

## **AHLEUCHATISTAS 2010 BIO**

***Shane Perlowin – guitar / Ryan Oslance - drums***

In the tradition of such renegade bands as John Zorn's Naked City, Bill Laswell's Last Exit, and Captain Beefheart's Magic Band, Ahleuchatistas serves up shards of sonic shrapnel and white-hot free jazz abandon along with impressionistic textures, intricate unison lines, tightly-honed motifs and disciplined, shape-shifting arrangements, tempered by a penchant for thoughtful thematic development. There are elements of punk, jazz, classical music, speed metal, grindcore, prog rock, noise, African music, electronic music, ambient music and explosive improvisation flowing organically in and out of the mix. With a devoted international cult following, Ahleuchatistas is considered by some to be one of the most innovative and evolving instrumental groups of the past decade.

Ahleuchatistas is the brainchild of guitarist and composer Shane Perlowin, who founded the project in 2002 in Asheville, North Carolina, USA. Since its inception, the band has released five critically acclaimed full-length albums and has toured North America and Europe extensively. The current lineup consists of Perlowin and drummer Ryan Oslance. The two joined forces in Spring of 2008, and have developed a brilliantly colorful palette together and an uncanny psychic interplay.

On the first Ahleuchatistas recording, 2003's "On The Culture Industry", with the original trio lineup of Derek Poteat on bass and Sean Dail on drums, the music incorporated challenging unison lines, daring intervallic leaps and intricate counterpoint while also leaving the door slightly ajar for improvisation, which was more fully realized on 2004's "The Same and the Other" (reissued in 2008 on John Zorn's Tzadik label). 2006's "What You Will" (Cuneiform Records) and 2007's "Even in the Midst" (Cuneiform) were further explorations in idiosyncratic composition and improvisation.

Recruiting drummer Ryan Oslance in 2008 took things to a whole new level and marked a new beginning for Ahleuchatistas. Oslance, an extremely versatile drummer with a command of many different styles of music, has allowed for a more intricate approach to composition and a deeper, more intense level of improvisation than was previously possible. This is evidenced on the 2009 release of "Of the Body Prone" (Tzadik), which was released to rave reviews from The New York Times, NPR, All Music Guide, and Pitchfork Media, to name a few.

With the retirement of bassist Derek Poteat in late 2009, Ahleuchatistas is now a powerful and innovative duo, exploring a whole new level of composition and improvisation for guitar and drums. The new music incorporates a broader range of elements than was previously possible, realizing the full potential of the distinct combination of improvisation and composition that Perlowin has developed over the

years. This duo format is the freshest and most compelling incarnation of Ahleuchatistas to date.

## **PRESS QUOTES**

*"Together they lurch swiftly from speed metal to thrash punk to a kind of heat-stroke minimalism. There's noise and fire in their playing, but most of these tunes are also studded with signposts, demanding close attention and clear execution."*

The New York Times

*"This take-no-prisoners music is purposeful virtuosity. Perlowin's guitar writes math equations on 'Owls' while the band swaps directions and speed."*

All About Jazz

*"It's the kind of musical tug-of-war that sounds as jagged as it is graceful..."*

National Public Radio

*"This is difficult stuff, but goddamn is it interesting and intricate and confusing and infuriating and beautiful all at once."*

Pop Matters

*"New drummer Ryan Oslance is absolutely unbelievable, moving from jazz to thrash to blastbeats at the drop of a hat... It's the new post-everything instrumental onslaught. Impressive stuff."*

All Music Guide

*"It's a world away from the all or nothing monochrome of lesser acts."*

The Wire: Adventures in Modern Music

*"The band's compositions range from tightly coiled agit-punk to stretched, labyrinthine epics that turn on a dime and frequently veer into sharp dissonance or unexpectedly lacerating detours..."*

Pitchfork Media

*"Music does not get much closer to the edge than this..."*

Alternative Press

## **DISCOGRAPHY**

Of The Body Prone (2009) Tzadik

The Same and the Other (2008) Tzadik

Even in the Midst... (2007) Cuneiform Records

What You Will (2006) Cuneiform Records

Ahleuchatistas/Friendly Bears split 7" (2005) Angura Sound

On The Culture Industry (2003) Angura Sound