

Swiss Musicians in the Midwest

Ensemble SIX and Trio Leimgruber on Tour in the U.S. and Canada

SIX is a Swiss sextet consisting of Jacques Demierre, piano; François Houle, clarinet and vocal; Charlotte Hug, viola; Thomas Lehn, analog synthesizer; Urs Leimgruber, saxophone; and Dorothea Schürch, musical saw and vocals. **Trio Leimgruber** is made up of Jacques Demierre, Charlotte Hug and Urs Leimgruber. They are on tour in the U.S. and Canada with several performance stops in the Midwest.



The music composed by SIX is based on free improvisation—combining all sorts of tones ranging from strings and chords to wind instruments, vocals and analog synthesizers. Of great importance for the music's energetic outcome and acoustic perception is the architectural character of every venue. The interaction and influence of tones, sounds, scratches—but also silence—always depend on how dynamically the space in which they are being produced is structured. SIX is an extraordinary listening experience in which boundaries between instruments, different techniques and audience disappear.

In the Chicago Consular District, SIX will perform at the following venues:

- ▶ Bond Chapel at the Renaissance Society of the University of Chicago on May 24, (www.renaissancesociety.org)
- ▶ ELASTIC Arts Foundation in Chicago on May 25, (www.elasticrevolution.com)

Trio Leimgruber will be on stage in Chicago at:

- ▶ THE HIDEOUT on June 2, together with Chicago-based musicians Lou Mallozzi and Fred Lonberg-Holm (www.hideoutchicago.com)

- ▶ ELASTIC Arts Foundation in Chicago on June 3, (www.elasticrevolution.com)
- ▶ Heaven Gallery on June 5, together with Paul Giallorenzo, Jason Roebke and Josh Berman, who are all well established musicians in Chicago (www.heavengallery.com)

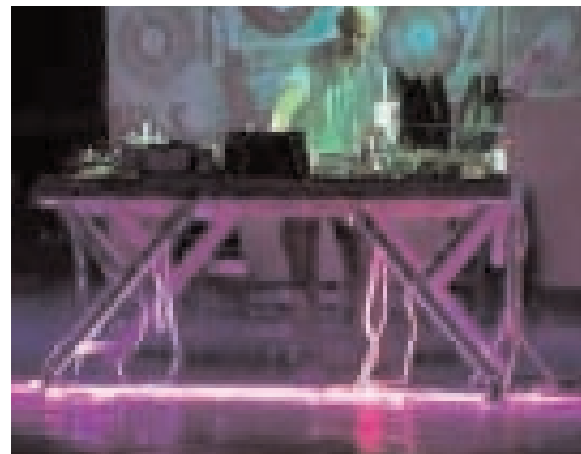
Trio Leimgruber's performance in Milwaukee will take place at:

- ▶ Woodland Pattern Book Center on June 6, (www.woodlandpattern.org)

For information about performance times, see the Calendar or visit the corresponding websites.

The performances of SIX and Trio Leimgruber are supported in part by Pro Helvetia (Swiss Arts Council), Suisa Foundation in Zurich (Switzerland), the Swiss Benevolent Society of Chicago, and the Consulate General of Switzerland in Chicago.

Strotter Inst. by Christoph Hess



The Swiss musician, artist, architect and turntablist **Christoph Hess** started the project **Strotter Inst.** in 1998. The manipulation of five old Lenco turntables without using any additional records or sounds is what fascinates him most. Clicks, scrapes, drones and many broken beats are the result of Hess' performances which, preferably, take place in the middle of the audience. Strotter Inst. is set up individually, according to each room's conditions. Depending on the latter factor and on the uncertain and changing behavior of the machines, each live appearance becomes an acoustic original.

Calendar

Ensemble SIX at Bond Chapel at the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago (www.renaissancesociety.org), 1050 East 59th St., Chicago. Monday, May 24, at 8:00 pm. At **ELASTIC Arts Foundation** (www.elasticrevolution.com), 2830 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. Tuesday, May 25.

