



Ephemeral Radio Music Newsletter

[TouchXtone](#), [Mi.T.-CON](#), [Sensitive Chaos](#), [Jim Combs](#), [Michael Thomas Roe](#)

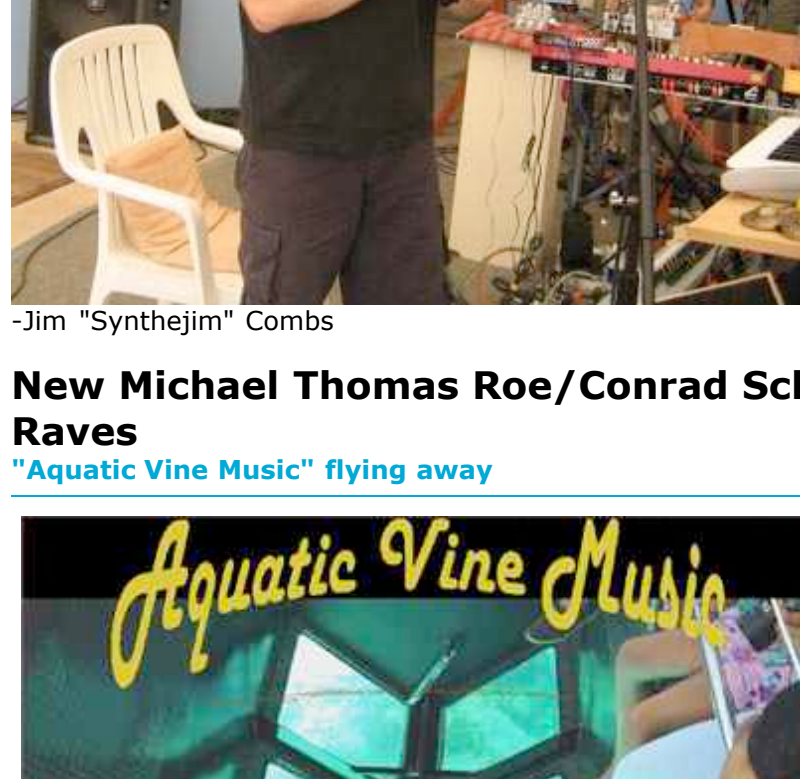
Dear Jim,

Welcome to the Ephemeral Radio music newsletter featuring all the latest news from TouchXtone, MiT-CON, Sensitive Chaos, and the solo work from Michael Thomas Roe and Jim Combs.

Spring is shaping up to be chock full of opportunities to see and hear new music from our featured artists.

There's the new Mi.T.-CON "Aquatic Vine Music" CD, a series of Aurora Coffee/Criminal Records Songwriters evenings Jim is hosting, a TouchXtone concert later this month, plus all the normal goings on and around.

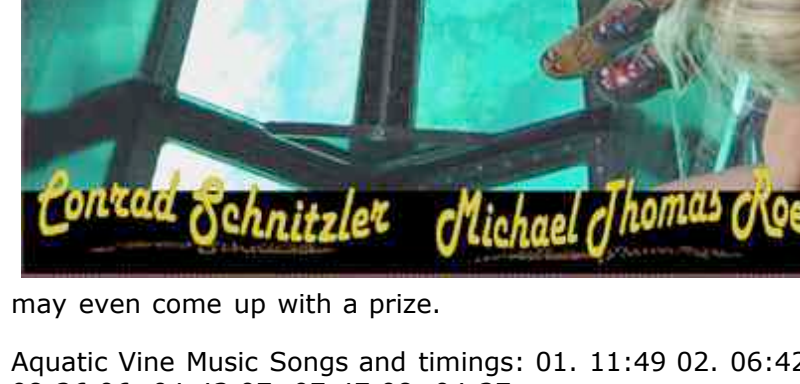
And if you get a free minute, shoot me a note about the new newsletter. Any likes or dislikes, or things you'd like to hear more about, let me know. I'll see what I can do to make this news more relevant to you. Thanks for reading!



