

# RE:SOUNDINGS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***EIGHT HERMIT THRUSHES BY  
DANIEL GOODE***  
**Concert, Installation and Reception**

*[Goode's] "virtuosity with these many little bird roulades is extremely impressive."* —Village Voice

**Sunday, May 20, 2007 3 PM**  
**The Brick Elephant**  
**12 Emily Street, Valley Falls, NY 12185**  
**Admission by donation**

Re:Soundings will present *Eight Hermit Thrushes* by Daniel Goode on May 20 at 3 pm in The Brick Elephant in Valley Falls. Goode writes in the grand tradition of experimental music pioneered by Charles Ives and Carl Ruggles and more recently typified by John Cage, Earle Brown and Morton Feldman. The concert will also feature an outdoor installation of field recordings of the hermit thrush.

The piece by Daniel Goode – *Eight Hermit Thrushes* – will consist of performances from his collection of meticulous transcriptions of field recordings of hermit thrushes, known as “one of the great musicians among bird species.” The hermit thrush is a local bird (and the state bird of Vermont).

*Eight Hermit Thrushes* is an ongoing project, re-instrumented for different performances and situations. Goode's scores present various individual bird's complex roulades at a slower speed and lower range than the original forest versions. This performance will feature eight performers arranged spatially around the acoustically wonderful space of The Brick Elephant. “Daniel Goode is one of those rare spirits who never abandoned the purity of the '60s conceptualism, and whose work has been too neglected.”—Kyle Gann (*The Village Voice*).

The performance materials consist of individual instrumental scores with their own durational markings in seconds, a time line for the entrances of the parts, and a spatial set-up and movement chart (which differs in each performance space). Each player is allowed, after a requisite time, to introduce variants, improvised or planned, to the material of the score. The guidelines give pitch, durational guides, and a general instruction that further “out” variants, reacting to other parts, should come later. There is no (and cannot be) through-composed score for the whole.

The Valley Falls concert will feature eight performers: Goode on clarinet, cellist David Gibson, cellist Monica Wilson-Roach, Rocco Anthony Jerry on accordion, Mary Jane Leach on organ, and three other musicians from the area. The Brick Elephant was a catholic church until 2002. A two person version of *Eight Hermit Thrushes* was performed in Valley Falls in 2004, and one of the villagers recognized the bird call and was very enthusiastic, which led to the concept of organizing concerts using extra-musical topics of local interest. There will be a reception after the concert.

Valley Falls is in northwestern Rensselaer County and is 20 minutes north of Troy and 30 minutes west of Bennington.