

SUZANNE THORPE

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SUMMARY

Arts activist, educator and musician creating and designing programs, exhibitions, events, and performances that proliferate creative thinking, promote community dialogue and support artistic growth.

Technically proficient with Pro Tools, Audacity, Peak, Max/MSP/Jitter, SuperCollider, Ableton Live, 24 Track Analogue Recording Studios and Outboard Gear, Field Recording, Tele-present Technology, Sensor Technology, Instrument Augmentation, Circuit Building and Data Mapping.

Maintains practice and knowledge of Electronic Music, Electronic Arts, New Media, Interdisciplinary Arts, Telepresence and Distance Performance, Installation, Conceptual Art, and Creative Improvisation.

Comprehensive knowledge of Western Music (History, Theory and Literature), Electronic Music (History, Theory, Canon and Practice), Distance Performance, Electronic Arts History, Creative Improvisation, Classical Flute Repertoire and Technique.

EDUCATION

Mills College, Oakland, CA

MFA, Recording/Electronic Music and Media, Spring, 2008
Focus of study: electronic music (composition, performance, theory and literature), interactive software, sound art, networked performance, sensor technology and data mapping, creative improvisation. Studied with Chris Brown, John Bischoff, Maggi Payne, Roscoe Mitchell, Fred Frith, Joelle Leandre, Zeena Parkins, Les Stuck, Laetitia Sonami, and Don Day.

SCCC, Schenectady, NY

Music Performance, Associate of Science, 2003

Focus of study: classical and contemporary flute repertoire, performance and technique, western music theory and literature. Studied with Kristin Bacchiachi Stewart and Bret Wery.

University at Buffalo, SUNY, Buffalo, NY

English, Bachelor of Arts, 1989

Focus of study: contemporary literature and new media.

Studied with Robert Creeley, Tony Conrad, Ron Emmke, and Raymond Federman.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2004 - Present

Creator and Curator of the Edison Media Project

Schenectady Museum & Suits-Bueche Planetarium

Schenectady, New York

EMP is a series of interdisciplinary events that act as a vehicle to articulate the mission of the Schenectady Museum and draw attention to its collection. The presentations stress the convergence of art, science and technology today, and the tradition of the intertwined components represented within the museum's collection. Duties with the position include program design, selecting artists, grant research and writing, logistical planning, public relations and marketing strategizing, staff delegation and multi-media technology support and acquisition.

Edison Media Project Events:

Space Re-Mixed:

A series of audio/visual duets, fixed and improvisatory, performed in real-time within the Suits-Bueche Planetarium. Performers include: Stephan Moore, Madaleine Gallagher, Bruce Tovsky, Shempei Takeda, Michael Bulluck, Linda Aubrey Bullock, Jonathan Marcus, Seth Cluett, David Lublin, David Last

Power House Performances:

Inter-media performances presented in the *Power House Gallery* that embodied topics displayed within the *Power House* exhibit. Performers include: Miya Masaoka, Pauline Oliveros and the Brainwave Bottom Band.

High Voltage Fields:

A symposium allowing for focused presentation and discussion on topics emerging from the contemporary convergence of art, science and technology. Events included accompanying exhibits and performances addressing said topics. Past events include:

Who's Guarding the Guards: featuring artists incorporating surveillance technology in their work. Participants: Trevor Paglen, Daniel Perlin, Danny Goodwin, Rich Radke, Lynn Hershman Leeson.

Robots: In Our Own Eyes: focused on artists and designers concerned with ethics in robotic design. Participants: Chico MacMurtrie, Tomek Strzalkowski, Nick Webb, Cherrice Traver, Sal Restivo, Fernando Orellana, Audrey Bennett, Ultrafuturo Group

High Voltage Fields: Pilot program addressing the receding boundaries between art, science and technology and the resulting emergence of a converged culture. Participants: Natalie Jeremijenko, Tad Hirsch, Kathy High, Joel Chadabe, J. Douglas Klien, Mike Fortun

Groove Xchange:

A multi-media performance event with accompanying exhibition and lecture. The performance featured electronic musicians Sara Ayers, Bob Gluck, and Mari Kimura performing compositions onto historic wax cylinder format. The audience was later afforded the opportunity to hear the recording after its execution. The exhibits were multi-media presentations of recording media technology from the tin-type to current mp3s. The lecture was a demonstration of Edison recording and playback machines, and wax cylinders.

Who's Playing Who?:

An interdisciplinary presentation amid an exhibition of the League of Electronic Musical Urban Robots, *Who's Playing Who* featured a musical dialogue between violinist Mari Kimura and various robots from within the installation.

Enter the Botmatrix:

Botmatrix founders Cindy Jeffers and Meredith Finklestein lectured about and demonstrated their hand-built robots, for the future liberation of robots everywhere.

