

POWER PLAY: IMPROVISATION AND SPORT

CREATIVE MUSIC THINK TANK SYMPOSIUM

FEBRUARY 6-7, 10 AM-5 PM

IRVING K. BARBER LEARNING CENTRE, UBC

REGISTRATION FREE

PRESENTED BY



Many improvising musicians who are fans of a variety of sports, including hockey and basketball, have identified parallels and synergies between athletic pursuit and contemporary creative music, such as the discourse of rules, set formations and plays, along with an improvisational or “thinking on your feet” approach to playing games. Miles Davis, for example, was an avid boxer and swimmer, and the poet Quincy Troupe has examined the connections between basketball and the drumming of Roy Haynes. John Zorn uses sport-based systems in his game compositions such as *Lacrosse* or *Archery*.

The symposium Power Play: Improvisation and Sport — presented by Coastal Jazz in conjunction with the Time Flies Improvised Music Festival — will provide artists, academics, athletes and fans an unprecedented opportunity to investigate ways in which both athletes and performers utilize improvisation when they “play.” The symposium will consider many aspects of the cross-over between sport and musical pursuits: the identification of national cultural signifiers intrinsic to sport and music; the exploration of how signifiers are manifest in national protocols of training, teamwork, sportsmanship, rivalry, and cultural aesthetics; the place of the body and human kinetics in improvised performances; improvisation, dance and theatre sports; music in sport — improvising along with the crowds; game-theory and improvisation; improvisation and power — sport as discourse; sport as cultural or social pedagogy; improvisation, sports, and the law; bioethics and improvisation; and the gender politics of play. Keynote speakers will include Dr. Paul Steinbeck and improvising musician Dr. Christian Munthe.

Coastal Jazz is pleased to present the symposium as part of the Major Collaborative Research Initiative “Improvisation, Community and Social Practice,” funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), and the University of British Columbia Department of English.

Go to coastaljazz.ca > **education** for more information, times, and registration

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