Trio Leimgruber with Lou Mallozzi and Fred Lonberg-Holm at THE HIDEOUT (www.hideoutchicago.com), 1354 West Wabansia, Chicago. Wednesday, June 2. At **ELASTIC Arts Foundation** (www.elasticrevolution.com), 2830 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. Thursday, June 3. With **Paul Giallorenzo, Jason Roebke and Josh Berman at Heaven Gallery** (www.heavengallery.com), 1150 N. Milwaukee, Chicago. Saturday, June 5. At **Woodland Pattern Book Center** (www.woodlandpattern.org), 720 E. Locust St., Milwaukee, WI. Sunday, June 6.

Calendar

Strotter Inst. at **Skylab**, 57 E. Gay St., Columbus, OH. Saturday, April 17. For more information, please visit www.strotter.org.

Eluveitie at **Station 4**, 201 E. 4th St., St. Paul, MN. Sunday, April 18, at 5:00 pm. For information, visit www.station-4.com; at **Logan Square Auditorium**, 2539 N. Kedzie, Chicago. Monday, April 19, at 6:00 pm. For information, visit www.logansquareauditorium.com.

Antoine Chessex and **Gilles Aubry** at **Enemy**, 1550 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. For more information, please visit www.enemysound.com or www.soundimplant.com.

From Pyramids to Spacecraft by **Andreas Vogler** and **Arturo Vittori** at **Goldstein Museum of Design** at the University of Minnesota, HGA Gallery, Rapson Hall, 89 Church St. SE, Minneapolis, MN. From March 14 to May 2. For more information please contact gmd@umn.edu, call 612-624-7434 or go to www.goldstein.che.umn.edu or <http://design.umn.edu/events> and www.architectureandvision.com.

Strotter Inst., supported in part by Pro Helvetia (Swiss Arts Council), will be on tour in the U.S. this spring and perform in the Chicago Consular District at Skylab in Columbus, OH, on April 17. For further information about Christoph Hess' performances and his productions, please see the Calendar or go to www.strotter.org.

Folk-Metal Band Eluveitie

The Swiss folk-metal band **Eluveitie** is back on tour in the U.S. and Canada. This spring, they can be seen as the supporting act for the death metal band Amon Amarth, making two stops in the Midwest. On April 18 they will be performing at Station 4 in Minneapolis, on April 19 at Logan Square Auditorium in Chicago. Please see the Calendar for more information on venues and concert times.



Eluveitie, which means Switzerland in Celtic, is known for their unique brand of folk and metal music. They have released several albums since coming together as a group in 2002. Their most recent CD *Everything Remains as It Never Was*, which was released in February 2010, has been described as a fusion of powerful folk and mystical and melodic heavy metal. Their distinctive blend of both folk and metal reflects the various musical influ-

ences of the band members. If you are a fan of either folk or metal, Eluveitie is a treat for ears and eyes.

Their United States and Canada tour is made possible in part by Pro Helvetia (Swiss Arts Council). For more information on Eluveitie and their tour, please see the Calendar or visit www.eluveitie.ch.

Antoine Chessex and Gilles Aubry

Antoine Chessex and **Gilles Aubry** are two Swiss sound artists and musicians touring the U.S. in May and June. They will be performing their improvised jazz music at Enemy in Chicago in May. Please go to www.enemysound.com for more information on dates and times.



Chessex and Aubry each have their distinct styles of making music. They are well known for playing solo but also for inviting local musicians up on stage to join them. During their performances they explore the physicality of sounds and spaces and make personal investigations of sound production, reception and perception. For more information, please check the Calendar and their up-coming schedule on www.soundimplant.com.

Chessex and Aubry tour is made possible in part by Pro Helvetia (Swiss Arts Council).



Swiss Films in the Midwest

Swiss Filmmaker Karl Saurer on Tour in the Midwest with *Raja's Journey* and *Steinauer Nebraska*

Swiss Filmmaker **Karl Saurer** will be on tour in the United States in April and May. As part of his tour, he will show his films *Raja's Journey* and *Steinauer Nebraska* and conduct workshops throughout the Midwest.

Karl Saurer (1943) from Einsiedeln, Switzerland, studied film, literature and psychology in Zurich and Germany. He taught in the drama department of the German Film and Television Academy in Berlin and was the director of the academy from 1980–84. He has lectured at different film schools in Switzerland and is currently on the faculty of the University of Fribourg. Saurer has an impressive list of fiction and documentary films to his credit, both as screenwriter and director.



