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May 11, 2014

**Bactagon Projects presents A.M. Brainstorm: June Edition**

Musical Possibilities: Composition, Instrumentation, and Performance in the 21st Century

**Beijing, China.** 8actagon Projects is proud to present **A.M. Brainstorm**’s third conversation on **Saturday, June 28th** at **4pm** at **The Other Place**.

What are the ways in which traditional composers and musicians work with sundry digital technologies and interfaces? How are digital composers and performers accessing more traditional methods of production and dissemination? What are some of the exciting new possibilities for using collaborative and social networking tools to expand compositional, listening, and performance possibilities? Are there any dangers in losing traditional methods or instruments with increasing adoption of digital tools? What is the “state of music” today – namely, what are the compositional directions, listening trends, performance ideas, etc. of 2014? How and when will humans be listening to music in 2050, and what will that music sound like?

For the June edition of A.M. Brainstorm, the largely self-taught Chinese musician, instrument maker, professor, and programmer **Meng Qi** and classically-trained French-Italian composer, researcher, and lecturer **Jacopo Baboni-Schilingi** will discuss the above questions and more. As an adjunct to their collaborative effort with 8actaon Project’s offerings for Beijing Design Week, these two highly accomplished individuals will give attendees insight into the nature of musical synthesis in the early 21st Century.

**A.M. Brainstorm** is a series of casual, monthly conversations inviting distinguished speakers to discuss the research and skills-set behind their creative practices. The brainstorms serve as a platform for multidisciplinary dialogues and collaborations between the local Beijing and transient creative communities. The conversations will be self-moderated between two individuals of similar discipline on a chosen topic, with a new topic each month. Speakers will include practicing artists, curators, designers, architects, chefs, poets, publishers, filmmakers, musicians + composers, amongst others. All talks will be recorded and posted as audio podcasts available for free download from 8actagon’s digital archive. AM Brainstorm will occur monthly at 11am on the fourth Saturday of the month at The Other Place, and will run for one hour. Coffee and light refreshments to be provided. Admission is free.

**\*\*NOTE: TIME CHANGE TO 4PM ONLY FOR JUNE EDITION\*\***

**About**

**Meng Qi** (b. 1985) is a musician with multiple identities. He is not only an electronic music artist, but is also a synth maker, programmer and professor. Meng Qi has released various music works, including “Landscape in Love” and “Landscape on Live” to name two. He has published a series of modular synthesis tutorials on *Midifan* magazine.

Additionally, he has given instrument building workshops and lectures at the Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Beijing Contemporary Music Institute, along side Beijing’s Maker Space and Zajia Lab as well as Shanghai’s XinCheJian, and Maker Carnivals, amongst others. Meng Qi is a pioneer of Chinese contemporary digital art, and is famous for his distinctive devices, instruments and the music they produce, resulting in their use by electronic music artists all over the world.

**Jacopo Baboni-Schilingi** (b. 1971, Milan) is a classically trained, internationally recognized composer and musicologist whose aim is to extend experience, knowledge, and understanding of the sonic landscape. Beginning his piano studies and experiments in composition at the age of six, by the time he was 14 he had already received a diploma from the Conservatoire National Supérieur G. Martini di Bologna. Baboni-Schiilingi holds his PhD in musicology (summa cum laude) under the direction of Georges Molinié.

Baboni-Schiilingi has collaborated with an impressive number of solo artists, ensembles, institutions, and festivals, along side winning several international competitions that has brought his music around the world. While his works have been performed by a variety of orchestras, ensembles, and solo performers, Baboni-Schiliingi’s compositions have also led to interdisciplinary collaborations across various media, including architecture, sculpture, film, poetry, dance, and installation. Outside his compositional work, Baboni-Schilingi has committed himself to various research, teaching, and software design endeavors, working with a diverse set of institutions from the Sorbonne, Centre Pompidou, and Harvard to MM&T Studio, IRCAM, and PRISM. In recognition of his accomplishments and seemingly tireless pursuit of new artistic and compositional grounds, in 2013 he was appointed "Chevalier de l’Ordre des Arts et de Lettres".

**8actagon Projects**(pronounced “bāc-tā-gon”) is a China-centric experimental curatorial platform dedicated to theoretical and practice-based investigations of interdisciplinary creative methodologies. The platform serves as a tool for the collective production and dissemination of research from Beijing-based curators and practicing creatives, with A.M. Brainstorm, 八家BāJīa (an independent, limited-edition publication to be launched in Fall 2014), and curated experiential exhibitions.

**Conversation Details**

**Date:** Saturday, June 28, 2014

**Time:** 4pm

\*\*NOTE: TIME CHANGE TO 4PM ONLY FOR JUNE EDITION\*\* (All other A.M. Brainstorms occur at 11am)

**Location:** The Other Place

Beijing, Dongcheng District, Langjia Hutong #1 (At the corner with Beilouguxiang) | 北京，东城区，郎家胡同1号（北锣鼓巷北口)

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