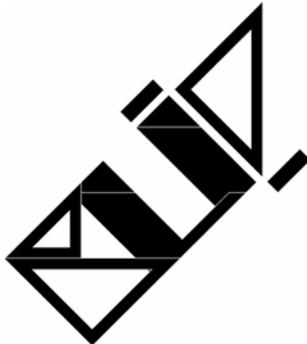


THE TANK



The Blip Festival 2006

39 music and video artists from around the world
4 days of low-bit music and art | Nov 30 – Dec 3, 2006
15 Nassau Street, New York, NY
presented by **The Tank** and **8bitpeoples**
contact **Mike Rosenthal** at
mike@thetanknyc.org or (212) 563-6269
<http://www.blipfestival.org>

New York, NY – Nov 6, 2006 -- From November 30th to December 3rd, 8bitpeoples and The Tank will transform a disused bank in lower Manhattan into the site of the largest-scale single chiptune event in the history of the form. The Blip Festival is a four-day affair, with nearly 40 artists and musicians from across the US, Canada, Spain, Sweden, Austria, the Netherlands, and Japan converging upon New York City to perform live music and video on Game Boys, Ataris, Commodore 64s, and more - many for the first time ever in the United States. With nightly concerts and daytime screenings and workshops, this first ever chiptune festival brings together some of the biggest international names in the field of low-bit art and music for an opportunity to be seen and heard in the epicenter of the creative world.



When asked why the festival was being held now, Mike Rosenthal, festival co-curator and Tank Artistic Director said, "We have had the pleasure of hosting chiptune events at The Tank over the last three years and to watch this scene grow and thrive. An international festival is the natural next step to push the scene to the next level and to bring all these major players together. It's going to be massive...Trust me, you will want to be able to say you were there."

Malcom McLaren, reporting about the chiptune phenomenon in Wired Magazine, observed, "In dance clubs across Europe and America, young people are seizing the automated stuff of their world -- handheld game machines, obsolete computers, anything with a sound chip -- and forging a new kind of folk music for the digital age."

In short, if you've been searching for a room packed with people getting down to the sounds of some rockstar jamming away on Nintendos, Game Boys, and Ataris and just don't know where to find it...your search is over.

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THE TANK



Schedule of Events

For complete info on all artists and to purchase tickets, please see the website

Thursday, November 30 8pm - \$10

Anamanaguchi [US]
Goto80 [SE]
Receptors [US]
Starpause [US]
Touchboy [CA]
Tugboat [US]
Virt [US]
x|k [US]

Friday, December 1 8pm - \$10

Bit Shifter [US]
Coova [JP]
Mark DeNardo [US]
Pepino [JP]
Quarta330 [JP]
Rabato [ES]
Random [SE]
Herbert Weixelbaum [AT]

Saturday, December 2 2pm - \$5

Screenings:
8 Bit, a documentary about art and video games
This Spartan Life, a talk show in game-space
We Are The Strange exclusive festival preview

Sunday, December 3 2pm - FREE

Presentations:
Jeremiah Johnson – “NES Music: From Concept to Cartridge”
Others TBA

Saturday, December 2 8pm - \$10

Cory Arcangel [US]
Aonami [JP]
Covox [SE]
Crazy Q [SE]
The Depreciation Guild [US]
Hally [JP]
Kplecraft [JP]
Bud Melvin [US]
Nullsleep [US]

Sunday, December 3 6pm - \$10

Bubblyfish [US]
Glomag [US]
Tristan Perich [US]
Portalenz [JP]
Saitone [JP]
Jeroen Tel [NL]
Neil Voss [US]
YMCK [JP]

With visuals by:

C-Men [NL] | C-TRL Labs [US] | noteNdo [US] | Voltage Controlled [US] | Dan Winckler [US]

All events take place at 15 Nassau Street in lower Manhattan. See the website for directions and to purchase advance tickets. Tickets are available at the door for cash only.



THE TANK



About the organizers

The Tank is a non-profit organization, bringing compelling cultural productions to New York City for over three years. With an eye for the offbeat and left-of-center, The Tank has provided New York with rare glimpses into new and unusual movements in art, such as the Bent Festival, an annual event focusing on the subversive practice of circuit-bending. A forerunner to the Blip Festival, the Bent Festival has enjoyed attendance in the thousands, and has been the subject of two feature-length documentaries. The Tank hosts experimental arts events most nights of the week in their Tribeca performing arts space.

