

## Biography

Yann Novak (b. 1979 Madison, WI) is a sound artist, composer, designer and the creative director of Dragon's Eye Recordings. His compositions have been published by Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) and Infrequency (CA). He has performed at prestigious events and venues in the Pacific Northwest, including The Decibel Festival, and the Henry Art Gallery, among others. Internationally, he has performed at Mutek Festival (Montreal, QB), Blim (Vancouver, BC) and Legends (Manchester, UK). The versatile range of his work is also demonstrated by collaborations with visual artist Alex Schweder and with choreographer Crispin Spaeth. Through these collaborations, Novak's work has been featured at The American Academy in Rome (Rome, Italy), the TBA Festival (Portland, OR), Western Bridge (Seattle, WA), Howard House (Seattle, WA), and Suyama Space (Seattle, WA).

## Selected Discography: Solo & Collaborative

- 2008 **Long Distance Vol. 3** (with Brittle Stars) / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / 3"CD-R  
**Auditorium Mutek** (with Jamie Drouin) / Infrequency (CA) / CD-R  
**In Residence** / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD-R
- 2007 **Pairings** (with Marc Manning) / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD  
**Intermission** / Eye Recordings (US) / CD-R  
**Auditorium** (with Jamie Drouin) / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD
- 2006 **Decibel 06** / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD-R  
**Long Distance Vol. 2** (with Heavy Lids) / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / 3"CD-R  
**The East River Project Vol. 1** (with Gretchen Bennett) / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD-R  
**Meadowsweet** / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD-R
- 2005 **Long Distance** (with Eno On) / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / 3"CD-R  
**Ong Ong Field Recordings Vol. 1** / Ong Ong Press (US) / CD-R

## Selected Discography: Compilations & Soundtracks

- 2008 **Au Clair de la Lune** / Infrequency (CA) / CD - **Forthcoming**  
**Mandorla Autumn Net-Project Vol.3** / Mandorla (MX) / Digital - **Forthcoming**
- 2007 **Cotton** / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD  
**Snow: Field + RMX** / Infrequency (CA) / CD
- 2006 **Paper** / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD-R  
**Dark Room** / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / 3"CD-R
- 2005 **Up Close** / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / 3"CD-R  
**Family Affair** / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD-R  
**Fade Dis/Appearances** / Dragon's Eye Recordings (US) / CD-R  
**P.D.S.T.W.E. Too** / Comfort Stand Records (US) CD

## Selected Performances

- 2008 **Untitled** / The Triple Door, Seattle, WA  
**In Residence** / Chapel Performance Space, Seattle, WA
- 2007 **Decibel Festival** / The Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
**Cotton** (with Marc Manning) / Chapel Performance Space, Seattle, WA  
**Yann Novak Showcases Dragon's Eye Recordings** / The Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
**Kasini House Residency Performance** / Kasini House, Burlington, VT  
**Mutek** (with Jamie Drouin) / Society for Art and Technology, Montreal QC  
**Festival of Wayward Music: The Marathon** / Chapel Performance Space, Seattle, WA  
**Auditorium Release Party** (with Jamie Drouin) / Gallery 1412, Seattle WA  
**Sonarchy Radio Show** / KEXP 90.3, Seattle WA  
**In Store** / Wall of Sound, Seattle WA
- 2006 **Homo Electric** / Legends, Manchester, UK  
**Beyond Territory** / The Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
**Auditorium** (with Jamie Drouin) / The Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
**Berth** (with Heavy Lids) / Three Trees Coffeehouse, Bellingham, WA  
**The East River Project** (with Gretchen Bennett) / Erich Ginder Studio, Seattle, WA  
**Decibel Festival** / Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle, WA  
**Paper** / Gallery 1412, Seattle, WA  
**Untitled** / Blim, Vancouver, BC  
**Ong Ong Release Party** / Gallery 1412, Seattle, WA