-Jim "Synthejim" Combs

New Michael Thomas Roe/Conrad Schnitzler CD Gets Raves

"Aquatic Vine Music" flying away



"Aquatic Vine Music" is getting raves from those who've heard it, and the CDs are flying out the door. Some compare it to Conrad's classic works. Some call it the best work Michael has done. You can get yours for just \$15 plus \$3 shipping domestic (North America) and \$5.00 international. Orders can be made direct from the artists.

Just send a note to mthom@mindspring.com. Or better yet, send a PayPal to the same address, and Michael will send your CD to you.

We've provided a link below to a Japanese site that is crazy about Conrad. Send us a note if you can tell us what the site says about the Aquatic Vine Music CD. We

may even come up with a prize.

Aquatic Vine Music Songs and timings: 01. 11:49 02. 06:42 03. 11:49 04. 05:02 05. 08:26 06. 04:43 07. 07:47 08. 04:27

- [Mi.T.-CON Aquatic Vine Music CD orders](#)
- [Or Send A PayPal To mthom@mindspring.com](#)
- [MiT-CON Web Site](#)
- [Japanese Fancymoon Web Site](#)

Jim Combs Hosts Aurora Coffee/Criminal Records Songwriters Series

His first show is Saturday, May 13 at 7pm



Jim is joining Brad Jones as one of the hosts of the Aurora Coffee/Criminal Records Songwriters series at Atlanta's Aurora Coffee in Virginia-Highlands. Jim will be taking the 2nd Saturday, and Brad will continue hosting the 1st and 3rd Saturdays.

The Aurora Coffee/Criminal Records Songwriters series showcases the best in local Atlanta-region songwriters and features all types of music and performers. The performers lined up for Jim's weeks range from smart, angular rock with a pop sensibility to deep folk to experimental electro. All for free in one of Atlanta's most intimate performance settings.

Jim kicks off his first host slot on Saturday, May 13, opening up at 7pm. He'll be performing with his new solo set which consists of spontaneous ambient drums'n'bass with a healthy dose of explanation of what the heck he's doing. We guess you could call it ambient drums'n'insight.

Joining Jim at the Saturday, May 13th show are Ben Arnold (performs at 7:30pm) and Cassavetes (performs at 8:15pm). Ben is a mysterious performer well-known in indie circles. Cassavetes is a four-piece experimental indie rock outfit that is in the vein of Radiohead, Wilco, and Flaming Lips. Pretty excited to see what mayhem they stir up.

On Saturday, June 10th, Alicia Adkins and Wes Andrews are Jim's guests. Both Alicia and Wes are brilliant singer/songwriters with voices and storylines that are enchanting and memorable.

Saturday, June 17th, Jim hosts with featured guest nerdween dreamy and raw pop combine and explores the depths of the mind, heart, and soul where nerd and pop pop style layered with jazzy phrasing, country twangs, and simplistic yet eerie power in a low fidelity format. Her style has been influenced by artists such as PJ Harvie, Sonic Youth, Lisa Germano, The Sundays, Mazzy Star, Low, Cranes, and early Liz Phair.

And on Saturday, July 8th, Spy Magnet and Jen Woodhouse are rockin' the Aurora house. Spy Magnet is an electronic alter-ego of Michelle Friedman (Sunny Day Theory, The Hardly Darlings) who surprises us with inventive, electroworldly goodness. Toronto's NOW Magazine called Jen Woodhouse's latest CD "Equally indebted to folk, country, alt-rock and jazz, This Honest Age hides its influences well enough to be a straight-up pop album. It has passion and soul to fill the void left by such artists as Jewel (pre-slutty-dance-sellout phase) and Fiona Apple. It's not a far cry from the Sarah McLachlan camp of singers who have something to sell besides their looks, and even has a hint of the Dido sound that gets you a spot at Live 8. Woodhouse exudes an inherent honesty; a smart singer/songwriter with something to say."

Hope to see you there!

