

Random Love Generator - for Alto Sax and Max/MSP (2007, Revised 2008)

Random Love Generator is my very first piece for an acoustic instrument and electronics. The first version of this piece was premiered in 2007, and I decided that I needed to make the actual content of the piece a little less random (hmmm...maybe *Concrete Love Generator*? No thanks!). Although the notation of the revision is more precise, it retains basically the same form as the original version (which is something like this):

A - a primal, feral, mating call-like introduction

B - a spacious, ethereal quiet section

C - the transformation of the quiet section into utter chaos

D - a repeat of the intro (hmmm....maybe *out-tro*?)

The Max/MSP patch filters the incoming sound into eight different frequency banks, each of which has its own delay unit. The delay times for each delay unit are generated randomly from a parallel universe (well, actually it's just the software). The final stage of presentation is the routing of these different signals to the four speakers surrounding the audience, while the unaffected signal of the performer is amplified in the front of the audience.

The score for this piece is a mix of spatial and graphic notation. There are very specific pitches connected by not-so-specific musical gestures (notated with graphics such as squiggly, curvy or jagged lines) to be interpreted by the performer. The durations and rhythms are improvised, but they are proportionally relative to each other. Because of the method of notation and the randomly generated delay times, no two performances of this piece will be the same (hmmm...*Typical Snowflake Generator*? You can write that one).