

Bill Walker creating ambient soundscapes with a Bill Asher lap steel. His looper of choice is the Looperlative LP-1.

Y2K6 International Live-Looping Festival

BY BARRY CLEVELAND

"Scratch Guitarist"
The Genie temporarily goes tabletop, enabling him to simultaneously finger his Fender and manipulate a Line 6 DL-4 Delay Modeler.

LAST FALL, MORE THAN 50 PERFORMERS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE GATHERED IN Santa Cruz, California, for the Y2K6 International Live-Looping Festival. The two-day event, which took place at the Alchemy performance space on October 21 and 22, marked the fifth anniversary of the festival, as well as the tenth



Ted Killian plays his modified '77 Gibson RD Artist through enough signal processors and synths to give even Robert Fripp pause. His main loopers are a pair of Gibson Echoplex Digital Pros.



Krispen Hartung lays out loopy jazz improvisations with a PRS Archtop I, and a laptop loaded with Mobius looping software, as festival organizer and master drummer Rick Walker holds down the groove.



Slide innovator Carl Weingarten plays his modified Alpha guitar. He prefers a vintage Electro-Harmonix 16-Second Digital Delay to more modern looping devices.



Loopers-delight.com founder Kim Flint speaks in celebration of the site's ten-year anniversary.

anniversary of the Loopers-Delight Web site, the virtual Mecca of worldwide looping activities. Half-hour performances occurred on dual stages each day between noon and midnight, with artists performing on one stage as teardown/setup took place on the other, making for a continual flow of music. Additional performances took place in San Jose, Oakland, and San Francisco during the week preceding the main festival, and there were real-time Internet jams between artists located in the U.S., Europe, the U.K., South America, the Near East, and Japan via Nin-jam technology.

Performers at the festival included guitarists Bill Walker, Krispen Hartung, Goh Nakamura, Ted Killian, Warren Sirota, The Genie, Rainer Strasschill, Carl Weingarten, and yours truly. But there were also bassists, cellists, trumpet and sax players, keyboardists, vocalists, percussionists, an electric mandolinist, and even a MIDI spoon player. Among the many highlights were Hartung and drummer Rick Walker's telepathic jazz improvisations, Swedish synth/woodwind player Per Boysen's Jon Hassell-like soundscapes, and Amy X Neuburg's "avant-cabaret" vocal/sampler tour de force.



Lumper/Splitter, a.k.a. Lucio Menegon (left), and Joe Rut get down, literally, for some real-time knob twiddling.