Non-EMP Programming:

Music in the Capital Region: 1900 – Present
Festival of Music
Dressing for the Race Track
Improvisation Workshop

1991-1993

CMJ Music Marathon Event Coordinator

College Media Journal, Great Neck, NY

Developed and implemented annual music convention for over 7,000 participants; Supervised staff of up to fifty people; Conceived and executed marketing and promotional strategies; Solicited, booked and organized event vendors; Expedited advertising placements; Maintained registrant database.

TEACHING

2007 - Present

Director, Electronic Music

San Francisco Waldorf High School

San Francisco, CA

Developed and taught a curriculum focused on Electronic Music. Topics covered include electronically generated and processed sound, both digital and analog, its history, and the tools with which it is rendered. Software programs and Digital Audio Workstations taught and utilized within the class include Audacity and Ableton Live. Other topics addressed include recording techniques, mixing techniques, composition, circuit bending, and field recording.

2004-2006

Adjunct Educator

Academy of the Holy Names

Albany, NY

Developed and taught individualized curriculum focused on classical flute repertoire and technique.

Fall, 2007

Teaching Assistant

Electronic Music & Media Department, Mills College

Oakland, CA

Facilitated telepresence technology and mediated instruction for Pauline Oliveros's Deep Listening Symposium; assisted students with recording techniques, lead students in Deep Listening exercises and practices.

1991-Present

Musician, Composer, Recording and Sound Artist

Columbia/Sony Records

V2 Records

Beggars Banquet

Big Cat Records

Geffen Records

Electra Records
Specific Records
Conceive and manifest creative material, including composition, recording, production, editing, installation, and performance presentation; develop and maintain funding resources, booking agendas, and public relations.
As a founding member of the band Mercury Rev, I composed, performed, recorded and toured with the band from 1991 - 2001, earning a gold record for 1998's *Deserter's Songs*.

SELECTED DISCOGRAPHY

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| 2007 | The Wounded Knees
<i>All Rise</i> , Specific Records |
| 2006 | Mark Gardner
<i>These Beautiful Ghosts</i> , United For Opportunity |
| 2005 | Devendra Banhart
<i>Cripple Crow</i> , XL Recordings |
| 2003 | Grand Mal
<i>Bad Timing</i> , Arena Rock |
| 2001 | Mercury Rev
<i>All Is Dream</i> , V2 Records |
| 1998 | Mercury Rev
<i>Deserter's Songs</i> , V2 Records |
| 1998 | Grand Mal
<i>Maledictions</i> , Slash/London Records |
| 1997 | Grasshopper & the Golden Crickets
<i>The Orbit of Eternal Grace</i> , Beggars Banquet |
| 1996 | Research
<i>The Postmodern Always Rings Twice</i> , Electra Records |
| 1995 | Mercury Rev
<i>See You on the Other Side</i> , Sony Records |
| 1995 | Mercury Rev
<i>The Peel Sessions</i> , Beggars Banquet |
| 1995 | Mercury Rev with Alan Vega (Suicide)
<i>Everlasting Arm & Deadman</i> , Big Cat Records |

- 1995 **Harmony Rockets**
Paralyzed Mind of the Archangel Void, Big Cat Records
- 1994 **St. Johnny**
Speed Is Dreaming, Geffen Records
- 1993 **Mercury Rev**
The Peel Sessions, Beggars Banquet/Sony Records
- 1993 **Mercury Rev**
Something for Joey, Beggars Banquet/Sony Records
- 1993 **Mercury Rev**
Bronx Cheer, Sony Records
- 1993 **Mercury Rev**
Boces, Sony Records
- 1993 **Mercury Rev Theremin Sextet & Robert Creeley**
So There, Beggars Banquet/Sony Records
- 1992 **Mercury Rev**
If You Want Me to Stay, Rough Trade Records
- 1992 **Mercury Rev**
Lego of My Ego, Beggars Banquet/Sony Records
- 1991 **Mercury Rev**
Car Wash Hair, Mint Records
- 1991/92 **Mercury Rev**
Yerself Is Steam, Beggars Banquet/Sony Records
Rough Trade/Jungle Records

SELECTED PERFORMANCES

2007–Present

- 3/2008 **STAC**
Signal Flow, Mills College, Oakland, CA, and Troy, NY
STAC is a networked duo with multi-instrumentalist Alex Chechile. Together we improvised a duo via telepresence, streaming audio, and video from Troy, New York to Oakland, CA into simultaneously occurring events. The piece also incorporated the streaming exchange of sensor data as a controlling element in the performance.

