

First artists announced for Rewire 2021

Festival takes place online from 6-9 May

Today, Rewire announces the first 36 artists and projects for the 2021 online edition, including 19 world premieres. Over four days, Rewire will present a multitude of projects and formats that demonstrate the varied ways artists have been creating and performing works under physical restrictions.

The online edition of Rewire welcomes a series of remote residencies. These are a large number of commissioned projects from artists all around the world, connected remotely, to explore new collaborative practices both online and in isolation. Rewire has invited musical artists to collaborate on new pieces, such as **Yasuaki Shimizu & Kara-Lis Coverdale**, and **Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe & Zeena Parkins**. Musical artists are also invited to work with filmmakers or video artists to produce new audiovisual works, such as **Duma & Jesse Kanda**, and **Dreamcrusher & Andrés Baron**.

In addition to musical and audiovisual collaborations, Rewire 2021 will see several projects in which software developers, game designers and creative coders team up with musicians and composers to create immersive virtual environments inspired by the gaming world for the audiences to discover.

Next to the remote residencies, interactive works, concert-streams and film screenings, the festival presents a discursive programme of talks, workshops and meditations that aims to critically address this year's theme of (Re)setting. The theme folds in the current context of the pandemic and how it has affected all aspects of our lives, as well as exploring the on-going process of Rewire manifesting online. Rewire 2021 offers a moment of pause, to reflect on our contemporary arrangements, and seeks ways in which we can actively negotiate these structures on our own terms. More artists and projects to be announced soon.

The first artists and projects announced for Rewire 2021:

Aïsha Devi & 118 present SLF: The Sacred Show*
Alberta Whittle - Reset
Ben Bertrand
Brandon LaBelle
Byron Westbrook & Koen Holtkamp present Chromatic Dispersion*
Carl Gari & Abdullah Miniawy
claire rousay & Morita Vargas*
CS + Kreme & Alessandra Leone*
Cy X presents In Pursuit of Black Noise
Duma & Jesse Kanda*
Dreamcrusher & Andrés Baron*
Félicia Atkinson & Ben Rivers*

Percussionist, improviser and producer **claire rousay** creates sound that magnifies the importance of everyday life's often-ignored moments, from voicemails to whispered conversations. She will collaborate with Argentinian producer and vocalist **Morita Vargas**, who uses her own self-invented language to examine fantasy soundscapes, creating shimmering atmospheres from a collage of sounds.

A groundbreaking and intense fusion of hardcore punk, death metal, extreme noise and rapid-fire breakcore, **Duma's** music exists in its own artistic vacuum. The duo will be presenting an audiovisual collaboration with artist and animator **Jesse Kanda**, known for both his visual work and music under the Doon Kanda moniker. Kanda's work is physical, fluid and visceral, investigating sexuality, suffering, body horror, magic and decay.

Pushing the boundaries of noise, industrial music and performance is multidisciplinary artist **Dreamcrusher**. For Rewire 2021, they will collaborate with Colombian filmmaker and photographer **Andrés Baron** who works to portray sensuality and humanity, challenging stereotypes by highlighting shape, color and the relationships we have with photographs, film and video.

Melbourne's **CS + Kreme**, exist completely in their own universe - a genre-skeptical starscape where fuzzy dub, eerie ambience, atonal folk and well-smoked rap can exist together and at once. For Rewire 2021, they will collaborate with Italian motion graphics designer and director **Alessandra Leone** on a new audiovisual work. Leone is known for her dynamic, cutting-edge digital graphics and interdisciplinary projects.

Los Angeles-based DJ and producer **Maral** plays with a unique sonic palette, mutating Iranian folk music samples and injecting them with dance and dub elements. **Brenna Murphy**, an artist and musician who is equally at home in the analog, virtual and post-digital realms, will be collaborating with Maral for Rewire 2021, as they take creative cues from one another's work to create an original audiovisual piece.

In the many years of Belgian percussionist and composer **Karen Willems** working with musicians, she has never collaborated with an electronic artist before, making her Rewire 2021 residency with **Machinefabriek** an intriguing challenge. Dutch producer Machinefabriek works with drone, noise, ambient music and field recordings to create glacial soundscapes, eerie electro-acoustic environments and crushing walls of static. This residency will take place on location in The Hague.

