



Bio information: **DENMAN MARONEY**

Title: ***NITS MUSICA*** (Cuneiform Rune 3393)

Format: DIGITAL

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FILE UNDER: **NEW MUSIC / IMPROVISATION / CONTEMPORARY COMPOSITION / POST CLASSICAL**

“Pianists have been tinkering with the guts of their instruments for nearly a century now, but it’s altogether likely that no one has explored the art of prepared piano as diligently or creatively as hyperpianist Denman Maroney.” – Time Out New York

The music of "hyperpianist" **Denman Maroney** is inspired by nature and the music of **John Cage, Ornette Coleman, Henry Cowell, Duke Ellington, Charles Ives, Scott Joplin, Olivier Messiaen, Thelonious Monk, Conlon Nancarrow** and **Karheinz Stockhausen** among others. Maroney plays what he calls hyperpiano, which involves bowing and sliding the strings with bars, cylinders, bowls, blocks, and cases and gives him a unique sonic vocabulary. He also uses a system of temporal harmony, based on the undertone series (1, 1/2, 1/3...) that allows him to improvise and compose in multiple tempos at once.

Maroney has composed some 90 works and recorded some 50 albums (35 as a leader) with **Dave Ballou, Theo Bleckmann, Michael Dessen, Dave Douglas, Mark Dresser, Andrew Drury, Min Xiao Fen, Robin Fincker, Denis Fournier, Ratzon Harris, Shelley Hirsch, Earl Howard, James Ilgenfritz, Leroy Jenkins, Lisa Karrer, Dominic Lash, Emilie Lesbros, Rudresh Mahanthappa, Mat Maneri, Bob Meyer, Angelika Niescier, Oscar Noriega, Kevin Norton, Barre Phillips, Ned Rothenberg, Rich O’Donnell, Michael Sarin, Megan Schubert, Samuel Silviant, David Simons, Hans Tammen, Scott Walton, and Matthias Ziegler**, among others.

Jimmy Garrison and **James Tenney** were among his favorite teachers. He has a Master of Fine Arts degree in composition and piano from **Cal. Inst. of the Arts**. He has won fellowships from **Chamber Music America, National Endowment for the Arts, NY Foundation for the Arts, NY State Council on the Arts, Arts Council of Rockland (NY), Michigan Arts and Culture Council, Jerome Robbins Foundation, Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, Music Omi, and Yale Summer School of Music and Art**. He has performed in Canada, USA, Mexico, UK, Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, China, South Korea, and Japan.

In 2006 **Agusti Fernandez** invited Maroney to perform solo on a piano series he curated for the **Fondatió Miró** in **Barcelona, Spain**. The series ran in conjunction with an exhibition of **Tampered Pianos by Carles Santos**. The music on this live album, ***Nits Musica***, is what Maroney played at the exhibit. It’s a mélange of his compositions ‘**Pulse Field**’ (11:59 of track 1) and ‘**Kilter**’ (beginning of track 2) and his improvisational techniques hyperpiano and temporal harmony, respectively (1) playing the keys with one hand and the strings with the other using bows and slides of metal, plastic, rubber, and wood and (2) writing and playing in pulse fields and rhythmic canons. *Nits Musica* is Denman Maroney’s first release on **Cuneiform Records**.