



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Communications and Public Relations
Press Release
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Ramapo College Music Professor Collaborates with California Painter for *Horizontal* Exhibition

MAHWAH, N.J. -- *Horizontal*, a collaborative art exhibition by composer/performer Ben Neill and visual artist Andy Moses, opens in the Pascal Gallery at Ramapo College on Wednesday, March 23 with an opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be a talk by Neill, also a Ramapo College music professor, at 6:30 p.m. The show includes paintings by Moses and an ambient video/music installation by Neill, which uses Moses' paintings as its visual material. The exhibition continues through April 22.

Moses' work is a futuristic hybrid of abstraction and landscape that suggests the theme of a horizon through the use of smooth horizontal lines. Often painted on concave and convex surfaces, the luminous pieces evoke a sense of dynamic movement and the play of light. Moses does not seek to replicate imagery from the natural world, but to mimic nature itself. Using paints from the aerospace industry, his complex process of pouring paint is informed by the physical behavior and interaction of his medium with the forces of nature.

Working from Moses' paintings, Neill expands the imagery into an ambient video and sound installation. The subtly shifting sonic animations of Moses' paintings and the ambient music are generated by Neill's performances on the *mutantrumpet*, his self-designed electro-acoustic instrument. The music and video are recorded simultaneously using the *mutantrumpet* and an array of digital hardware and software; the instrument's tone, timbres and various controllers are all mapped across both audio and visual parameters. The sound includes remixes of music from Neill's *Horizontal* CD, released in 2015 on Audiokult Recordings, Vienna.

On Wednesday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m., Neill will demonstrate the *mutantrumpet* and give a concert in the Pascal Gallery. Admission to this gallery concert event is free.

Ben Neill is widely recognized as a musical innovator through his recordings, performances and installations. Recent projects include *The Demo*, an electronic opera created with composer/performer Mikel Rouse which premiered on April 2015 at Stanford University's Bing Concert Hall, and *Horizontal*. Other performances include BAM Next Wave Festival 2010, Lincoln Center, Whitney Museum of

American Art, Cite de la Musique Paris, Moogfest, Spoleto Festival, Umbria Jazz, Bang on a Can Festival, ICA London, Istanbul Jazz Festival, Vienna Jazz Festival, Tate Modern and the Edinburgh Festival.

Andy Moses is an artist who lives and works in Venice, California. The son of artist Ed Moses, he attended California Institute of the Arts from 1979 to 1981. At CalArts he focused on performance, film and painting, studying with Michael Asher, John Baldessari and Barbara Kruger. In 1981 he moved to New York and worked for the artist Pat Steir. Later that year he developed a type of process painting that is simultaneously abstract and representational. He has exhibited his work in New York, Los Angeles and abroad over the past 25 years. Moses moved back to California in 2000, where he continues to refine and expand the vocabulary of his painting processes.

This project is funded in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Pascal Gallery is located in the Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts. Gallery hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. and Wednesday from 1 to 7 p.m. For more information, contact Sydney Jenkins at 201-684-7147.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fifth in the Best Regional Public Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,000 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers eight graduate programs as well as articulated programs with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.