



# Natural Information Society

Music

SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

8:30 PM

PRESENTED BY

REDCAT

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# Natural Information Society

Natural Information Society is led by the acclaimed composer and multi-instrumentalist Joshua Abrams, alongside artist Lisa Alvarado, who returns to REDCAT following her recent exhibition, *Pulse Meridian Foliation*. Since first developing the Natural Information Society in 2010, Abrams has been gradually expanding the group's conceptual underpinnings, its musical references, and the sheer number of the group's members. Their music is, in a sense, an expansive form of minimalism, based in repeated and overlaid rhythmic patterns, ostinatos, and modalities. Their most recent album, *Since Time Is Gravity*, was released on Eremita Records in April. Natural Information Society will perform as a quartet with Joshua Abrams (gümbri, composition), Lisa Alvarado (harmonium, setting), Mikel Patrick Avery (drums), and Jason Stein (bass clarinet).

**Runtime: Approx. 75 minutes, no intermission**

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Natural Information Society** (NIS) is a band led by composer and multi-instrumentalist Joshua Abrams. The group's music is grounded in Abrams' hypnotic and interwoven writing. Performing with Lisa Alvarado's free hanging paintings as mobile sets, NIS creates environments at once meditative and propulsive. NIS navigates forms that emphasize simultaneous differences, rhythm, and collective listening. The group has released seven records, including *Since Time Is Gravity*, for Eremita Records.

NIS tours as a quartet with Abrams on gümbri, Alvarado on harmonium, Mikel Patrick Avery on drums, and Jason Stein on bass clarinet, occasionally appearing in larger formations and with guests.

Outside of NIS, Abrams has played and recorded with a broad range of artists, including Fred Anderson, Bonnie "Prince" Billy, Nicole Mitchell, and The Roots. He has composed scores to 10 feature films, including the Oscar-nominated *Abacus: Small Enough to Jail* and recently the *30 for 30* series *The Luckiest Guy in the World*. Abrams was a recipient of the Foundation for Contemporary Arts 2018 Grants to Artists award.

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