



Bio information: **ROSA ENSEMBLE**

Title: **ODDMENTS** (Cuneiform Rune 3399)

Format: DIGITAL

www.cuneiformrecords.com

FILE UNDER: **NEW MUSIC / CONTEMPORARY CLASSICAL / POST-GENRE / JAZZ**

*The **ROSA ENSEMBLE** is a boundary-pushing Dutch ensemble known for defying borders between musical genres (classical, rock, jazz, pop) and artistic mediums (music, theatre, visual art).*

*In **ODDMENTS**, the group – currently a five-piece ensemble which includes some of the finest musicians on the Dutch contemporary music, jazz and improv scenes – narrows their focus to create an album of creative music, their first release on Cuneiform Records.*

The Rosa Ensemble was established in 1997 in **Utrecht, Netherlands** and initially focused exclusively on contemporary classical music.

However, it soon broadened its scope, both musically / stylistically, by welcoming musicians from various backgrounds, and also physically / structurally. The ensemble expanded its activities beyond music concerts, creating multi-media, music theater performances in collaboration with actors, videomakers, opera singers, free improvisors, set designers, stand up comedians, and a plethora of other creatives.

Throughout their extensive history - including more than 30 major projects / productions in the Netherlands and a dozen releases - pinning them down to a single musical identity has been difficult. Like mercury, Rosa fluidly transforms: from contemporary music to ambient and pop, from cabaret to jazz and classical to rock. However, a spirit of experimentation and boundary-pushing has become integral to the ensemble's essence. The Rosa Ensemble has performed such diverse projects as works by **Captain Beefheart** (*Selling Hoovers in Mojave*), and collaborated with **Spinvis**, **Hans Dagelet**, **Eric Vloeimans** and **Jan Jaap van der Wal**.

The Rosa Ensemble's latest release, *Oddments*, is also their first on American label **Cuneiform Records**. It features music composed for a new Rosa Ensemble quintet that brings together notable musicians from both the Dutch contemporary music scene and the realms of jazz and improvisation. Compositions by **Floris van Bergeijk**, **Jeroen Kimman**, and **Wilbert Bultink** are performed.

The Rosa Ensemble operates in between: in between composed and improvised, in between music and theatre, in between light and serious, in between acoustic and electronic, traditional and experimental, classical and popular. – LAST.fm



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<https://rosaensemble.nl/>

John Dikeman [soprano, tenor and bass saxophone] is an **American** saxophonist currently residing in **Amsterdam**. Drawing inspiration from a wide range of sources, John's playing runs the gamut of improvised music and technique. He is currently active as a member of numerous groups including **Cactus Truck**; **Universal Indians** often featuring **Joe McPhee**; the trio **Dikeman, Parker, Drake** with **William Parker** and **Hamid Drake**, **Mofaya**, and numerous other collaborations including projects with **Luke Stewart**, **Luis Vicente**, **Steve Noble**, **Sun-Mi Hong**, **Jaimie Branch**, and **Marta Warelis**.

Peter Jessen [double bass] can be heard playing (and often singing) on nearly every Rosa Ensemble's production of the last decade and a half. He's a versatile musician who is equally at ease in the orchestra pit as in the post-punk or folk-pop bands he plays in.

Koen Kaptijn [trombone] is truly **Holland's** contemporary music trombone mastodon; he has played with every important ensemble and has been involved in close to a thousand (!) world premieres. Next to all that he is known for his absurdist performance qualities in many a music theatre production. Lastly he is an in-demand sound-designer, tinkering with a personal setup of very noisy electronics.

Jeroen Kimman [electric guitar and 19tet baritone guitar] is a thoroughly unclassifiable guitarist and composer. Although his background may lie in jazz, he has been playing guitar (or pedal steel, banjo, and mandolin) in the widest range of settings, from math-rock (**Brown vs Brown**, released on **Cuneiform**) to impro-country (**Sleep Gunner**), from playing with the major Dutch ensembles and orchestras to all sorts of dabbles with jazz, mariachi, opera, music theatre, and whatnot. As a music producer, bandleader and composer, he somehow has found a way to organically blend together all these influences under his **Orquesta del Tiempo Perdido** moniker.

Mei Yi Lee [percussion] is a virtuoso percussionist/music performer with over 15 years experience collaborating in different fields of arts such as music theater, dance, contemporary music and multimedia art. Passionate about being involved in interdisciplinary art and delivering new experiences to audiences, as a performer she dedicates herself to experimental collaborations with directors, composers and artists from other media.

Floris van Bergeijk studied (and now teaches) composition in **Utrecht, The Netherlands**. He has worked in many different forms of the performing arts, be it music for the good ol' concert hall, theatre, film, music theatre or even opera. Under the moniker **MURW Van Bergeijk** produces electronic music ranging from noise to techno to more abstract and timeless works, and in his compositions for ensembles and/or orchestras Van Bergeijk is constantly searching for a way to experiment with the listening experience in new and unexpected ways. Never shunning the past and always curious about the unknown future, the musical narrative is a driving force in all of his compositions.

Wilbert Bultink is a composer and musician living in **Amsterdam** and **Vienna**. He writes music for a wide range of situations, varying from the classical concert hall to new constellations. He is known for an uncanny inner musical imagination, and is very uncompromising in a need for experimentation, stretching the limits of form and sound. He teaches music at the conservatory of **Zwolle, The Netherlands**.

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