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# Christian Fennesz and Charles Atlas

World premiere of new live audiovisual performance at Optronica Festival

BFI IMAX | London | 15 Mar | 8.30pm



The World Premiere of a new collaborative venture from acclaimed musician/electronic composer Christian Fennesz and the award-winning filmmaker and video artist Charles Atlas, will be presented at this year's Optronica Festival at the BFI IMAX.

Combining Fennesz' lush and luminant electric guitar and laptop compositions with Atlas' innovative live video mix of sampled film footage, prepared clips and improvised collage, this project brings together two of today's pioneering artists in a virtuoso live performance. The evening also features an appearance from UK based duo Semiconductor who will present their recent works Brilliant Noise and Sonic Inc.

Charles Atlas is an award-winning filmmaker, video artist, and pioneer of the medium of media-dance, he has created work for film, theatre, television and such prestigious museums as the Whitney, NY and the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. He recently collaborated with Antony and the Johnsons to produce and tour *Turning*, which coincided with a survey of his work in film and video, presented at Tate Modern, London in November 2006.

Christian Fennesz uses guitar and computer to create shimmering, swirling electronic sound of enormous range and complex musicality. Published by Touch Music, Fennesz has collaborated with Ryuichi Sakamoto, David Sylvian, Peter Rehberg and Jim O'Rourke amongst many others. He recently created musical scores for *Spine*, *Nascent* and *Infected*, projects by artist Gina Czarnecki.

Tickets are £19.75 each / concs £13.25 [ BFI members £18.75 / £12.25 ] and will be available from the BFI Southbank box office on: 020 7928 3232.

Produced by Forma  
Supported by Arts Council England

For further press information and images on the Fennesz/Atlas performance please contact Sara Harrison +44 (0)191 230 6354, [sh@forma.org.uk](mailto:sh@forma.org.uk) or Hannah Barnes +44 191 230 6357, [hb@forma.org.uk](mailto:hb@forma.org.uk) at Forma. For more info on Optronica contact Letitia at Outpost Media [letitia@outpostmedia.co.uk](mailto:letitia@outpostmedia.co.uk)

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## Notes to Editors:

### **forma: arts and media producers**

Forma is one of Europe's leading production agencies for high quality, interdisciplinary contemporary art. Collaborating with some of today's most interesting artists, it produces, tours and publishes groundbreaking new projects that seamlessly combine diverse media. Its programme pioneers new hybrid forms of music, visual art, film, new media, dance, theatre and live art.

Forma's international programme encompasses single concerts and large-scale tours for leading performing and visual arts venues and festivals; one-off exhibitions in established visual arts spaces; screenings at film and new media festivals; and major public realm projects that engage with particular places.

Forma collaborates with internationally renowned artists as well as equally interesting artists at earlier stages of their careers. The cross-artform projects Forma produces, tours and publishes are characterised by powerful new ideas, high production values and technical innovation. Often these qualities result from the unique nature of Forma's collaboration with artists, developing projects and relationships over extended periods of time.

For further information, please visit [www.forma.org.uk](http://www.forma.org.uk)

Forma is supported by Arts Council England

### **Optronica festival**

Optronica explores and celebrates the convergence of music, visuals and the changing shape of cinema. It will inspire its audiences to get involved, experiment and be creative. The festival will take place from March 14th-18th 2007 at the BFI IMAX and the newly renovated National Film Theatre, which will be re-launched as BFI Southbank in March.

This year's line-up includes the World premières of new shows from an eclectic selection of artists including Fred Deakin and Nick Franglen of Lemon Jelly, prolific designer and musician Trevor Jackson, Austrian electronic music pioneer Christian Fennesz with renowned New York video artist Charles Atlas, plus the UK première of Peter Greenaway's *Tulse Luper* live VJ performance and a special World Cinema remix set from Addictive TV. Japanese audiovisual artist Ryoichi Kurokawa, Berlin-based Rechenzentrum with a brand new AV show and the innovative Spanish group Reactable will also feature plus an audiovisual club night at London's ICA headlined by Speedy J & Scott Pagano; Optronica will deliver an international selection of aural and visual treats for both connoisseurs and newcomers alike.

Presented as part of the PlayStation Season, Optronica is produced and programmed by artists/producers Addictive TV and new-media curators Cinefeel and in partnership with the British Film Institute.

For further information, please visit [www.optronica.org](http://www.optronica.org)

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