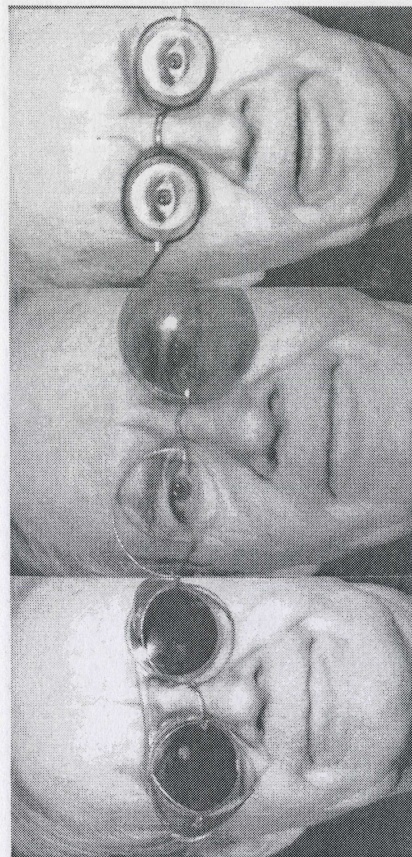
Kedrick James is a poet, musician and educator who follows in the Al Neil tradition of improvisation and wild creative acts. He has worked with key players in the fields of jazz, (Cecil Taylor; Coat Cooke); sound poetry (Jaap Blonk, Paul Dutton); oral traditions (Jeanette Armstrong, Jayne Cortez); performance art (Guillermo Gomez-Pena); Western art music (R. Murray Schaeffer); and has been a founding member of ground-breaking poetry ensembles AWOL Love Vibe and Verbomotorhead.

## ■ Carole Itter

Carole Itter is an artist/writer/performer/film maker who has collaborated for 15 years with Al Neil by providing the graphics for his performances. She is a long time resident of Vancouver's historic Strathcona neighbourhood and in the late 1970's, collected an oral history of the area for the B.C. Provincial Archives. She has worked with Al Neil on the assemblages at his cabin on Burrard Inlet.

## ■ Krista Lomax

Krista Lomax is a Vancouver multimedia producer and live video performance artist who collaborates and performs with a broad spectrum of local and international musicians. Lomax designs and edits video pieces which she then manipulates and "plays" to live music real-time. Her visual imagery can be seen in feature films, television and on the web as well as live performance.



Al Neil photos Carole Itter

Programme Design john endo greenaway



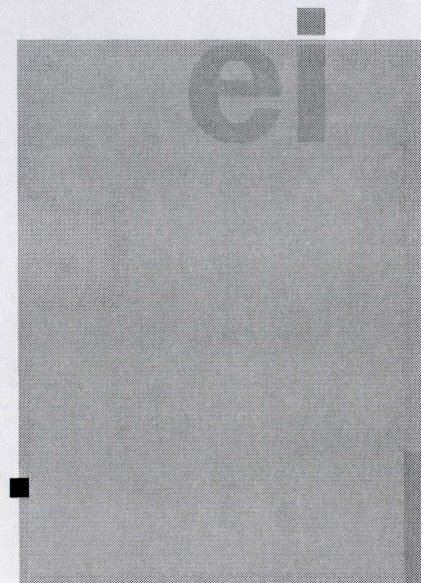
Canada Council  
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The Al Neil Project attempts an interdisciplinary look at the work of Al Neil in several media. Part One includes the four presentations in LIVE and research into audio, video, film and photographic archives extant in Public Collections in Vancouver. Part Two will consist of a publication, exhibitions and screenings and will take place in 2007. The Al Neil Project is a collaboration of the Morris and Helen Belkin Gallery UBC, New Orchestra Workshop Society (NOW), Coastal Jazz and Blues Society, and grunt gallery. It is funded through support from the Inter Arts Office of the Canada Council for the Arts, The Spirit of BC and our sponsors Western Front, Vancouver Public Library, Roundhouse Community Centre, The Vancouver Art Gallery, The Morris and Helen Belkin Gallery, Coastal Jazz and Blues, NOW, and grunt gallery.

Tonight's presentation is sponsored by The Morris and Helen Belkin Gallery, Coastal Jazz and Blues, New Orchestra Workshop and grunt gallery.

Project Team for the Al Neil Project is Glenn Alteen, Kate Hammett Vaughan, Eric Metcalfe, Scott Watson, Keith Wallace, Gregg Simpson, Al Neil, Carole Itter, Coat Cooke, Ron Samworth, David Rimmer, Jordan Strom, Kristin Fung, Julie Smith, and Michael Turner.





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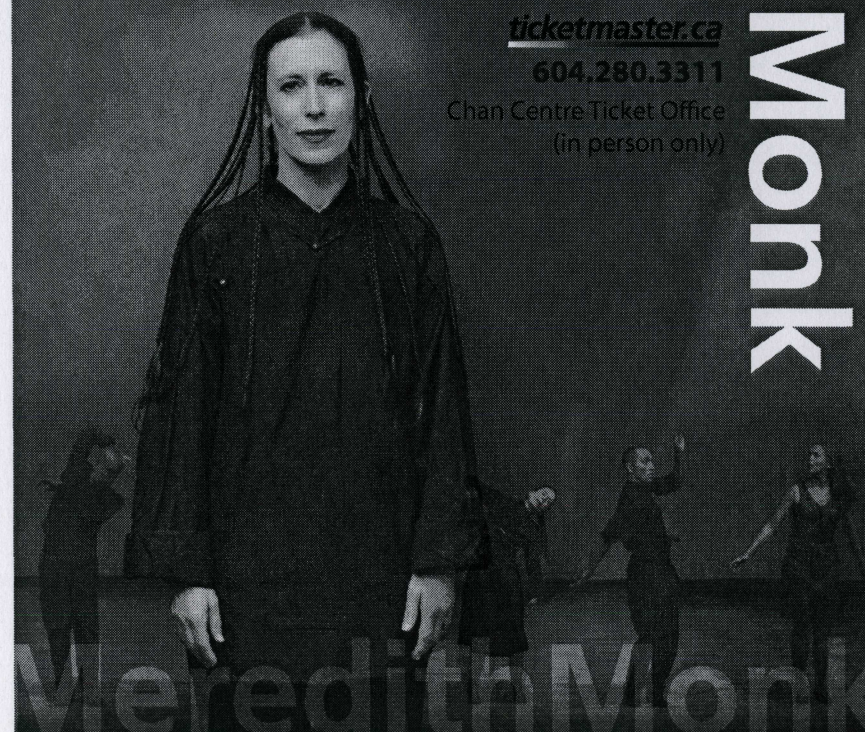
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