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# MCAD Announces Ken Vandermark and Nate Wooley Concert

**Minneapolis, MN—April 19, 2019**—The Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD) is proud to present a special concert event on Wednesday, May 1 at 8:00 p.m. The concert is free, but seating is limited.

Ken Vandermark and Nate Wooley will also speak to students and the public, at noon on Thursday, May 2, regarding musician-run initiatives and creative music.

Saxophonist Vandermark and trumpeter Wooley will be on a rare tour of the US to support *Deeply Discounted II/Sequences of Snow*, their third recording. Internationally renowned composers and improvisers; the duo, which began in late 2013, will perform pieces from their three recordings, alongside a new set of music composed in collaboration using the “exquisite corpse” method first made popular by the Surrealist art movement. With this unique ensemble, they deal directly with each other’s iconoclastic compositional and improvisational vocabularies and have created a book of original material that takes inspirational cues from the under-appreciated work of John Carter and Bobby Bradford. Vandermark and Wooley have worked together to create an organic combination of the jazz tradition, free improvisation, and modern composition, and have then placed it into the raw and intimate context of this duo.



*Ken Vandermark Nate Wooley, by Jason Isolini*

This latest album, *Deeply Discounted II/Sequences of Snow*, is an exciting new statement from the duo, featuring long-form compositions for the first time, written specifically for the LP format and developed while touring in North America during 2017. Nate Wooley’s piece, “Deeply Discounted II,” is inspired by John Cage’s “Cheap Imitation” which, in turn, was inspired by Erik Satie’s, “Socrate;” Ken Vandermark’s composition, “Sequences of Snow,” is dedicated to the visual artist and musician, Michael Snow, and was influenced by several of Snow’s experimental films, such as “Wavelength,” “Dripping Water,” “La Région Centrale,” “So Is This,” and “See You Later.” The material was recorded in Chicago by Alex Inglizian at Experimental Sound Studio on June 24, 2017, and the album artwork was designed by Fede Peñalva.

For questions and/or interviews, please contact Damon Stanek (dstanek@mcad.edu) or Gretchen Gasterland-Gustafsson (ggasterland-gustafsson@mcad.edu).

**Event Details**

- Performance:** Wednesday, May 1, 8:00 p.m.
- Artist Talk:** Thursday, May 2, noon
- Where:** MCAD Auditorium 150, 2501 Stevens Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404
- Who:** Free and open to the public

**ABOUT THE MINNEAPOLIS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN**

Recognized nationally and internationally for its innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to visual arts education, the Minneapolis College of Art and Design is home to more than 750 students and offers professional certificates, bachelor of fine arts and bachelor of science degrees, and graduate degrees.

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## ABOUT THE MUSICIANS

### KEN VANDERMARK

**Ken Vandermark (<http://kenvandermark.com>)**

Based in Chicago, Vandermark has been a key node in the network of creative musicians across the United States and Internationally since the early 1990s, and has released more than 60 recordings as a leader or collaborator. In 1999, Vandermark was awarded the prestigious MacArthur Fellowship, the so-called 'Genius Grant,' which both raised the visibility and the reach of his influence. He is perhaps best known for two groups: the leader of The Vandermark 5 [1997-2010] and founding member of the DKV Trio [1997-present], and the accolades for his newest band, Marker [2017-present] continue to accumulate—all three of the bands releases were awarded 5-Stars by *The Free Jazz Collective*. This will be Vandermark's first performance in the Twin Cities since 2007. Vandermark has taken up a number of artist-run initiatives such as the Catalytic Sound distribution collective (<https://catalyticsound.com>), the Autographic Records label (<http://audiographicrecords.com>), and his Option performance series in Chicago (<https://ess.org/option>).

### NATE WOOLEY

**Nate Wooley (<http://natewooley.com>)**

Since relocating to New York in 2001, trumpeter Wooley has become one of the most in-demand trumpet players in the jazz, improvisational, noise, and new music scenes. Wooley is considered one of the leading lights of the American movement to redefine the physical boundaries of the horn, as well as demolishing the way trumpet is perceived in a historical context still overshadowed by Louis Armstrong. A combination of vocalization, extreme extended technique, noise and drone aesthetics, amplification and feedback, and compositional rigor has led one reviewer to call his solo recordings "exquisitely hostile". Wooley has been gathering international acclaim for his idiosyncratic trumpet language. He was a 2016 recipient of the Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grants to Artists Award and a 2017 recipient of funding from the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation for his work with Seven Storey Mountain. *Time Out New York* has called him "an iconoclastic trumpeter", and *Downbeat's* Jazz Musician of the Year, Dave Douglas has said, "Nate Wooley is one of the most interesting and unusual trumpet players living today, and that is without hyperbole" Those who were in attendance at his 2013 solo performance at the Walker Art Center are sure to agree. Wooley is also the curator of the Database of Recorded American Music ([www.dramonline.org](http://www.dramonline.org)) and the editor-in-chief their online quarterly journal Sound American ([www.soundamerican.org](http://www.soundamerican.org)) both of which are dedicated to broadening the definition of American music through their online presence and the physical distribution of music through Sound American Records. He also runs Pleasure of the Text which releases music by composers of experimental music at the beginnings of their careers in rough and ready mediums.

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