### Selected Sound Installations & Exhibitions

- 2009 **+ Room - Room** (with Jamie Drouin) / The Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA - **Forthcoming**  
**A Sac of Rooms All Day Long** (with Alex Schweder) / SFMOMA, San Francisco CA - **Forthcoming**
- 2008 **12 Minutes Max** Curated by Scott Lawrimore & Julie Tobiason / On the Boards, Seattle, WA  
**Art is Not Mute** / Group Show / Hit Art Space, Gothenburg, Sweden  
**Environmental Aesthetics** / OKOK Gallery, Seattle WA
- 2007 **Art is Not Mute** / Group Show / Ersta Konsthall, Stokholm, Sweden  
**The East River Project** (with Gretchen Bennett) / Soundwalk2007, Long Beach, CA  
**Our Nature** (with Gretchen Bennett) / Soil Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
**A Sac of Rooms Three Times A Day** (with Alex Schweder) / Suyama Space, Seattle, WA
- 2006 **The East River Project** (with Gretchen Bennett) / International District, Seattle, WA  
**Sick Building Sequence** (with Alex Schweder) / Howard House, Seattle, WA  
**Frail Room** (with Alex Schweder) / American Academy in Rome, Rome, IT
- 2005 **Aqua Art Sound Broadcast** / Group Show / Aqua Hotel, Miami, FL  
**Toshiro Kaplan Invitational Auction** / Group Show / Toshiro Kaplan Building, Seattle, WA  
**Techgenosis** / Group Show / COCA, Seattle, WA

### Selected Commissions & Scores

- 2007 **Wild Darling** (for CSDG) / Velocity Dance Center, Seattle, WA  
**Cooling Distance (Extended)** (for Environmental Aesthetics) / Satsop Cooling Tower, Elma, WA  
**Ten Tiny Dances** (for CSDG) / Capitol Hill Art Center, Seattle, WA
- 2006 **Play Viewed from a Distance** (for CSDG) / The Empty Space Theatre, Seattle, WA  
**Dark Room** (for CSDG) / TBA Festival, Portland OR  
**Dark Room** (for CSDG) / Western Bridge, Seattle, WA
- 2005 **Up Close** (for CSDG) / Velocity Dance Center, Seattle, WA  
**Fade Dis/Appearances** (for CSDG) / Consolidated Works, Seattle, WA

### Public Collections

**Sound Art Museum** Permanent Collection and Traveling Archive, Rome, IT

### Grants, Residencies & Nominations

- 2009 **Mamori Sound Project**, Mamori Lake, Amazon Brazil - **Forthcoming**
- 2008 **Grant for Artist Projects**, Artist Trust Seattle, WA
- 2007 **Espy Foundation Residency**, Oysterville, WA  
**Environmental Aesthetics Residency**, Satsop Cooling Tower, Elma, WA  
**Kasini House Studio A Residency**, Burlington, VT  
**Contemporary Northwest Arts Award Nominee**, Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR
- 2006 **Seattle Weekly Music Awards**, Nominee in Experimental Music Category

### Speaking Engagements

- 2006 **Decibel - Optical** / The Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
**Guest Lecture** / Cornish Collage of the Arts, Seattle, WA
- 2005 **Guest Lecture** / The Art Institute of Seattle, Seattle, WA

### Curatorial

2005 - Present / **Experimental Sound Label** / Dragon's Eye Recordings, Seattle, WA

**Selected Bibliography**

(A comprehensive listing of published reviews of CD releases can be viewed online at [www.yannnovak.com](http://www.yannnovak.com) )

2008

Stubbs, David. "Electronica" *The Wire*, Issue 290.

2007

Haynes, Jim. "Outer Limits" *The Wire*, Issue 283.

DeLaurenti, Christopher. "The Score" *The Stranger*, August 21.

Shelton, Adam. "Mutek Festival 2007" *Grooves*.

Harrison, Margot. "Seattle Sound Artist Catches Vibes of the Old North End" *Seven Days*, August 8.

Escudero, Guillermo. "Interview" *Loop* (Chile).

Bergstein, Darren. "Audio Verite" *e/i Magazine*, April Issue.

Beal, Suzanne. "Weakly Wire" *The Seattle Weekly*, April 18.

Lippens, Nate. "Sound + images = 'Our Nature'" *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, April 13.

Molnar, Sean. "Decibel Festival" *Signal to Noise*, Issue 44.

2006

Coley, Byron. "Size Matters" *The Wire*, Issue 274.

Petrey, Jefferson. "Decibel Festival 2006" *Grooves magazine*.

Graves, Jen. "Hear, Here" *The Stranger*, November 9.