Raja's Journey (2007) is the mysterious story of Raja, the Indian elephant that travelled in 1550 from the forests of Kerala via Lisbon (Portugal) to Vienna. The film retraces Raja's journey together with Gandhi activist P.V. Rajagopal, who makes surprising discoveries and provoking juxtapositions. As we follow along the path of Raja, we see the elephant imprisoned, in ceremonies, and captured to become a status symbol for a European ruler. *Raja's Journey* presents us with stunningly beautiful pictures, but is also a story of misappropriation that continues today. It will be screened at the *28th St. Paul Minneapolis International Film Festival* on April 28, at the *University of Wisconsin at Madison* on April 30 and at the *Chicago Cultural Center* on May 20 (for detailed information on locations and screenings, see Calendar).

Steinauer Nebraska, an earlier film of Karl Saurer, is a story of migration, settlement and banishment and

recounts the rise and fall of the three Swiss brothers who in the mid 1850s gave their family name "Steinauer" to their new home in Nebraska. The film reveals the complexities of the historical process of homesteading and its corollary home-losing and contrasts the new settlers with the original inhabitants. *Steinauer Nebraska* is a reminder that in spite of the large land holdings not all new settlers managed to eke out a living and that in the end Mother Earth reclaimed the prairie grass. It will be screened at the *Swiss Center of North America* in New Glarus, WI, on May 1, at *Turner Hall Monroe* on May 2 and at the *Chicago Cultural Center* on May 17 (for detailed information on locations and screenings, see Calendar).

Karl Saurer's U.S. tour is supported in part by all screening partners and the Consulate General of Switzerland in Chicago.

28th Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival

Best Swiss Documentary Film 2010: *The Woman with the 5 Elephants*

Swiss filmmaker **Vadim Jendreyko's** 2009 documentary *The Woman with the 5 Elephants* (original title "Die Frau mit den 5 Elefanten") will be shown at the *28th Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival* on April 18 and 28 (for details, see Calendar or www.mspfilmfest.org). In March, this film was awarded the Swiss Film Award Quartz 2010 for Best Documentary.



Calendar

Lost Waltzing Walls by **Florian Graf** at **Art Chicago** from April 30 to May 3, at The Merchandise Mart (www.mmart.com), 222 Merchandise Mart Plaza, Chicago. Opening preview: Thursday, April 29, 12–3 pm. For more information on the art fair and for tickets, please visit www.artchicago.com.

Jean-Jacques Porret, sculptures and works on paper, at **Artbox Gallery**, 217 West 10th St., Indianapolis, IN. From April 2 to May 3. For opening hours and more information, call 317-955-2450 or visit www.artboxindy.com.

Raja's Journey by **Karl Saurer** at the **28th St. Paul Minneapolis International Film Festival**, St. Anthony Main Theatre, 125 S.E. 115 Main Street, Minneapolis, MN. Wednesday, April 28 at 4:55 pm. For information, visit www.mspfilmfest.org. At the **University of Wisconsin at Madison**, Friday, April 30 at 4:00 pm. For information, visit www.wisc.edu. At the **Chicago Cultural Center**, 77 E. Randolph St., Chicago. Thursday, May 20 at 6:30 pm. For more information, visit www.chicagoculturalcenter.org.

Swiss Films in the Midwest continued

The *Woman with the 5 Elephants* is a film about Svetlana Geier, who is considered the greatest translator of Russian literature into German. Her new translations of Dostoyevsky's five great novels – known as the “five elephants”—are her life's work and literary milestones. Jendreyko's film interweaves Svetlana Geier's live journey from Ukraine to Germany with her literary work and traces the secrets of this inexhaustible mediator of language (www.5elefanten.ch).

While Michel has enough, Marthe is determined to cling to their home, no matter what. For more information on Home, please visit www.home-lefilm.ch.

Breath Made Visible (2009) by Swiss Filmmaker **Ruedi Gerber** captures the fascinating work and life of dancer-choreographer and activist Anna Halprin. It is a most extraordinary documentary film which invites the audience into the world of a dancer with great sensitivity and intelligence. The Gene Siskel Film Center will screen *Breath Made Visible* from April 16 to 22 (for details, see Calendar and www.siskelfilmcenter.org).

