

Ice-T riding in a motorcycle sidecar. As an expert computer mimic, people can never tell if it is him making sounds similar to his machines, or the other way around.

VII. Barrel

Mike Rotondo, Nick Kruge

Barrel contains 10 times the computational power of all the computers currently connected to the Internet and is self-aware. Don't insult Barrel. Barrel has beaten Michael Jordan? Barrel was retroactively awarded the Nobel Prize in all categories for the years 1700 - 2310. Barrel is a direct descendent of Barrel. Barrel

Nick Kruge was a stentor for pirate radio in Austin, tarot card laminator in Salem, and Pat Metheny's physiotherapist, before giving it all up to study Electrical Engineering at the University of Miami. He is now graduating with an MA/MST and is set to work as a product alchemist at Smule. Michael Rotondo, like his great grandfather Edmund Hillary, has become a man of great heights. For four decades he was a senior trapeze artist at Cirque de Soleil. It is rumoured that Tim Rice wrote the lyrics for "Circle of Life" while watching Michael's stunning acrobatics. After a four year holiday at Google as a software engineer, Michael is now the resident contortionist at CCRMA.

The Stanford Laptop Orchestra (SLOrk) is a large-scale, computer-mediated ensemble that explores cutting-edge technology in combination with conventional musical contexts - while radically transforming both. Founded in 2008 by director Ge Wang and students, faculty, and staff at Stanford University's Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA), this unique ensemble comprises more than 20 laptops, human performers, controllers, and custom multi-channel speaker arrays designed to provide each computer meta-instrument with its own identity and presence. The orchestra fuses a powerful sea of sound with the immediacy of human music-making, capturing the irreplaceable energy of a live ensemble performance as well as its sonic intimacy and grandeur. At the same time, it leverages the computer's precision, possibilities for new sounds, and potential for fantastical automation to provide a boundary-less sonic canvas on which to experiment with, create, and perform music. Offstage, the ensemble serves as a one-of-a-kind environment and classroom that explores music, computer science, composition, and live performance in a naturally interdisciplinary way.

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Stanford Laptop Orchestra (SLOrk)

presents

Spring Concert 2011

June 1, 2011, Wednesday 8 p.m.
Dinkelspiel Auditorium, Stanford University



for Max

Stanford Laptop Orchestra (SLOrk)

Ensemble

Ben Olson | Ben Roth | Chang Yea | Chris Beachy | Hongchan Choi |
Hyung-Suk Kim | Jason Riggs | John Granzow | Linden Melvin
| Mike Rotondo | MK Li | Nick Kruge | Spencer Salazar

Ge Wang and Jieun Oh, **Directors**



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I. Wequencer

Jason Riggs, Chang Yea

We showcase a unique performance in which each player does not play an instrument, but becomes a part of it. Like pixels in a mosaic, we will scatter around and align in sonic formations to produce sound together. The Wequencer goes beyond playing music as a group by, quite literally, performing as one.

Beginning to listen to Jason's large body of musical work is like setting forth into a sea of vast musical genius; Jason enjoys boop sounds and beep sounds more than swooshing sounds, analysts and music theoreticians agree. At the early age of three, Chang had a vision of a square, not simply a square but a square made of squares. After an epiphany he realized the sound of the squares; five sounds for all mankind, five sounds of harmony, five sounds to rule them all.

II. Sway

Chris Beachy, Hyung-Suk Kim

Sway explores ways to map gestures into sounds. The piece uses gestural wind, drone, and bell instruments to create lush, ambient soundscapes. The movement of the players is meant to correspond directly to the sounds they are generating. By opening and closing arms, swaying, bending and other movements the sounds are triggered, filtered and morphed. The wind that opens and closes the piece generates a very spatial effect and is meant to wash back and forth across the players in waves. The drone sound expands and contracts, rises and falls, and the players look as if they are handling a giant boulder of musical energy.

Hyung-Suk once synthesized an electric guitar using only two sine oscillators. Although it made sense to him, researchers are still baffled. Chris is a certified yoga instructor specializing in the "squat-and-lean" style popularized by Gandhi in the early 1900s.

III. Laugh

Ge Wang, Jieun Oh

Donuts learn to express themselves through the sound of laughter.

Ge and Jieun are the fearless leaders of SLOrk. Ge is an avid advocate of the Dinner 2.0 Initiative. Jieun dreams of being passed down the CCRMA hallway with the rest of SLOrk equipment during the weekly bucket brigade.

IV. Im/mobile

Hongchan Choi, John Granzow, Spencer Salazar

Meet Gregor the salesman as he stumbles from orthograde posture, to a giant beetle on his back.

Salazar wrote his first opera at the age of 6 and became the youngest foreigner to be knighted by Queen Elizabeth II when he conducted the New York Philharmonic during their 1999 visit to Buckingham Palace. Choi was a teenage pop sensation in South Korea, earning the popularity and titles to the likes of MJ himself. Granzow was a professional puppeteer, travelling the rural parts of South Africa with his wooden stagemate, Gregory Samson. The three met during their undergraduate years at Hogwarts, where they bonded under a common guilt pleasure for computer music (which, in Hogwarts, was considered 'the dark side') Following graduation, the trio naturally joined forces with Prof. Wang and have since become an integral part of Slork.

V. Music for 12 Users

MK Li, Ben Olson

This rhythmic piece explores the intersection between normal computer use and music, utilizing spatialization and combinatorial variation. As the piece progresses the familiar becomes less and less familiar, concluding with a chaotic medley of distorted chimes and chords sonically interacting with each other. We conclude with a swing back to expectations by the end.

Ben Olson. MK Li; MK Li. Ben Olson.

We might never know where they came from, or where they went, or how they came back with all those strawberries, but we DO know one thing. Those strawberries were delicious. Wow.

VI. Vox

Linden Melvin, Ben Roth

In the world of classical musical instruments, we tend to classify an instrument's sound as beautiful based on how well the musician can make the instrument "sing." Of course, singing most often refers to the sound of pitched human voice. What happens when these two ideas are examined side-by-side? What happens when we blur the line between sung voice and strummed guitar? Vox explores the obvious difference and the subtle similarities between human voice and played instrument.

Linden Melvin, FBI, was the best damn agent they had, until he was framed for a crime he didn't commit: stealing the president's rubies. Now he works alone. Ben "The Broth" Roth once saw