



## Eclectic Electrics: Singing Plants, Crumpled Paper, and the Art of Phonography

The July program for the Washington Metropolitan Area Association for Recorded Sound Collections will feature an eclectic evening of electronic recordings and live performances. In 1974, Washington, DC saw the birth of one of the world's most unusual electronic music groups, the STEREOFERNIC ORCHIDSTRA, a choir of plants triggering an ARP-2600 synthesizer with the assistance of American University physics student Norman Lederman. The Orchidstra performed at least one live concert and recorded a seven-inch single of their music. Jeff Bagato will recount the history of the STEREOFERNIC ORCHIDSTRA and play the recording. We will also hear recordings of aleatory music from the recorded sound collections of the Library of Congress.

During the second half of the evening we will hear performances from the ensembles CRONIAMENTAL and BLK w/ BEAR. CRONIAMENTAL combines the talents of DC-based poet Buck Downs and free improvisors on theremin, analog electronics, strings, and keyboards from groups like Angus Brainpan, 10-String Trio, and Spaceships Panic Orbit. BLK w/ BEAR features the internationally renowned sound artist, JS Adams who will perform the new composition "like nails through the ether" with an assist from Doug Poplin on cello and effects. The performance will utilize vintage Mutoscope Voice-o-Graph recordings and also build on selections from "wish for a world without hurt." Mr. Adams will precede his performance with some remarks entitled "Mutoscope arcade recordings as contemporary compositional fodder" in which he describes his sound sources and methodology.

*Monday, July 25, 2005  
7:00 P.M.  
Mary Pickford Theater  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Madison building*

Library of Congress  
Mary Pickford Theater  
Third Floor, James Madison Building  
First & Independence Ave., S.E.  
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
Details: Bryan Cornell (202) 707-8466

Sponsored by the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division and the Association for Recorded Sound Collections Washington Metropolitan Area Chapter.