

# ALLOY ORCHESTRA

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***"Alloy has brought fresh air to a world thought left to nostalgics. They've done more than anyone lately to bring an audience to silent films. They give voice to the soul of their machines, and by doing that, they've given voice to no less than the sound of cinema"*** Paolo Cherchi Usai - co director of Pordenone Silent Film Festival

ALLOY ORCHESTRA is a three man musical ensemble, writing and performing live accompaniment to classic silent films. Working with an outrageous assemblage of peculiar objects, they thrash and grind soulful music from unlikely sources.

Performing at prestigious film festivals and cultural centers in the US and abroad (The Telluride Film Festival, The Louvre, Lincoln Center, The Academy of Motion Pictures, the National Gallery of Art and others), Alloy has helped revive some of the great masterpieces of the silent era.

An unusual combination of found percussion and state-of-the-art electronics gives the Orchestra the ability to create any sound imaginable. Utilizing their famous "rack of junk" and electronic synthesizers, the group generates beautiful music in a spectacular variety of styles. They can conjure up a French symphony or a simple German bar band of the 20's. The group can make the audience think it is being attacked by tigers, contacted by radio signals from Mars or swept up in the Russian Revolution.

Alloy collaborates with some of the world's best archives and collectors (such as the George Eastman House, The British Film Institute, Paramount pictures, Film Preservation Associates and The Douris Corporation) to present audiences with the very best available prints of some of history's greatest film.



The members of the group include (left to right) :  
TERRY DONAHUE (junk, accordion, musical saw, vocals)  
KEN WINOKUR (director, junk percussion and clarinet)  
ROGER MILLER (keyboards)

NEW!! VIDEO CLIPS AT:

[alloyorchestra.blip.tv](http://alloyorchestra.blip.tv)

## Almost 22 Years! NEW MUSIC FOR SILENT FILMS

On a snow-swept pedestle in the middle of Boston Commons, three musicians gathered together tons of junk metal, found objects, and homemade instruments. The plan was to create some unusual music and to have some fun. Now almost 22 years later, Alloy has showcased their musical magic in more than a thousand performances, visited a dozen countries, and in the process has helped revitalize the medium of live performance for silent film. the beginning of a year long schedule of performances, they are calling "The Best of Alloy Orchestra.

The Alloy Orchestra began their love affair with silent films with an original score for Metropolis in 1991. In the intervening years, the group has written scores for 28 feature length film presentations, typically premiering their new scores at the Telluride Film Festival in Colorado, the San Francisco Silent film Festival or the New York Film Festival

This year Alloy is working on two new programs: SHINEL (The Overcoat, 1926, USSR, directed by Kozintsev and Trauberg), and SHORT FILMS BY BUSTER KEATON AND FATTY ARBUCKLE. he group has performed more than a thousand shows around the world, and has traveled to a dozen foreign countries.

## **Alloy has composed new scores for:**

The Last Command - directed by Josef von Sternberg  
From Morning to Midnight - dir. Kark Heinz Martin (Germany, 1920)  
Underworld - directed by Josef von Sternberg (US, 1927)  
Phantom of the Opera - starring Lon Chaney (US, 1925/29)  
The Eagle - starring Rudolph Valentino (US, 1927)  
The General - (starring Buster Keaton)  
Chang – A Drama of the Wilderness (directed by Cooper & Schoedsack)  
Blackmail (Directed by Alfred Hitchcock)  
Earth (directed by Alexander Dovzhenko, 1930)  
Speedy by Harold Lloyd (US, 1928),  
The Black Pirate by Douglas Fairbanks (U.S. 1926),  
The Lost World (U.S. 1925),  
Manslaughter directed by Cecil B. Demille n(U.S. 1922),  
The Wind with Lillian Gish (American, 1927),  
Nosferatu directed by F.W. Murnau (German, 1922),  
Lonesome directed by Paul Fejos (U.S. 1928-9).  
A Man With a Movie Camera directed by Dziga Vertov (USSR 1929),  
The Unknown directed by Tod Browning (US, 1927),  
Steamboat Bill Jr. by Buster Keaton (US, 1927),  
Strike directed by Sergei Eisenstein (USSR, 1924).  
Sylvester – Directed by Lupu Pick (Germany)  
Aelita – Queen of Mars (USSR)  
South - (England, 1919)  
Metropolis directed by Fritz Lang (Germany, 1926)

## **Shorts**

Not Just for Kids - a collection of some of Alloy's favorite shorts  
Wild and Weird - short films by various directors  
Dada Shorts and Early American Surrealism: Films by Duchamp, Richter, Porter and Keaton  
A Trip to the Moon directed by George Melies (1904, France)  
Plane Crazy (Mikey Mouse's first appearance) 1926  
Pass the Gravy - directed by Hal Roach  
One Week – Buster Keaton  
Easy Street – Charlie Chaplin  
Big Business – Laurel and Hardy  
Chasing Choo Choos – Monte Bell  
Backstage – Rosco "Fatty" Arbuckle  
The Bell Boy - Arbuckle

The Butcher Boy - Arbuckle  
The Hayseed - Arbuckle  
Moonshine - Arbuckle  
The Garage - Arbuckle  
Goodnight Nurse - Arbuckle  
The Rough House - Arbuckle  
Coney Island – Arbuckle  
Out West – Arbuckle

### CONTEMPORARY FILM AND VIDEO SCORES:

In addition to their work with silents, the Orchestra has contributed soundtracks to contemporary films and videos by directors Errol Morris (Fast, Cheap and Out of Control), Jane Goolooly (Dragonflies, the Baby Cries), Ben Meade (Vakvagny), Shandor Garrison (Freebox) and others.

In the last 18 years, the ALLOY ORCHESTRA HAS PERFORMED AT:

Telluride Film Festival  
Lincoln Center, NY  
The Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences  
The National Gallery of Art, Wash. DC  
Roger Eberts Film Festival, Champaign IL  
The Pordenone Silent Film Festival, Italy  
Human Rights Watch Film Festival, London  
The Louvre, Paris  
Slovenian Cinematheque  
L'Auditorium, Barcelona Spain  
Midnight Sun Film Festival, Finland  
Gothenberg Film Festival, Sweeden  
The New Zealand Int. Arts Festival, New Zealand  
Celebrate Brooklyn NY  
BAM NYC  
Detroit Institute of Art  
The San Francisco Silent Film Festival, CA  
The Chicago Cultural Center  
World Music at Somerville Theater, MA  
The Oriental Theater, Milwaukee WI  
Cleveland Museum of Art  
The Music Hall, Portsmouth NH  
Maui Film Festival, Hawaii  
Seattle Film Festival, WA  
North Carolina Museum of Art, NC  
Northhampton Film Fest, MA  
Cornell Cinema, Ithica NY  
Three Rivers Film Festival, Pittsburg PA  
Oak St. Cinema Minneapolis MN  
The Philadelphia Film Festival  
George Eastman House, Rochester NY  
The High Museum, Alanta  
The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston  
The Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College NH  
Museum of Fine Art, Boston  
New York University NY

The Walt Disney Institute  
The Olympia WA Film Festival  
The Wolfsonian Museum, Miami  
Williams College  
Brown University  
The St. Louis Film Festival  
The Vancouver Film Festival, Canada  
The NuArt Theater, L.A.  
The Portland Oregon Museum of Art  
The Cinema Village, N.Y.C.  
The Art Institute of Chicago  
Webster University, St. Louis  
Taos Talking Pictures, NM  
The Joslyn Museum, Omaha  
The Rose Theatre, Port Townsend WA  
The Colonial Theater, Bethlehem NH  
And many others....