Mahdoubi, Kathy F. "Microscopic Masterpieces" *The Stranger*, September 14.

Gaucys, Peter. "Once More, with Feathers" *The Stranger*, August 31.

Lippens, Nate. "Schweder inflates the moving image to a fresh dimension" *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, August 25.

Segal, Dave. "Beatseeking Massives" *The Stranger*, August 3.

Singh, K.S. "Drastic Plastic" *e/i magazine*, Issue 7.

Oz, Maxwell. "Oz & Ends" *e/i magazine*, Issue 7.

Coley, Byron & Moore, Thurston "Bull Tongue" *Arthur Magazine* issue 22.

Segal, Dave. "Beatseeking Massives" *The Stranger*, May 3.

Kurtz, Sandra. "Reviews" *Dance magazine*, April Issue.

Graves, Jen. "Blind on Blind" *The Stranger*, March 2.

Kurtz, Sandra. "In the Dark" *Seattle Weekly*, March 1.

Chansanchai, Athima. "Spies like us" *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, February 24.

Coley, Byron. "Size Matters" *The Wire*, Issue 264.

Anderson, Eli. "Unknown Pleasures" *Resonance*, Issue 48.

2005

Sharp, Chris. "Electronica" *The Wire*, Issue 260.

Segal, Dave. "Beatseeking Massives" *The Stranger*, August 18.

Coley, Byron. "Size Matters" *The Wire*, Issue 255.

Kurtz, Sandra. "Through a Dance, Darkly" *Seattle Weekly*, March 23.

Davis, Brangien. "Dancers reveal love of all things pliable" *Seattle Times*, March 21.

**Statement**

My work investigates the ability sound and light have to alter the internal and external experiences of my audience. I am interested in the personal effect recordings have on me, from the act of recording to the initial playback, and seek to convey that experience to my audience. Through gentle adaptation and alteration, these recorded materials are translated from documented personal experiences into universally recognizable, archetypal feelings. After a careful process of elimination and reduction, rustles in the leaves, car horns, birds chirping and similar sounds give way to minimal and controlled environments that subtly direct the physical and emotional perceptions of the audience. Each work is an exploration of presentation, performance, production and composition refined to their most basic principles, with special consideration given to the experience of the audience. By doing so, the ephemeral nature of sound and light can be truly captured, utilized and appreciated by the audience. Whether presented as performance, installation or a compact disc, the underlying thread connecting these formats is each work's insistence to not just be heard, but to be experienced.

### Technical Specifications

#### Two Channel Performance

- 1 professional stereo PA system / minimal quality spec ( equivalent or above)
  - Mackie small 4 or 6 channel mixer (onstage)
  - Mackie SMR450 2-Way SR-Speaker System ( 2 sets configured in quad )
  - 2 Mackie Subwoofers
  - (one pair of speakers and one subwoofer may be appropriate depending on performance space size)
- 1 table with black tablecloth to accommodate laptop/mouse/mixer & at which to sit during performance
- 1 chair at which to sit during performance
- if outside US/Canada...power converter for 120V adapter to countries voltage
- output will be stereo out from MOTU Ultralite (provided by artist) will require 2 balanced male 1/4" cable
- a sound technician in charge of all audio equipment
- space should be seated venue with no bar service during the performance
- space should be as dark as possible with no video projections or projectors on
- organizers should arrange a space where artists recordings can be sold and a person to operate this space

#### Four Channel Performance

- 1 professional PA system / minimal quality spec ( equivalent or above)
  - Mixer with minimum of 4 sends (onstage) (4 DI Boxes can be substituted)
  - Mackie SA1521 2-Way SR-Speaker System ( 2 sets configured in quad )
  - 2 Mackie Subwoofers
- 1 table with black tablecloth to accommodate laptop/mouse/mixer & at which to sit during performance
- 1 chair at which to sit during performance
- if outside US/Canada...power converter for 120V adapter to countries voltage
- output will be four mono outs from MOTU Ultralite (provided by artist) will require 4 balanced male 1/4" cable
- a sound technician in charge of all audio equipment
- space should be seated venue with no bar service during the performance
- space should be as dark as possible with no video projections or projectors on
- organizers should arrange a space where artists recordings can be sold and a person to operate this space