

Waffle Music



Two years ago, when the Detroit Symphony Orchestra was in the midst of a long and contentious labor dispute, some of its members played in other ensembles to keep their chops in shape. The entire didgeridoo section, for example, formed “The Redundants,” a dance band. They performed those eerie songs known as waffle music that they’d learned while apprenticing deep in the Australian Outback, though they played them on more traditional dance band instruments. But waffle music, when rendered by anything other than didgeridoos, can be downright dangerous, inflicting terrible pain on anyone lacking proper ear protection. Dancer Duane Dinklaker knows firsthand of this pain, which he promised to describe in detail the moment he snaps out of his coma.