Title
Generative Audio Design: Emergent Sound Art for an Open World Interface

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Author
Nelson, Blair Robert

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Generative Audio Design: Emergent Sound Art for an Open World Interface

A thesis submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the degree Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Dance [Design]

by
Blair Robert Nelson

Committee in charge:
Professor Shahrokh Yadegari, Chair
Professor Allyson Green
Professor Gabor Tompa
Professor Michael Trigilio

2012
The thesis of Blair Robert Nelson is approved in quality and form for publication on microfilm and electronically:

__________________________
Chair

University of California, San Diego
2012
DEDICATION

I wish to dedicate this work to the explorers who improvise discovery through the adaptation of form and function.

To my anchors of understanding:

my brother, Drew
my pups, Dax and Tobin

my muse, Andrew – the love of my life.
"I don’t fumble – I improvise...yeah, I’m uh...adaptable."
Nathan Drake, Uncharted 2: Among Thieves
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File 1. Aqueous Luna 011210 [05:06 WAV]

    When water was discovered on our Earth’s moon, I responded by exploring how to listen to the process of ice melting in a community of diverse wine glasses. Each performer would discover his or her unique resonate glass to bring to the circle, freely pass around ice, and reflect on perspectives in orbit – generating an electroacoustic soundscape.

File 2. Aqueous Luna 010811 [JPG]

    Concept design. Alicia mentioned the metal was chilly.


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To those who have influenced and patiently supported my enduring musical excavations, I thank you with love: My family, Andrew Roberts, Jim Iverson, Bob Perrier, Denise Weiss, Michelle Danielson, Barb Huffman, Tom Uvaas, Diane Prischman, Cathy Mason, Susan Sanner, Scott Lembcke, Aaron Christopherson, Bemidji MusiCamp, Nat Dickey, Steve Makela, Scott A. Jones, Jim Cermak, Jane Capistran, Michael Olson, Leah Anderson, Dan Miller, Mark Elton, Eric Martens, Shahrokh Yadegari, Allyson Green, Liam Clancy, Tara Knight, John Gromada, Joe Huppert, Alicia Peterson Baskel, Colin McGurk, Michelle Dexter, The Center for Integrative Psychology, Dr. Carter, and cosmic creative energy.
ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

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by

Blair Robert Nelson

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Dance [Design]

University of California, San Diego 2012

Professor Shahrokh Yadegari, Chair

Hearing process exposes the movement of audio; ice melts into a liquid – into a gas of overtones. What is perceived as music and what is perceived as sound emerges into a coexistent designed world of audio, sandbox style. Using Ableton Live, a MIDI controller and keyboard with a MacBook Pro and iPad, I explore the boundaries of sound and music and discover an evolving role in real-time. Listen how the function of audio becomes in conversation with a non-linear form for the interactive space generated.