KITTY BRAZELTON

For pioneering NYC composer, bandleader, and multi-instrumentalist Kitty Brazelton, music is personal, and the personal is universal.

Brazelton's latest quarantine recording project *COVID Choirs* will feature works including "Storm" (awarded the 2012 Carl von Ossietzky Composition Prize), a retranslation and setting of Psalm 104 as "a prayer for human safety" after Hurricane Sandy ravaged her hometown New York City, along with "Earthquake!," a retranslation and setting of the Koran's chapters concerning the apocalypse, among several other choral works.

Brazelton confronts the encroaching invisibility we all feel in a tech-driven world in <u>The Planes of Your Location</u>, a live concert experience featuring the LA-based Isaura String Quartet. *Planes* premiered at Art Share LA on March 7, 2020, days before the global shutdown.

The irrepressible Brazelton has always championed music's power to unite—across genre, across tradition, across language: the *Essential Prayers Project* redefines, defies, yet embraces the tradition of prayer, making powerful words of hurt and hope accessible to all while Brazelton's songwriting-borne "voice" lends these choral works a soulful, lived-in quality. *Essential Prayers* was on an extended US tour until the global shutdown forced its cancellation.

Brazelton's award-winning opera-in-progress "The Art of Memory" turns anthem St. Augustine's Early-Christian, yet ever-prescient message "now is all there is." Brazelton leads a punk rock-meets-plainchant, Max/MSP-sculpted 13-tet ensemble, and supports two women in the two male lead roles of Augustine and Ambrose.

[&]quot;Brainy, boisterous and quintessentially downtown."-Mark Swed, Los Angeles Times

[&]quot;impressive nerve"—Rolling Stone

[&]quot;one of the more brilliant lights"— The New York Times