

**Opening Keynote: Stephen Nachmanovitch**  
**Title: Improvisation and the Pattern which Connects**

Stephen will improvise the opening keynote... abstract soon.

**About Stephen Nachmanovitch**

Stephen Nachmanovitch is a musician, author, computer artist, and educator. Born in 1950, he studied at Harvard and the University of California, where he earned a Ph.D. in the History of Consciousness for an exploration of William Blake. His mentor was the anthropologist and philosopher Gregory Bateson. He has taught and lectured widely in the United States and abroad on creativity and the spiritual underpinnings of art. In the 1970's he was a pioneer in free improvisation on violin, viola and electric violin and opened up many techniques now used in electroacoustic music. He has presented master classes and workshops at many conservatories and universities and has had numerous appearances on radio, television, and at music and theatre festivals. He has collaborated with other artists in media including music, dance, theatre, and film and developed programs melding art, music, literature, and computer technology. He has published articles in a variety of fields since 1966, and is the author of *Free Play: Improvisation in Life and Art* (Penguin-Putnam, 1990). He is currently working on a new book on creativity, and new musical projects. He lives with his wife and two sons in Virginia. <http://www.freeplay.com/>