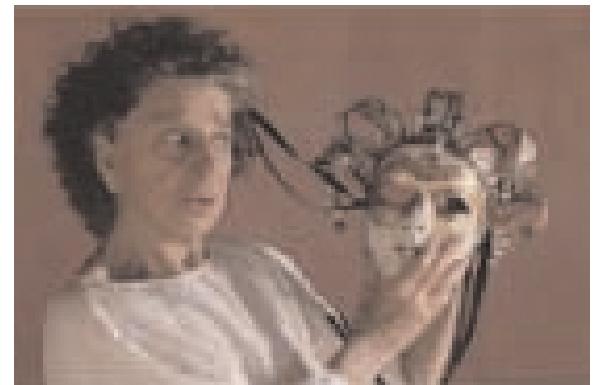
Swiss Films Premiere at The Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago

Home by Ursula Meier
Breath Made Visible by Ruedi Gerber

Filmmaker **Ursula Meier's** human comedy *Home* (2008) was awarded the Swiss Film Prize 2009 for Best Fiction, Best Script, and Best Supporting Actor. Since then, *Home* has garnered numerous additional awards and has been shown internationally with much success. The Gene Siskel Film Center will present the Chicago premiere of *Home* on April 17, 19 and 21 (for details, see Calendar and www.siskelfilmcenter.org).



Home is a film about how life can change due to apparently ordinary circumstances. When a busy highway opened next to their somewhat isolated home, the peaceful family life of Marthe (Isabelle Huppert), Michel (Olivier Gourmet) and their three children is threatened. Refusing to move, they find innovative ways to adapt to their new environment and continue their happy-go-lucky routine despite the daily stress of hundreds of noisy cars speeding past their home. Unwittingly, their domestic routine becomes somewhat of a peep show.



For seven decades Halprin (*1920), a pioneer of dance, has searched for answers to the question: How can we closely link life and dance? In *Breath Made Visible*, she recalls her childhood in Winnetka (Illinois), her training with Margaret H'Doubler, her film performances with James Broughton. The viewer witnesses the healing power of dance, as Halperin works with cancer patients, AIDS patients and the elderly. Halprin has influenced experimental postmodern dance in a decisive way and continues to amaze us with her solo performances. *Breath Made Visible* traces the incredible journey of Halprin and the rise of dance as art and as a form of enjoying life (www.breathmadevisible.com).

Calendar

Steinauer Nebraska by **Karl Saurer** at the **Swiss Center of North America**, 507 Durst Road, New Glarus, WI, Saturday, May 1, afternoon screening. For information, call (608) 527-6565 or visit www.theswisscenter.org. At **Turner Hall Monroe**, 1217 17th Ave., Monroe, WI. Sunday, May 2 at 7:00 pm. For information, call 608-325-3461 or visit www.turnerhallofmonroe.org. At the **Chicago Cultural Center**, 77 E. Randolph St., Chicago, Monday, May 17 at 6:30 pm. For more information, visit www.chicagoculturalcenter.org.

The Woman with the 5 Elephants by **Vadim Jendreyko** at the **28th St. Paul Minneapolis International Film Festival**, St. Anthony Main Theatre, 125 S.E. 115 Main St., Minneapolis, MN. April 18 and 28. For more information, visit www.mspfilm-fest.org.

Art and Design in the Midwest

From Pyramids to Spacecraft in Minneapolis

Swiss architect **Andreas Vogler** and Italian architect **Arturo Vittori** of Architecture and Vision will present their exhibition **From Pyramids to Spacecraft** at the Goldstein Museum of Design at the University of Minneapolis School of Architecture from March 14 to May 2. For more information, please see the Calendar or visit www.architecture-andvision.com.

From Pyramids to Spacecraft shows selected architectural and product design projects by Architecture and Vision. Inspired by the beauty of nature and

informed by science and technology, these works exemplify the creative and elegant solutions for which Vogler and Vittori have been internationally recognized. The exhibition features renderings and multimedia displays. If you are enthusiastic about futuristic ideas and designs, you should not miss visiting From Pyramids to Spacecraft.

