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P R E S S   R E L E A S E  
February, 2007

## (nothing beats) Cubic Inches

Combustion Chamber  
Conductor **Rutger van Leyden**

The 12-strong Dutch band Combustion Chamber under conductor **Rutger van Leyden** performs music that lies on the borders between pop, jazz and contemporary music. Combustion Chamber is the Dutch answer to the Steve Martland Band, the English ensemble formed by composer Steve Martland. Combustion Chamber comprises saxophones, brass, a rhythm section with piano and marimba, electric guitar and violin. They work with composers who are experienced in writing for a band and have therefore created a type of sound that is unique in contemporary music, one that has similarities with jazz and that allows room for improvisation. The result is music that is highly exciting, with a sound that makes the listener think of the better type of pop music; it also has a rhythmic impetus that drives almost incessantly. The programme title (*nothing beats*) *CubicInches* is a reference to an American proverb about cars and means that there is nothing more important than cylinder capacity.

Programme:

Steve Martland	<i>Eternal Delight</i>
Jacob ter Veldhuis	<i>Grab It</i> (arrangement Marco C. de Bruin)
Graham Fitkin	<i>Democracy</i>
John Korsrud	<i>Iguana</i> (arrangement for Combustion Chamber)
Ron Ford	<i>Bust</i>
Ana Mihajlovic	<i>The Escape</i>
Justin Billinger	<i>Study In Colours, Shapes and Sounds</i>
Maarten van Norden	<i>Movement For Band</i>

Live CD recording, distribution BV Haast. Sound Engineer: Manuel Cooymans

Wed. February 21 9.00 p.m.	Plusetage, Baarle-Nassau
T. 0031 13 5077652	
Wed. February 28 9.30 p.m.	Paradox, Tilburg
T. 0031 13 5432266	
Thu. March 1 8.30 p.m.	Theater Kikker, Utrecht
T. 0031 30 2319666	
Tue. March 6 8.30 p.m.	Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ, Amsterdam
T. 0031 20 7882000	
Sun. March 11 4.00 p.m.	Puddingfabriek, Groningen
T. 0031 50 5270947	
Wed. March 14 8.30 p.m..	Lantaren/Venster, Rotterdam
T. 0031 10 2772277	

For further information and interviews please contact Tia Schutrups  
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### **Players**

Remco Jak	<i>alto sax</i>
Maarten van Norden	<i>soprano / tenor sax</i>
Bas Apswoude	<i>baritone sax</i>
Allard Robert	<i>horn</i>
Frank Anepool	<i>trumpet</i>
Jeroen Drenth	<i>trombone</i>
Pauline Post	<i>piano</i>
Fedor Teunisse	<i>marimba &amp; percussion</i>
Hans van der Meer	<i>drums &amp; percussion</i>
Marieke de Bruijn	<i>violin &amp; electric violin</i>
Wiek Hymans	<i>electric guitar</i>
Sjeng Schupp	<i>bass guitar</i>

### **(nothing beats) Cubic Inches**

*(nothing beats) Cubic Inches* is a continuation of the successful *Interconnector* project from 2004, in which Combustion Chamber provided commission for compositions for composers with similar ideas to theirs. The titles of these projects are related to the various components of the combustion chamber of a petrol motor. A third project after *(nothing beats) Cubic Inches* has also been planned: this will be *Fireseal*, for which Combustion Chamber and other groups have invited a number of composers from the jazz world.

### **Combustion Chamber**

Was founded by conductor Rutger van Leyden in 1994. Originally a chamber orchestra, it accompanied *Volume 2*, a dance concert by Beppie Blankert with music by Charles Ives on a tour throughout the Netherlands. Combustion Chamber also became well-known during the 1996-1997 season with a monthly appearance in the VPRO-television programme *Reiziger in Muziek*. Eight composition students from various conservatories wrote a short piece that was performed live by Combustion Chamber during the broadcast. This was an attempt to create a sample of the current state of contemporary music in the Netherlands at that time and it resulted in the concert series *Toekomstmuziek* and the CD *Main Burner* on the VPRO label Eigenwijs. Combustion Chamber appeared in the NPS series *Klap op de Drieklank* in 1998 performing music by Michael Torke, John Adams, Jacob ter Veldhuis and Ron Ford and in the New Year's Eve festival *Klap op de Vuurpijl ('98/'99)* for the Willem Breuker Kollektief. During the 1999 Holland Festival they performed music by the Turkish-American composer Kamran Ince and compositions by Willem Breuker for an NPS documentary about Benno Premsla later that same year. The programme *Engelse School* followed in 2000 with works by Steve Martland and his composition students at the Royal Academy of Music in London: Joe Duddell, Demian Rees and Jeremy Benhammoe. For the *Interconnector* project Combustion Chamber sent out commissions to several composers working in similar musical fields, the commissions being for a work approximately ten minutes long. *Interconnector* was performed in several Dutch concert halls and was released on a live CD recording. The musicians of Combustion Chamber are classically trained but now follow several musical disciplines; one result of this is that composers now often allow space for improvisation by the players in their works for the ensemble.