- 2/2008 **Brown/Thorpe**
1510 8th St., Oakland, CA
Improvised duo with electro-acoustic pianist Chris Brown
- 2/2008 **thener46**
the Stone, New York, NY
Improvised duo of mixer-feedback and electro-acoustic
flute
- 2/2008 **The Eleventh Annual Activating the Medium Festival**
San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
Performed a trio with Ulrich Krieger and Andy Strain, directed
by Zbigniew Karkowski
- 1/2008 **CC Three**
Greenwich Music House, New York, NY
Improvised trio with Pauline Olivoers and Chuck Johnson,
& quartet with Miya Masaoka
- 1/ 2008 **Pilot Light Resonance**
ParisLondonWestNile, Williamsburg, NY
Improvised trio with Betsey Biggs and Chuck Johnson
- 11/ 2008 **CC Three**
Chapel of the Chimes, Oakland, CA
Improvised trio with Pauline Oliveros and Chuck Johnson
- 10/ 2007 **thener46**
Fractal Mind Gaze Hut, Oakland, CA
Improvised trio with Philip White and Andy Strain
- 9/ 2007 **Now Hear This**
1510 8th St., Oakland, CA
Improvised duo with Gino Robair
- 7/ 2007 **thener46: Flute & Feedback duo with Phiip White**
Monkey Town, Williamsburg, NY
Gasholder Building, Troy, NY
Nitelite, Chapel Hill, NC
REDUX, Charleston, SC
Hi-Ho Lounge, New Orleans, LA
Superhappyfunland, Houston, TX
Okay Mountain, Austin, TX
- 5/ 2007 **Mills Improvisation Ensemble**
Mills College, Oakland, CA
- 4/ 2007 **Stranded – Extra Fine,**
Mills College, Oakland, CA

4/ 2007 **Out Sound LSG New Music Series**
Luggage Store, San Francisco, CA

3/ 2007 **Mills Improvisation Ensemble**
Stanford College, Palo Alto, CA

2/ 2007 **Signal Flow**
Mills College, Oakland, CA

1/ 2007 **The Forest for the Trees**
Monkey Town, Williamsburg, NY
Duo with Cindy Wheeler

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12/ 2006 **Mills Improvisation Ensemble with Maggie Nicols,**
Mills College, Oakland, CA

11/ 2006 **No Idea Festival**
Austin and San Antonio, TX
3 day festival, performing in improvised configurations with:
Chris Cogburn, David Dove, Bhub Rainey, Liz Tomme,
Annette Krebs and Rob Cambre

11/ 2006 **Mills Improvisation Ensemble with Olivia Block**
Mills College, Oakland, CA

6/ 2006 **Glider**
Children's Museum, Troy, NY
Improvised trio with flautist Jane Rigler and video artist
Diana Slattery

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Performances with J Mascis, Hocket, Look It and the Wounded Knees:

Bearsville Theatre, Woodstock, NY
Piano's, New York, NY
Ground Zero, Troy, NY
The Cock Yard, Williamsburg, NY
Cake Shop, NY, NY
Sine, New York, NY
M.A.F.I.A. Show, RPI, Troy NY
Tank, NY, NY
Irving Plaza, New York, NY
Bush Hall, London, U.K.

2004

**Performances with J Mascis, The Wounded Knees,
and Capital Region Wind Ensemble:**

Autism Benefit, Smith College, Amherst, MA
Capital Region Wind Ensemble, Albany, NY
Bowery Ball Room, NY, NY
SUNY Purchase, Westchester, NY
Key's American Music Festival, Albany, NY
Alan McGee's Death Disco, Nottinghill Gate Arts Center,
London, UK
Tonic, NYC

2003

Performed with J Mascis, and The Wounded Knees

Sine, New York, NY
Khyber Pass, Philadelphia, PA
Maxwells, Hoboken, NJ
The Twelve Cups, London, U.K.
The Rotary Club, London, U.K.
Leadmill, Sheffield, U.K.
Beowolf, Belfast, Ireland
Whelan's, Dublin, Ireland
The Granery, Cork, Ireland

1991 - 2001

With Mercury Rev I toured the U.S.A and Europe extensively from 1991 - 2001, including tours with Bob Dylan, My Bloody Valentine, Spiritualized, Pavement, Porno for Pyros, Ride, Dinosaur Jr., Hole, Ween, Sonic Boom, and more. Festivals included *Brooklyn Anchorage New Music Series*, Brooklyn, NY, *Pheonix Festival*, London, U.K., *Roskilde Festival*, Copenhagen, Denmark, *Arise Festival*, Estonia, *Lollapalooza*, U.S.A., *Reading Festival*, Stratford-Upon-Avon, U.K., *Neu Musik Festival*, Baden-Baden, Germany.

GRANTS, AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS

2006 - 2008

**Mills Graduate Tuition Award
Crothers & Menaglia Awards**

Graduate Studies funds awarded through the Mills College
Music Department

2001 - 2003

Second Chance Scholarship

Merit scholarship for Music Performance Study at
Schenectady County Community College

1998

Gold Record

For *Deserter's Songs* by Mercury Rev

