



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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spaceworks Gallery at The Tank presents  
**BENT 2005:**  
**The Second Annual Circuit Bending Festival**

spaceworks @ The Tank is pleased to present **BENT 2005: The Second Annual Circuit Bending Festival**. Poised at the intersection of the hot arts-and-craft movement, a tendency towards nostalgia, and a new generation of artists searching for identity and placement in a digital age, this festival from April 27-30, 2005 will bring together musicians, performers and visual artists from around the world who not only push the circuit bending genre forward but are on the cutting edge of the contemporary music scene. In addition to performances, a number of circuit bending workshops will be offered to those wanting a hands-on learning experience.

The term circuit bending refers to the act of modifying the circuitry of battery-powered children's toys to create new and unintended sounds for creative purposes. This new art form is quickly growing in popularity as it offers an affordable and culturally referenced path into the creation of electronic music. A direct result of experimentation and "play", circuit bending requires very little technical know-how to get started, making this genre of music accessible to a wider audience curious about electronic music. "The first truly digital generation is coming of age, and even as they forge ahead into new territories, they are able to look back with appreciation, and to some degree, amusement, at the simple but evocative technologies they grew up with," says spaceworks co-curator Mike Rosenthal. "All of a sudden bending, which has been around for almost a quarter of a century, is on everyone's mind."

The schedule and ticket prices for BENT are as follows:

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|-----------------|-----------|---|
| <b>April 27</b> | 3-5 pm:   | <b>Open Circuit Bending Workshop – FREE</b><br><i>Learn to circuit bend in a casual atmosphere</i>  |
|                 | 6 pm:     | <b>Workshop with Gijs Gieskes – FREE</b><br><i>Learn how to tape loop from an audio cassette and pitch shift it with a variable resistor</i>  |
| <b>April 28</b> | 8 pm:     | <b>Concert featuring Joker, baby vomit, xdugef, David Linton - \$7</b>  |
|                 | 3-5 pm:   | <b>Open Circuit Bending Workshop – FREE</b>   |
|                 | 6 pm:     | <b>"Touch It! The Suzuki Omnichord" Workshop with Joker Nies – FREE</b>   |
| <b>April 29</b> | 8 pm:     | <b>Concert featuring Homicidal Choir (Nobody &amp; T-Bone), Jason Moore, Travis Fuller, Food Team, Talibam, Lorin Parker, and KING CAPITAL PUNISHMENT - \$7</b>   |
|                 | 6 pm:     | <b>Gameboy Hacking Workshop with Gijs Gieskes – FREE</b><br><i>Get started in the Gameboy Tracker application LittleSoundDJ</i>   |
|                 | 8 pm:     | <b>Concert featuring noisetet, Vic Rawlings, Joshua Hydeman, Can't, Joker, Jeff Donaldson, Gijs Gieskes, nullsleep, atari noise - \$7</b>   |
| <b>April 30</b> | 12- 3 pm: | <b>"Day at the Circuits" – FREE</b><br><i>Introductory circuit bending workshop for kids and adults of all ages. Bring in an old battery – operated toy at home that makes noise and transform it into a new and strange musical instrument. Or just bring yourself and rip apart some of our toys!</i> |

- 4 pm: **"Engineering Chaos" Workshop with Jessican Ryan – FREE**  
*Learn what synthesizer builders can learn from circuit benders, and vice versa.*
- 5 pm: **"Nintendo NES Hacking Workshop" with Paul B. Davis (BEIGE) - FREE**
- 7 pm: **Concert featuring Ant Macabre, Zef Renirhs, Rampart, Bent Symphony #1 Conducted by Marc Sloan, vormal, Burnkit2600, Receptors, DJ Sniff, Lektrogirl - Rephlex/Lektrolab, Paul B. Davis - BEIGE/8-Bit Construction Set - \$7**

**Circuit bent art and installation during the festival from:**

Daniel Cashin, Peter Edwards, Paul Slocum, Daniel Walker: The Battle of the Monkey Robots!

Please check the BENT Website for additional details and updates:

**[www.thetanknyc.org/bent2005/](http://www.thetanknyc.org/bent2005/)**

The BENT 2005 Festival is presented in part by Periscope Entertainment, a Los Angeles based film and television company that prides itself on supporting independent thought and innovative creation, and produced in partnership with Harvestworks' Alternate Controller Series. This festival is made possible in part by the Manhattan Community Arts Fund/New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, administered by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council

