

# The New York Times

MUSIC REVIEW

## An Extravagant Farewell to Summer

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September 3, 2010



Willie Davis for The New York Times  
James Nyoraku Schlefer, a composer and shakuhachi player, opening the Bargemusic program.

Bargemusic is celebrating the end of the summer, as it has in recent years, with a Labor Day Festival that began on Thursday. Actually, it is not so much a festival as an installment of the barge's Here and Now contemporary-music series, to be repeated four times through Sunday. But even as Bargemusic's increasingly eclectic programming goes, this was an extravagant show. It began with new music for traditional Japanese instruments, touched on a handful of modern and avant-garde styles, and ended with a jazz set.

**James Nyoraku Schlefer**, a composer and shakuhachi player, opened the program with his own "Brooklyn Sanya," a ruminative soliloquy that he offered as a processional of sorts, starting at the back of the barge and walking slowly toward the stage as he played it. There, he was joined by Yumi Kurosawa, who played the melodically inventive, richly textured koto part in Mr. Schlefer's "Duo No. 3," an ambitious shakuhachi and koto dialogue.