Aurora Coffee in Virginia-Highlands is located at the intersection of Virginia & N. Highland, 992 N. Highland Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30306, 404-607-1300

By the way, if you are interested in performing at one of the Aurora Songwriters evenings, contact Brad Jones at his MySpace page- <http://www.myspace.com/ancientyouthmusic>

- [Criminal Records](#)
- [Cassavetes On MySpace](#)
- [Wes Andrews On MySpace](#)
- [Alicia Adkins On MySpace](#)

TouchXtone Back At Java Monkey On May 26

We'll be performing new material out on the patio



TouchXtone, voted by Creative Loafing readers as Atlanta's Best Electronic Band, is playing at Java Monkey in downtown Decatur, GA on Friday, May 26.

This is their first gig since

December '05 and there'll be lots of new sounds and beats to kick back on the patio with. We love it when it's spring at the Java Monkey because the patio is fully open and Friday nights are pretty much a party there. Good eats, beer, wine and of course, coffee.

TouchXtone goes on at 8:30pm and will play 2 sets until 11pm. Look forward to seeing you there!

Java Monkey, 205 Ponce de Leon Ave. #5, Decatur, GA 30030, 404.378.5002

- [TouchXtone Schedule](#)
- [Java Monkey Web Site](#)

TouchXtone CDs Are In Stock At CDBaby.com

TouchXtone also has cool new black T-shirts at their store



Six TouchXtone CDs are available from CD Baby: headmiX, Astroboy, PlanetXarium II: Equinox, Three, Two, and One.

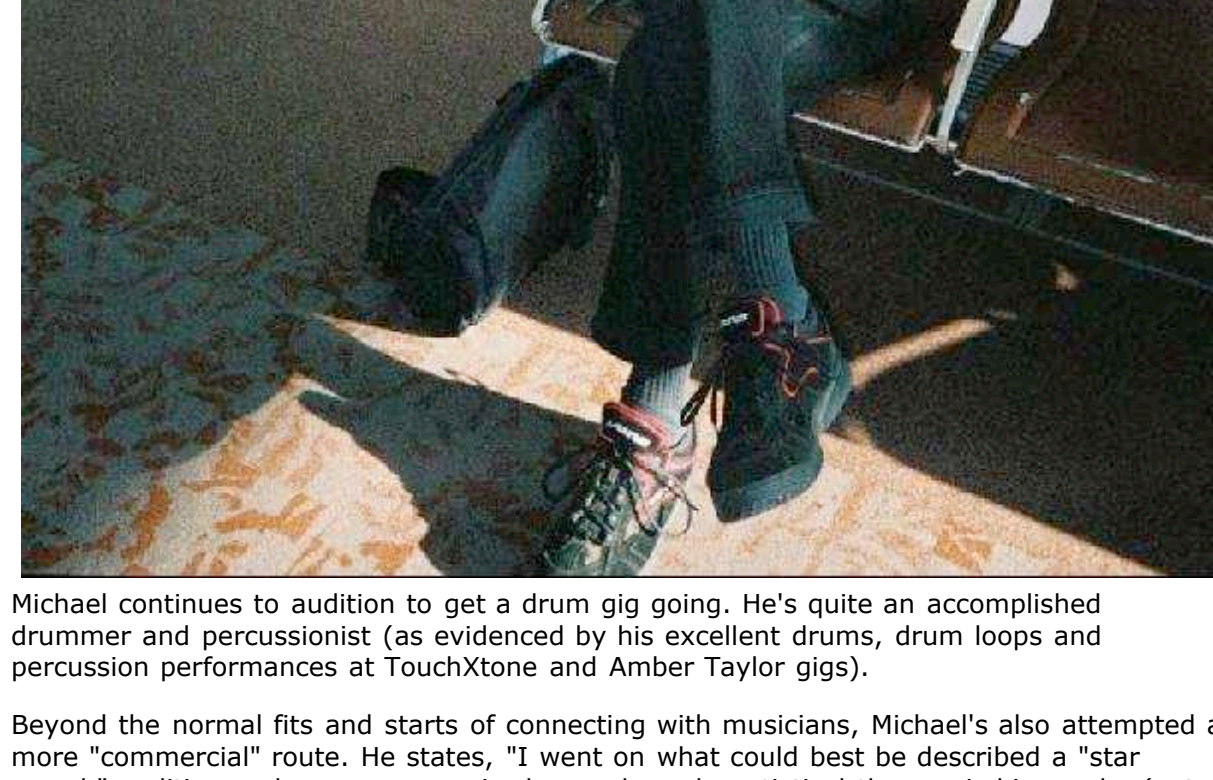
And remember that tunes from the same CDs are also available for download from iTunes and most other download stores on the web.

