

TANIA CHEN <http://taniachen.com/about/>

Tania Chen is a pianist, experimental musician, free improviser and sound artist, working with pianos, keyboards, found objects, toys and vintage and lo-fi electronics.

She studied piano with John Tilbury during her Master's degree in Performance studies at Goldsmiths College, University of London.

She has performed the music of John Cage, Earle Brown, Schoenberg, Webern, Satie, Scriabin, Andrew Poppy, Michael Parsons and Chris Newman in the UK, Europe, USA and Japan. She is equally known for her passion for free improvisation, performing alongside and collaborating with musicians that include Steve Beresford, John Edwards, Lol Coxhill, Alan Tomlinson, Roger Turner, John Butcher, Rhodri Davies and Terry Day.

Earlier this year, Tania has been touring John Cage's Indeterminacy with Steve Beresford and the comedian, writer and performer Stewart Lee. Most recently, she has been nominated for the Royal Philharmonic Society RPS Award.

#### MUSIC OF CHANGES

'Raw and incandescent' - The Wire

'Tania Chen excels, bringing these strange, austere and glacially beautiful "sounding events" to startling life' - The Guardian

#### INDETERMINACY

"The music produced by Beresford and Chen, combined with Lee's voice, was endlessly inventive and occasionally very touching. It is still something of a revelation that these shifting arrangements of piano, objects, text and voice can produce ever-new configurations of feeling."

- Frieze

"It was music as sport, meditation and geometry, an endless flow of bodily shapes and sounds creating one another as Chen accosted the keyboard and the inner workings of the instrument with inhuman precision but very human indeed sense of narrative"

- The Arts Desk

#### APPROACHING THE UNFAMILIAR: STEWART LEE ON JOHN CAGE'S INDETERMINACY

Cage's performances, both of Water Walk and Indeterminacy invite two sorts of laughter – the sort of uncomprehending, Philistine scorn with which avant garde activity has so often been greeted on its interfaces with mass audiences, but also a genuine and intended joy at a performance which is intended to be as non-serious as it is serious.

- Quietus