

PROJECT *Fourth* *Stream*



The brainchild of composer William Neil and saxophonist Tom Gullion, Project Fourth Stream is the logical extension to the synthesis of composed and improvised music. In the recent past, Gunther Schuller made significant strides fusing classical compositional techniques with jazz. Their intention, however, is to approach this music from the perspective where the composition services to enhance the improvisation

Project Fourth Stream web site: <http://www.fourthstream.net>

Tom Gullion: tom@fourthstream.net (708) 646-3951

William Neil: bill@fourthstream.net

Hi-res photo: <http://www.fourthstream.net/content/images/fourthstreamphoto.jpg>

William Neil

The music of WILLIAM NEIL has been performed on both sides of the Atlantic and has been featured at the Festival of Music in Evian, France, the Electronic Plus Festival in New York, the Pontino Festival in Italy, and the New Music Chicago Festival. He has written works for celebrated musicians including his Concerto for Piccolo Clarinet for John Bruce Yeh and Chicago Pro Music, recorded on the Newport Classic label, Fantasia, and Concerto for Guitar for guitarist Michael Lorimer, published by Melbay, Violin Rhapsody for violinist Sharon Polifrone recorded on Albany Records, and his songs set to poems by D.H. Lawrence, The Waters Are Shaking the Moon, for soprano Barbara Ann Martin, premiered on WFMT radio in June of 1996. In 1984 he was appointed the first composer-in-residence with the Lyric Opera of Chicago. His first opera, The Guilt of Lillian Sloan, was premiered in 1986. His orchestral works have been performed by the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra, The Chicago Chamber Orchestra, the Opus One Chamber Orchestra, Concertante di Chicago and the Czech National Symphony. His works-in-progress include an opera based on Federico Garcia Lorca's The House of Bernarda Alba and a jazz musical based on Nelson Algren's last novel: The Devil's Stocking.

AWARDS

His creativity has been recognized by awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a BMI composition award, an ASCAP award, a Fulbright Fellowship, commissions from the National Endowment for the Arts, an Illinois Arts Grant, and the Rome Prize from the American Academy in Rome.

Tom Gullion

Tom Gullion started his professional career with jazz legend J.J. Johnson. Then a mere 22 years old and still studying at Indiana University with David N. Baker, he joined the group, along with Cedar Walton, Rufus Reid and Victor Lewis. After getting his degree with performance honors, Gullion moved to New York. New York turned out to be a good learning experience, and while living there he played and recorded with Rufus Reid, Joel Weiskopf and a host of other young musicians. He has also worked with the Spanish jazz group Clunia and recorded a CD, "Carpe Diem," which features three Gullion originals. In 1995 Gullion moved to Chicago and recorded two critically acclaimed CDs under the Naim Audio (London) label. "Cat's Cradle" and "Greens and Blues" star Chicago jazz musicians John Moulder (guitar), Rob Amster (bass), Steve Gillis (drums) and Paul Wertico (drums).

He now hails from a farm in rural Wisconsin which affords him the luxury of space and the beauty of the surrounding landscape. From this new locale, he's been collaborating with pianist/composer William Neil on Project Fourth Stream - a highly inventive duo as well as maintaining an ongoing presence in Chicago.

A signature trait of Gullion's performances, as noted by many jazz critics, is his communication with the ensemble and the audience. Intuition reigns supreme. To him, it's all about connection - between the musicians and with the audience.