And TouchXtone merchandise is available at their CafePress store. Our current favorite is our Astroboy back cover black T-shirt.

- [Buy TouchXtone CDs From CD Baby](#)
- [Buy TouchXtone Merchandise From CafePress](#)

The Word From Michael Thomas Roe

Drums, Search For Stars, Music In Bits And Bytes



Michael continues to audition to get a drum gig going. He's quite an accomplished drummer and percussionist (as evidenced by his excellent drums, drum loops and percussion performances at TouchXtone and Amber Taylor gigs).

Beyond the normal fits and starts of connecting with musicians, Michael's also attempted a more "commercial" route. He states, "I went on what could best be described a "star search" audition and saw, once again, how ugly and egotistical the music biz can be (not to mention how un-talented). Sometimes I think I want to be snatched up by a label and have all the leg work done by others, but then when I think that all my efforts are concentrated on me, and dare I say all the profits and rewards are mine, then I realize that "independent" (even to the point of selling the CD's out of my office) is the way to go. But then, make me an offer!"

More progress has been made on the new computer-based composing tools; "I may have finally composed some stuff that is Touchxtone-worthy, which is kind of difficult, because I'm having to steer myself away from the break-beat dance stuff. Well, sort of. At the moment not sure of the rig for Java Monkey. Will depend on my confidence that week (day?) with the computer. May want to use the "old fashioned" rig, with ready made CD's just to give it that ole Touchxtone feel. But then again."

You can hear some of Michael's recent solo and collaborative output on various MySpace pages listed below. MySpace page.

- [Michael Thomas Roe On MySpace](#)
- [Michael Thomas Roe And Steve Fortuna On MySpace](#)
- [Michael Thomas Roe's Favorite Rarity On MySpace](#)

Cool Electronic Music Festivals In Philadelphia and Arizona

electro-music 2006 and Different Skies 2006

Don't forget about the two big electronic music festivals this summer. The first, electro-music 2006, runs June 2 - 4 in Philadelphia, PA, and stars a huge list of acts, seminars, and gear demos. Check out their web site to see details, pictures and video from last year, and what you need to know about the venue and locale.

From the electro-music 2006 press release: electro-music 2006 is a three day conference/music festival to be held at the Cheltenham Art Center in Cheltenham, just north of Philadelphia, June 2-4, 2006. The program will include seminars, jam sessions, and concerts with artists from the USA, England, the Netherlands, Canada and France.

The scope of this festival is very broad, covering all aspects of electro-music including circuit bending (modification of electronic toys to make new sounds), computer music, electro-jazz, synthesis, musique concrete (manipulation of recorded sounds), improvisation, noodles (programs or machines that generate algorithmic music), surround sound technology, new programs and instruments, multi-media, and video art (VJ). The focus will be on participant involvement, sharing, community development, audience education, and great music.

Appearing at the festival this year are musicians and artists from The Netherlands, England, Canada and the United States. Including Jonn Serrie, Mark Jenkins, Xerod Entity, Roland Kuit, Mark Mahoney and Michael Peck, Orbital Decay, Electric Diamond, project ruori, Fringe Element, Vyttear, Kip Rosser, Vostek, GSGA, Mikronesia, Brainstatik, Diana Behlke, Ace Paradise, Ambiguous Nouns, Ben Stohr, Synthetic Block, The Bemus Point, Romannis Motte, Ben Fleury-Steiner, Audio Acrobats, Kaiser/McNalley, Robert B Edgar, The Jambient Project, Matt Herman, Bill Harrington, Doogie, Astrogenic Hallucinating, R-Tronika, My Evil Twin, Modulus, RV, William Fields, A Distant Signal, Symmetry, David Sander Jensen, David Bartel, Doctor T, Hong Waltzer, Cliff Winton, Bill Fieger, Gears of Fall, Trevor Pinch, Utenzil and many more.

