



VIOLET

Called »the godfather of american noise« by Ukrainian MTV, Jeff Surak is a veteran experimenter from Washington DC.

Since his early recordings under the name **-1348-**, Surak established himself in the international homotape underground network of the 1980s, releasing tapes on his own **Watergate Tapes** imprint, along with such artists as **Controlled Bleeding**, **F/i**, and **Kapotte Muziek**; and collaborating with icons like **Zan Hoffman**, **Crawling with Tarts**, and **John Hudak**. At the same time Surak performed with the notorious DC area industrial band **New Carrollton**.

The 1990s found Surak living and performing in Russia. There he formed the group **Sovmestnoye Predpriyatiye** which created site specific works using found materials and sounds.

At the turn of the millenium Surak created a new duo, **V**, which quickly blew out of its initial framework of free improv into a unit that pushed the limits of composition, constantly reinventing itself with each recording and performance. After 11 albums in 2 years, the duo disbanded, leaving Surak to further continue explorations under his solo project called **Violet**. Found objects, microcassettes, damaged cds, prepared acoustic instruments, and old record players outfitted with foil are the tools of choice. Violet has collaborated with **Alexei Borisov**, **Frans De Waard**, **Bertrand Denzler**, **Michael Gendreau**, **Andrey Kiritchenko**, **Kotra**, **Francisco Lopez**, **Andreas Tilliander** and many others. Since 2002 Violet has released numerous recordings in a variety of formats and has performed across the USA and Europe.

Surak also directs the annual **Sonic Circuits Festival** in Washington DC, presenting such artists as **Faust**, **Merzbow**, **Fennesz**, **Magma**, **Jandek**, **Phill Niblock**, **Wolf Eyes**, **Evan Parker**, **Matmos**, **Fckn Bstrds**, **Andrea Parkins**, **Elliott Sharp** and hundreds of others.

Official site: www.zeromoon.com/violet

Selected Discography: »Violet Ray Gas & The Playback Singers« (CD, Sentient Recognition Archive, 2009), »Iron Music For Uncorrigated Youth« (Cassette, Fukk Tapes Lets Erase, 2008), »Universam« (CDr, Live Reports, 2006), »Blind From Staring Too Long At The Sun« (CDr, Zeromoon, 2006), »Violet Ray Gas« on »The Wire Tapper 21« (CD, The Wire, 2009), »Priznak Aluminium« on »The Wire Tapper 12« (CD, The Wire, 2004)