Working both in sound and video, **Pierce Warnecke & Matthew Biederman** are presenting 'Somnifacient Signals', an urgent interactive project exploring the possibility of connecting with audiences at the time of heightened physical restrictions. The duo conceived this work during the first COVID-19 lockdown, responding to their lack of mobility by gathering material in real time from webcams situated across the world. The performance explores interactivity through a truly networked performance which not only expresses the final sonic and visual result, but also transcribes the interaction between performers, source material and audience through interactive feedback.

French musician **Félicia Atkinson's** music explores the tension between whisper-quiet sounds and searing noise, as she overlays her own words, field recordings, acoustic

instruments and subtle electronics. In her collaboration with celebrated British filmmaker **Ben Rivers**, Atkinson composes new music that responds to Rivers' imagery, creating an immersive audiovisual work.

Aïsha Devi & 118 present SLF (Spirit Liberation Front) is a mysterious, unspecified and omniform collective, the driving force of which is musical alchemist Aïsha Devi, that will be appearing at Rewire 2021 to present the world premiere of 'The Sacred Show'. An audiovisual piece that vibrates emotional cognitive brainwaves.

Byron Westbrook & Koen Holtkamp found themselves on opposite sides of the US when COVID-19 struck. Their collaboration 'Chromatic Dispersion' was conceived as a way to stay connected, beginning as a visual interpretation by Holtkamp of Westbrook's most recent material, before it evolved into its own idiosyncratic project, which will be premiered at Rewire 2021.

UK-based multidisciplinary artist **GLOR1A** crafts sizzling experimental pop and R&B rooted in concepts of Black futurism and the transformative power of technology. She is working alongside Japanese VR developer and visual artist Alpha Rats on SWARM (prototype 2.0), an interactive prototype game that fuses digital art and live performance.

As **Show Pony**, Laura Nygren combines her innovative double-bass playing with vocals and synthesiser to explore a vividly personal artistic universe. At Rewire 2021 she presents her collaboration with experimental design duo **The Rodina** as they unveil a unique 3D online environment to launch Show Pony's debut EP, with exclusive media and live audience participation.

MSHR is an art collective formed by Birch Cooper and Brenna Murphy. The duo have conceived a special work for Rewire 2021: an interactive audiovisual composition that will be presented as a navigable virtual space. Building on their ongoing series of sonic systems and sculptures, this project from Cooper and Murphy is the first of its kind.

Rewire will also share a number of specially recorded performances from artists far and wide. Norwegian duo **Smerz** will perform music from their full length debut 'Believer', which was recently released. Weaving together techniques and sounds pulled from chamber and classical music, hip hop, R&B, and hard electronics, with the end product always resulting in something altogether uncanny.

Multidisciplinary New York-based artist **Masma Dream World** created one of the most surprising albums of 2020. On 'Play At Night' she fuses early influences Amel Larrieux and Zap Mama, her training as a reiki practitioner and her interest in Butoh dancing, a Japanese avant-garde performance art. Also based in New York, vocalist, composer and performance artist **Holland Andrews** uses voice innovatively with clarinet and electronics to construct soundscapes that fuse their love of opera, theater and jazz. Both artists bring their creative approaches to performance to Rewire 2021.

Korean-American writer, musician, artist and astrologer **Johanna Hedva** presents a video performances that bubbles mystical doom, intimate metal, hag blues and cave music into a

Miniawy who melds sobering electronic soundscapes with poetic lyrics reflecting the mood of modern day Egypt, present a live concert at Rewire 2021 mixed with performative and cinematic elements. Award winning Kazakh-British violinist, composer and improviser, **Galya Bisengalieva** debuts a video performance that centres on the themes of environmental devastation covered in her stunning debut album 'Aralkum'. The Hague-based artist Leo Svirsky will present a preview of his expansive project **Leo Svirsky & The River Without Banks** with a select group of musicians.

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Rewire is a The Hague based non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and fostering adventurous forward-thinking music and sound. In 2021, Rewire will present a fully online edition of the annual festival from 6 - 9 May with additional physical activities planned for Autumn. Besides the festival the organisation is focused on presenting several other affiliated activities year-round, most notably the concert series Rewire x Korzo. More information on rewirefestival.nl

----- Note to editorial / not for publication -----

For more information, please contact Daisy Benz, Marketing Manager Rewire

daisy@rewirefestival.nl | +31 6 44 70 65 72