

## Merkin Concert Hall

Saturday, February 2, 2013 at 7:30 pm

Kaufman Music Center

presents

# Ecstatic Music Festival®

## DJ /rupture & Zs

Zs: Sam Hillmer, *tenor saxophone*; Patrick Higgins, *guitar* and Greg Fox, *percussion*

### Zs

Wolf Government (2012)

XE (2012)

### DJ /rupture

Selections

*Intermission*

### Zs & DJ /rupture

**Weakling** (2012), an improvised mash-up

This collaborative piece combines improvisation with Zs' *Weakling* (2012) and a new composition for DJ /rupture's *Sufi Plug-Ins Drone* instrument.

### About the Ecstatic Music Festival®

The Ecstatic Music Festival was inaugurated in 2011 by **Kaufman Music Center** (KaufmanMusicCenter.org). Deeply committed to music education and performance that incorporate the ideas and trends of the 21st century, the Center seeks to put truly modern music on its stage—redefining music for the post-classical generation, and serving it up to new audiences. Under the inspired direction of curator **Judd Greenstein**, co-director of New Amsterdam Records, the Festival brings together innovative artists for adventurous collaborations between musicians from the indie/pop/and classical realms. At the nexus of New York City's vibrant "indie classical" scene, the festival shines a bright light on one of the most intriguing areas of contemporary music, in which lines between genres are blurred and the concert environment combines the elegance of a traditional concert hall setting with the energy of a nightclub. The Ecstatic Music Festival's programs give true meaning to the notion of "Ecstatic Music" as a joyful and adventurous collaboration between composers and performers from the indie/pop and classical realms.

This year's Ecstatic Music includes three *New Sounds Live* concerts hosted by WNYC's John Schaefer, which are webcast live on Q2 Music and taped for future broadcast on WNYC. Q2 Music is the festival's digital venue and the center for on-demand artist interviews and concert audio. The festival is presented in association with New Amsterdam Presents.

## About the Artists

**Zs** is a band and a genre. Zs is concerned with creating music that challenges the physical and mental limitations of both the performer and listener equally. Zs has toured extensively in North America and Europe, and has recently begun visiting Asia. On September 11, 2012, Zs released *Score*—the complete sextet works 2002 – 2007, a four CD box set. *Score* will be followed by the *Grain EP* in early 2013 and *Xe*, an LP due out in late 2013. These releases will be followed by a tour.

Zs: [zzzsss.com](http://zzzsss.com).

**Jace Clayton** is an interdisciplinary artist living in Brooklyn. Performing as DJ /rupture, Clayton has DJ'd in a band with Norah Jones, done two John Peel Sessions and was turntable soloist with the 80-member Barcelona Symphony Orchestra. Recent collaborators include guitarist Andy Moor (The Ex) and filmmaker Jem Cohen. He has released several critically acclaimed albums and mix CDs, starting with 2001's influential live mix CD *Gold Teeth Thief*.

Clayton's artistic practice has evolved out of his work as a DJ, built around core concerns for how sound, technology use in low-income communities and public space interact, with an emphasis on Latin America, Africa and the Arab world. In 2012 he released *Sufi Plug Ins*, a free suite of audio software tools based on non-western/poetic conceptions of sound and alternative interfaces. This spring he will debut *The Julius Eastman Memorial Dinner*, a performance piece that restages three Eastman compositions in new arrangements for pianos and real-time electronic processing. The music is interspersed with theatrical vignettes that use empathy and humor to tell of a job search for an Eastman impersonator in current-day New York City while simultaneously revealing details about Eastman's life. New Amsterdam will release the album version of this on March 26.