In addition, there will be many technical sessions including: Steve Bowman - Composer's Symposium, Seth D Brown - Evolution of Recorded Sound, Jeff Kaiser - Moving Away from HW Based Electronics, Howard Moscovitz - Keynote. Moog Music - new product demonstration, Rebecca Mercuri - A Brief History of Multiphonic Recording and Playback, Dale Tudor - Real Time Detection of Finger Picking Musical Structures, Dean Poulsen - David Tudor's Rainforest IV, Don Slepian - Live Performance Techniques, Dean Stiglitz - Free Improvisation, Doctor T (Emile Tobenfeld) - Video Improvisation Methods and Philosophy

Different Skies 2006 is September 11 - 17 at Arcosanti, Arizona. The festival is a week of collaborative composition, spontaneous jams and practiced rehearsals, with a public performance of the week's best work on the last night of the festival in Arcosanti's 250 seat amphitheater under a desert evening sky. More about this event can be found on the Different Skies web site.

- [electro-music 2006 Web Site](#)
- [Different Skies 2006 Web Site](#)
- [Arcosanti](#)

All Our Links Belong To MySpace

It's about the friends

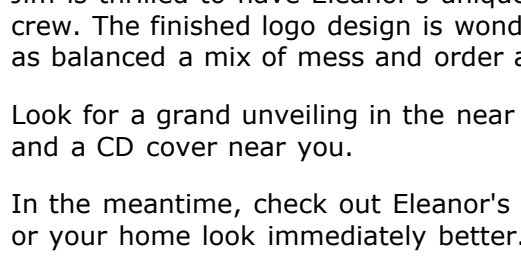
MYSPACE MUSIC As evidenced by all the MySpace links above, MySpace continues to be a great networking vehicle for bands and musicians. In addition to all the links listed above, Jim and TouchXtone have MySpace pages, so be sure to add them as friends if you're on there, too.

MySpace pages have blogs, photos, music samples, show announcements, and more. Jim's calendar on MySpace will tell you what performers are joining him for his Aurora Coffee/Criminal Records Songwriters evenings.

- [TouchXtone On MySpace](#)
- [Jim Combs On MySpace](#)

Sensitive Chaos Quietly Moves Forward

New songs, new logo. Sssshhhhh. It's all secret.



Jim's other recording project, Sensitive Chaos, has been slowly and quietly making progress. Glacial progress. The kind that sinks ships.

Several new songs, spontaneously composed from scratch at Jim's last Aurora Coffee gig, have been refined and recorded to hard disk. One, called Luck Of The Draw, is a spooky, slow tempo Depeche Mode-ish number that is just screaming for a David Gahan vocal. And the second is more vintage Jim ambient groove, complete with a cool sampled conga section slapping away in polyrhythms in the background, all Carlos Santana-esque.

And on a completely separate, but related thread, Jim has been collaborating with Philadelphia print and design artist extraordinaire Eleanor Grosch on a Sensitive Chaos logo. Eleanor has previously worked for such musical luminaries as Wilco, Death Cab For Cutie, Edwin McCain, and the Dave Matthews Band.

One of Eleanor's own Aesop's Fables Series prints, "The Wolf In Sheep's Clothing", is at left. The whole series, and frankly any of her work, just knocks us on the head. It is so smart and fun.

Jim is thrilled to have Eleanor's unique visual sensibility added to the Sensitive Chaos crew. The finished logo design is wonderful, playfully, chaotic that winds up being about as balanced a mix of mess and order as you can get. Well, maybe more mess than order!

Look for a grand unveiling in the near future on the Sensitive Chaos web site, T-shirts, and a CD cover near you.

In the meantime, check out Eleanor's posters and merchandise. Classy, classy. Makes you or your home look immediately better.

- [Eleanor Grosch's Pushmepullyou Design](#)