<http://www.thetanknyc.org>



8bitpeoples, based in New York City, is a collective of musicians and artists dedicated to exploring the audiovisual style of low-bit video games and home computers. Championing this aesthetic, 8bitpeoples has become an internationally recognized hub of well-respected creative activity, and has become a driving force in advancing the growing international chiptune scene. 8bitpeoples and its individual members have been featured in *Wired*, *The New York Times*, MSNBC.com, *Rolling Stone*, *The Wire*, MTV.com, the *Los Angeles Times*, *GameSpot*, *Nintendo Power*, *XLR8R*, *frieze*, FuseTV, NPR's *The Next Big Thing*, and recently appeared in the documentary *8 Bit*, which premiered this October at New York's Museum of Modern Art.

<http://www.8bitpeoples.com>



Thanks

The Blip Festival is presented in partnership with Rhizome's Tenth Anniversary Festival of Art and Technology and sponsored in part by Make Magazine and The Onion, and with funds from The Experimental Television Center's Presentation Funds Program. The Experimental Television Center's Presentation Funds program is supported by the New York State Council on the Arts and mediaThe Foundation. The Blip Festival is presented at 15 Nassau, a venue of Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Space donated by Silverstein Properties.



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Some of the Blip Festival's featured artists:



YMCK

Tokyo, Japan
<http://www.ymck.net/>

Japanese jazz pop trio YMCK is one of the most appealingly unique sounds you'll ever hear. Quite possibly impossible to dislike, the group performs deftly virtuosic, jazz-inflected vocal pop, of a character that's both uniquely Japanese and commanding an appeal that knows no borders – and the centerpiece of the group's instrumentation is the unorthodox but instantly familiar sound of the **Nintendo Entertainment System**. Having two enormously well-

received full-length albums under their belt in Japan, *Family Music* and *Family Racing*, the group has performed extensively in Asia, and is finally making their debut American performance at New York's Blip Festival. With genuinely astounding tight-formation vocal harmonies and utterly infectious, unconventional song melodies, all accompanied by the group's own custom 8-bit pixel animation, YMCK's debut American appearance is, by any standards, a must-see.



Crazy Q

Stockholm, Sweden
http://www.myspace.com/crazzy_q

Stockholm's Christian Kallström is a multidisciplinary electronic music producer, equally at home in front of high-end, state of the art synth gear as he is before battle-weary 20-year-old home computer hardware. And if forced to choose between the two musicmaking toolsets, Kallström may jump the way you wouldn't expect. As Crazy Q, Kallström mans and operates **Atari ST**, **Atari Falcon**, and **Commodore Amiga** consoles, pressing them into the service of dancefloor

calls-to-action unique for more reasons than just the characteristic sounds of the machines' chipsets. Crazy Q's composition treads an uncommon stylistic line, pairing playful soundchip arpeggios with pensive, moody melody, and fastening it all onto a solid-core rhythmic framework of absolute drag-you-to-the-dancefloor funk. There's nobody that sounds like Crazy Q, in style or instrumentation. Expect this to be proven firsthand at December's Blip Festival when, for the first time in the United States, his machines roar to life.



Nullsleep

New York, NY, US
<http://www.nullsleep.com/>

Nullsleep uses **Nintendo Entertainment Systems** and **Game Boys** to create conceptually unique music that blends subversive hardware hacking with powerful melodic pop. In 1999, together with friend Mike Hanlon from Detroit, he cofounded the 8bitpeoples: a collective of artists interested in the audio/video aesthetics of early computers and videogames. In the time since, Nullsleep has released a number of recordings through 8bitpeoples, his most recent work focusing on music

created with the Nintendo Game Boy and Nintendo Entertainment System platforms. His constant push for new ways to force the most out of yesterday's machines and the unparalleled romantic chiptune intensity embodied in his music have gained him notice worldwide. Whether thrashing away on a keyboard hooked up to a Game Boy like an electric guitar or rocking hacked NES cartridges, Nullsleep consistently demonstrates his passion for pushing the limits of both the hardware and the heart.

