

# Chamber America

## Ensemble: New Mellow Edwards

Bandleader: Curtis Hasselbring

Ensemble members:

NAME	INSTRUMENT
Curtis Hasselbring	Trombone, guitar
Chris Speed	Tenor saxophone, clarinet
Trevor Dunn	Acoustic bass
Ches Smith	Drums, percussion
Satoshi Takeishi	Drums, percussion
Mary Halvorson	Guitar
Matt Moran	Vibraphone

Title of Work: *Number Stations*  
Composer: Curtis Hasselbring  
Date completed: April 2011  
Work Length: 55 minutes

### Work Description:

The title of the piece refers to an odd phenomenon of shortwave radio occurring since World War I in which radio stations appear on-air sporadically and broadcast sequences of numbers. It is widely believed that these broadcasts are coded messages created by various intelligence agencies around the world for agents abroad. Governments deny any knowledge of this, and there are alternate theories to what these stations are; but the fact remains that they still exist and remain active.

The project was composed for "the New Mellow Edwards", a quartet consisting of Curtis Hasselbring on trombone, Chris Speed on tenor saxophone and clarinet, Trevor Dunn on the acoustic bass and John Hollenbeck on drums and percussion. Curtis leads another ensemble called Decoupage that features Matt Moran, Mary Halvorson and Satoshi Takieshi. For this piece, the two groups are being combined into a septet, and considering the length to which everyone has played with each other in various other projects, the group dynamic is quite exciting and telepathic.

The piece was premiered at Littlefield in Brooklyn, New York, on April 24, 2011, and in Philadelphia at the International House three days later.

### Recording:

The piece will be recorded in January of 2012. Look for a spring release.

### Technical Requirements/Specs:

Two guitar amps, bass amp, two drum sets and vibraphone/marimba if possible. Depending on the room, clarinet, vibraphone and trombone may need to be mic'd.

### General Information:

Booking contact: Curtis Hasselbring  
Phone: (718) 965-4722  
Cell: (718) 809-0216  
Email: curha1@gmail.com  
Web: curha.com