



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OUTLET Fine Art is pleased to present *The End of History Volume 6: The Magic Flute*, a solo show featuring recent work by **Damian Catera**. Please join us for an opening reception with the artist on **Friday the 20th of September**.

EOH V.6: The Magic Flute is the latest interdisciplinary work by **Catera** in a series of sound installation environments bringing together issues in contemporary art, experimental music and critical theory. Begun in 2006 as an investigation into the Marx/Hegelian notion of the end of history as the transformative edification of a class free utopia, this series repositions works of baroque, classical and romantic music by recontextualizing them in a contemporary manner through randomization algorithms in the Max/ MSP programming environment. The project's intertextuality emerges from the play between 20th and 21st century compositional paradigms of chance/randomness and 18th century musical content. The resulting soundscape, is a transformed piece: presented as a multichannel surround sound installation accompanied by multichannel projected animations derived from the original score and libretto which reflect the randomized processing of the sound.

Catera's objective with this series is to explore the philosophical, religious and political underpinnings of these historic works with a focus on how they were reflected in musical form. For **Catera**, the music of the 18th century is a product of a clearly defined social order; commissioned by secular and religious authorities, their presentation was dependent on how they reinforced the values of the dominant power structure. Mozart's *The Magic Flute* was slightly different, however, in that it was commissioned by music hall impresario Emanuel Schikaneder, a freemason. An early example of the nascent rationalism of the Enlightenment as it emerged in Europe during the latter part of the 18th century, this work by Mozart reflects the influence of freemasonry in both its formal and conceptual elements. In regard to this body of work, **Catera's** approach functions as a reinterpretation of the form, while pointing towards a critique of its socio-political underpinnings. Ultimately, it is intended to lead the listener/viewer to consider the powers behind popular culture today and to critically engage its agenda.

Damian **Catera** is an interdisciplinary sound and media artist whose work reflects interests in critical analysis, experimental composition/improvisation and synesthesia. He has toured, collaborated and exhibited his work in Europe, Asia and the United States including such beloved New York institutions as the Whitney Museum, the New Museum, The Chelsea Art Museum, The Hogar Collection, The Kitchen and just recently the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History. His primary mission as an artist is to blur disciplinary boundaries often utilizing appropriated material and algorithmic processing.

OUTLET FINE ART
253 WILSON AVENUE • BROOKLYN, NY
www.outletbk.com • info@outletbk.com



Catera holds an MFA in Electronic Arts from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a BA in Political Science from Siena College. He also studied Electroacoustic Composition at Les Atelier UPIC, the Paris-based institute founded by composer Iannis Xenakis and was the recipient of a 2008 Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Art. He is currently a Media Specialist and Adjunct Instructor at Rutgers University, New Brunswick.

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