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Spacemusic force The Ministry of Inside Things at long last returns to The Gatherings Concert Series and the remarkable setting of St. Mary's Hamilton Village on Saturday 18 November 2017. Electronic duo Hallowed Bells will open.

Consisting of synthesist Chuck van Zyl and electric guitarist Art Cohen, Philadelphia-based The Ministry of Inside Things are considered to be among the most innovative of US spacemusicians. Equally influenced by the early groundbreaking music of Tangerine Dream, Klaus Schulze and Ash Ra Tempel as well as that of Pink Floyd and The Grateful Dead, their work pushes across a diverse sonic terrain. Based on live improvisation, The Ministry of Inside Things creates electronic realizations that flow from theme to theme, within the context of a composed suite of music. Through use of textures and atmospheres, as well as harmony, rhythm and melody, the group transports the listener on an internal aural excursion.

The Ministry of Inside Things exist outside the confines of the recording studio and in the realm of the live performance. As MoIT, Art Cohen and Chuck van Zyl continue a tradition of bringing an otherwise methodical studio based art form out into the spontaneity of the performance environment.

Their third CD "Ambient Elsewhere" (2008) feels dark and isolated when compared to their two earlier releases. While "Everlasting Moment" (2003) explored the edges, dynamics and tension of space and atmosphere, and "Contact Point" (2006) embraced the more unified themes of cosmic, biospheric and macrocosmic interaction, "Ambient Elsewhere" moves through strange new territory in-between and outside of traditional Spacemusic. Drawn from a range of chilling themes, this album sonifies wintertime, desolate landscapes and the soul's midnight. Moving through the timbral badlands of the empty quarter, they offer up a courageous intimacy. Always bringing unique influences and innovation to the music process, MoIT produces a sound that is consistently individual and personal.

Hallowed Bells is the project of Philadelphia-based musicians Alison Stout and Darian Scatton. Creating electronic songs-without-words this young duo weaves together sweet, lyrical melodies, dissonant harmonies, and mesmerizing noisescapes - producing a unique and personal synthesized landscape of sound.

Utilizing old analog and homemade synths, Hallowed Bells performs nearly everything live on hardware - constructing loops, sequences and analog synth patches in real time. With its shimmering tones, twinkling lights and archaic technology their work reveals a dreamworld that evokes the retro-futuristic mysticism of classic science fiction.

Founding Hallowed Bells in 2013, as two experienced musicians fully immersing themselves in the world of electronic music for the first time, Alison Stout and Darian Scatton began their collaboration by creating detailed compositions suffused with rich dissonance and engaging metrical turns. Inspired by Modernist music, they found themselves increasingly enchanted by the infinite orchestrational possibilities of electronic sound. Determined to understand both the realization of sounds, and what drove the technology behind the circuits, Stout and Scatton dove headfirst into synthesizing tones and building instruments from scratch. Presently, they play their richly layered music using an all-hardware setup - which is dominated by analog synthesizers and vintage electric organs. Their sound is reminiscent of the electronic orchestrators of the 1970s, interspersed with organic beats, improvised noise and fathomless dark ambient textures.

The Gatherings Concert Series presents The Ministry of Inside Things plus Hallowed Bells live in concert on Saturday 18 November 2017 at 8:00PM (doors open at 7:30pm) in the church sanctuary of St. Mary's Hamilton Village 3916 Locust Walk (just east of 40th & Locust) on the Penn campus in West Philadelphia. Free Admission. No reservation necessary. Donations Gratefully Accepted!

Marking its 25th anniversary in 2017, The Gatherings Concert Series is presented by the all-volunteer staff of The Corporation for Innovative Music and Arts of PA, an IRS recognized 501(c)3 charity.

For more information, please access: www.thegatherings.org