

For Immediate Release
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LEMUR's Robotic Musical Instruments Featured On Grammy-Winner Pat Metheny's New Album & World Tour

Brooklyn, NY - **LEMUR: League of Electronic Musical Urban Robots** is proud to announce that over 40 of its robotic musical instruments are featured on **Pat Metheny's *Orchestrion*** album and tour. This is the culmination of a collaboration between LEMUR, a group of artists who create robotic musical instruments, and the 17-time Grammy winning guitarist.

In 2007, Metheny came to LEMUR with the idea to produce his next album and tour backed entirely by a mechanical orchestra. This being LEMUR's specialty, discussions led to a year-long project where LEMUR produced an orchestra of instruments, including GuitarBots (LEMUR's specially-invented robotic slide guitars), mallet instruments (robotic marimba, vibes and bells comprising over 100 mechanical mallets) and a large array of mechanized drums and percussion.

Like LEMUR's previously created instruments, these are computer-controlled mechanized acoustic musical instruments which can perform music by and with human musicians. LEMUR's instruments, augmented with instruments by other roboticists, comprise the *Orchestrion*, a robotic orchestra entirely under Metheny's compositional and improvisational control.

Metheny spent 2008 composing for and recording with the instruments. The result is a new album entitled *Orchestrion*, scheduled for release on January 26, 2010, followed by a world tour beginning in Europe in February and coming to the US in April.

LEMUR Director Eric Singer says, "I've had the pleasure to preview the album and see Pat perform with the *Orchestrion*. It is some of the most exciting and ambitious music ever produced for our instruments. We are eagerly looking forward to the tour and the exposure it will bring to the emerging art and music of robotic musical instruments."

WHAT: LEMUR's robotic musical instruments on tour with Pat Metheny

WHERE: Throughout Europe and the US.

WHEN: Album release 1/26/10. Tour Feb-May 2010

About LEMUR

LEMUR: League of Electronic Musical Urban Robots (<http://lemurbots.org>) is a group of artists and technologists who create robotic musical instruments. Founded in 2000 by Eric Singer, LEMUR creates exotic, sculptural musical instruments which integrate robotic technology.

LEMUR's ever-growing ensemble includes a wide variety of musical robots: slide-guitar-like GuitarBots, assorted percussive ModBots, XyloBots, water-based HydroBots, fire-based PyroBots, the Indonesian-inspired GamelaTron and others. LEMUR presents concerts and installations around the world featuring their instruments, often in collaboration with renown composers and performers such as They Might Be Giants, Jim Thirlwell (Foetus), Morton Subotnick, George Lewis, Ikue Mori, Todd Reynolds, Ben Neill and others.

LEMUR is based in Brooklyn, NY and Pittsburgh, PA. LEMUR has been supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the Rockefeller Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the Jerome Foundation, the Greenwall Foundation, the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the Trust for Mutual Understanding.

About Eric Singer

Eric Singer is a musician, artist, engineer and programmer and the Founder and Director of LEMUR. He holds a BS in Computer Engineering from Carnegie Mellon; a Diploma in Music Synthesis (Magna Cum Laude) from Berklee College of Music; and an MS in Computer Science from New York University. He has over 20 years of experience in the areas of new electronic musical instruments, interactive music and video systems, networked multimedia and robotics. He performs and

lectures around the world with electronic musical instruments and teaches a wide range of art and technology subjects. He is known internationally for his software and hardware products for interactive art and music creation and is considered a leading expert in the use of sensors and robotics in music and art.

Singer is an accomplished who has toured and recorded with many bands on tenor, alto, and baritone sax. He is also a founding member of the Brooklyn guerilla arts group The Madagascar Institute and contributed to many of the group's spectacular projects, including captaining their team on The Learning Channel's "Junkyard Wars." In 1998, he founded the New York region of the Burning Man Festival. He has also been an Adjunct Professor at the NYU Interactive Telecommunication Program.

For more information about LEMUR, including video and photos, visit <http://lemurbots.org>.

For press and interview requests, contact press@lemurbots.org or call LEMUR Director Eric Singer at 917.754.9975.

For tour information, see <http://patmetheny.com>.