This exhibition is made possible in part by the Consulate General of Switzerland in Chicago and ThinkSwiss, an official program of the Swiss Confederation to promote exchanges and share knowledge between the U.S. and Switzerland.

Calendar

Home by **Ursula Meier** at **The Gene Siskel Film Center**, 164 N. State St., Chicago. April 17 at 3:00 pm., April 19 at 6:00 pm, April 21 at 6:00 pm. For more information, call 312-846-2600 or visit www.siskelfilmcenter.org.

Breath Made Visible by **Ruedi Gerber** at **The Gene Siskel Film Center**, 164 N. State St., Chicago. April 16 to 22; Fri., Mon. and Wed. at 6:00 pm., Sat. at 4:45 pm and 8:15 pm., Sun. at 3:00 pm., Tue. and Thu. at 7:45 pm. For more information, call 312-846-2600 or visit www.siskelfilmcenter.org.



Mercury House One (Architecture and Vision)

Art Chicago “Lost Waltzing Walls” by Florian Graf

Swiss architect and artist **Florian Graf** will be presenting an intervention project at Art Chicago 2010 from April 30 to May 3. Graf’s huge nomadic sculptures, which will be wandering through the art fair as **“Lost Waltzing Walls,”** can be observed and ‘tracked down’ throughout the art show at the Merchandise Mart. For more information, please see the Calendar or visit www.artchicago.com.

Graf is interested in the psychological and emotional relationship of human beings with their environment in contemporary Western society and explores the different ways the architectural surrounding mentally and physically influences the spectator. He mainly works with installation, photomontage, video and drawings. For Art Chicago 2010, Graf will be integrating people both into his art work and the fair’s environment, as his wandering sculptures are physically moved by confined humans. Individually, the latter feel socially detached. Eventually, though, linking with their local context, they start creating new situations which can both be seen and felt throughout the entire exhibition.

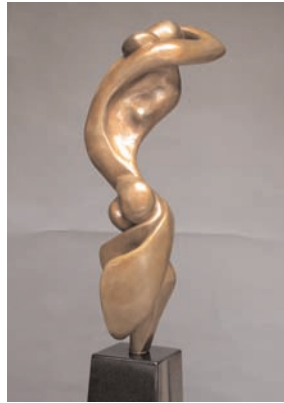


Graf’s project is made possible in part by the support of the Consulate General of Switzerland in Chicago.

Swiss Sculptor Jean-Jacques Porret Solo Show at Artbox Gallery in Indianapolis



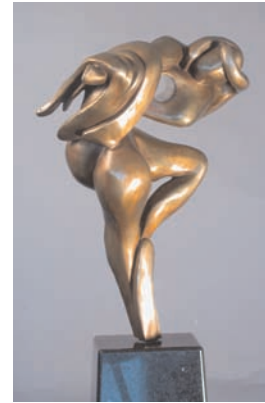
Wisdom



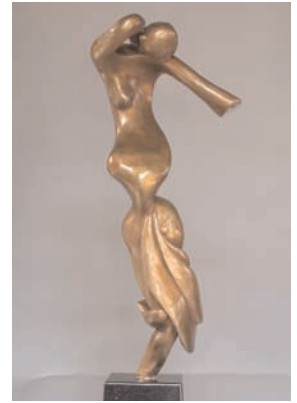
Panache



Geisha



Ingenu



Accolade

Swiss sculptor and long-time resident of Chicago **Jean-Jacques Porret** will present new sculpture and works on paper in a solo show at the **Artbox Gallery** in Indianapolis from April 2 to May 3, (for more information, see the Calendar and www.artboxindy.com).

Porret initially worked primarily with bronze and later came to integrate marble and granite into his bronzes. His sculptures are a harmonious blend of the forces of Nature and man's creativity. They are naturalistic and modern and, at the same time, sim-

plified to their essential rhythms and element. They give testimony to the artist's great sensitivity and exacting craftsmanship. Porret's artistic credo can be described as follows: "Achieving a sense of rightness even in the most uncertain circumstances." Works of his can be seen in collections in the United States and abroad. For more information, please visit: www.jjporret.com.

The opening of the show is made possible in part by the Consulate General of Switzerland in Chicago.

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mosaic

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