

Memory Select: Avant-jazz radio

July 6, 2009

(excerpt)

McManus, working solo, used his electric guitar to produce a variety of crackling sounds. A brush pressed against the strings, for instance, or a screwdriver handled twirled against them. (Made great sounds with the strings muted with McManus' other hand.)

He'd follow that up with flurries of jazz chords, stuff suitable for a club, full of twists and thick, mottled harmonies. Two extremes of music, in a way.

(I'd never encountered McManus before. He's into some interesting projects, like a 60-minute composition called "The Machine" that's going to be performed at The Stone in NYC later this month. A segment called "The Dream of the Ants" can be found here.)