

# When the electricity sings

By Coby Vaknin

Special to the Daily Iowan

The UI School of Music will host the national conference of the Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States today through April 7.

This year's conference, "Intersections in Sound," will bring together composers, performers, and scholars of music that has been created using electronic means. They will come from across the United States and around the world for a series of public concerts as well as scholarly papers, panels, and other presentations.

The primary purpose of the concert is to provide UI students with a firsthand experience of the music and the composers, said Assistant Professor Lawrence Fritts, the conference chairman and director of the Electronic Music Studios at the UI.

"In concerts and research sessions, the conference will explore intersections among aesthetic approaches, compositional media, historical and developing technologies, and electro-acoustic composition and performance," he said.

The conference will include 12 concerts featuring electro-acoustic music in a variety of formats. Works for tape, live electronics, video, digital animation, instruments, voice, and dance will be presented on 16-channel surround-sound systems in Clapp Recital Hall and Mabie Theatre. The specially designed sound systems, the largest in the Midwest, allow sound to be projected around the listening space by the composers.

"Never before have such a wide variety of composers participated in a single event," Fritts said. "After more than three years of hard work and planning, it's exciting to see this conference culminate into what promises to be a provocative and cutting-edge experience."

The conference has 230 registered participants, including several pioneers in the electro-acoustic field.

Don Buchla will receive the electro-acoustic society's lifetime-achievement award for his

profound impact on the field of electro-acoustic music. He shares credit with Robert Moog for the development of the first modular synthesizer, and he will perform Friday night.

Bebe Barron, another pioneer in the field, won the 1956 Academy Award for Best Film Score for her ground-breaking electronic work in the film *Forbidden Planet*. It marked the first time the prestigious award was given for an electronic piece. Today, she will perform a piece titled "Mixed Emotion."

The UI Electronic Music Studios have played a central role in electro-acoustic music since 1964.

"This conference provides a wonderful opportunity to show people what we are currently doing here at the UI, as well as the latest developments in electro-acoustic music as a whole," Fritts said.

In addition to the 12 daytime and evening concerts put on by the society, two related events

will take place on Friday and Saturday nights billed as OFF-SEAMUS I and OFF-SEAMUS II, respectively.

OFF-SEAMUS I will be an all-ages show held at Gabe's Friday at 11 p.m., and OFF-SEAMUS II will be an all-ages show at the Yacht Club at 10:30 p.m. Both events will feature a total of 11 DJs and other artists from the "Folk Electronica" movement — accessible electronica, which often incites dancing — from Iowa City, Detroit, Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago.

In this week's installment of "Discrete Music," hosted by Chris Bock, music from electro-acoustic society artists and current Electronic Music Studios students will be featured. You can hear "Discrete Music" on 89.7 KRUI between 2 and 4 a.m. Friday morning.

E-mail Coby Vaknin at:

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For a complete schedule,

check the Arts Calendar, page 3C

## GABES

www.GabesOasis.com

THURSDAY

Mates of State  
Troubled Hubble

FRIDAY

Rotation Off Seamus

SATURDAY

Andrew Bird  
Cabaret Diosa

SUNDAY

Richard Buckner  
Pieta - Bo Ramsey

## BIJOU Movies This Week

Donnie Darko (US)

April 4th & 6th @ 9:30 pm

April 5th & 7th @ 7:30 pm

"Excitingly original indie vision." — *entertainment weekly*

Jerry Stiller and Janeane Garofalo in

The Independent (US)

April 4th & 6th @ 7:30 pm

April 5th & 7th @ 9:30 pm

"Two thumbs up." — *Ebert and Roeper*

Classic Film Series

Breathless (France, 1959)

April 4-7 @ 5:30 pm

"the greatest debut film since Citizen Kane"

Tickets @ IMU Box Office - 335-3258  
more info - [www.uiowa.edu/~bijou](http://www.uiowa.edu/~bijou)

13 S. LINN  
356-6969

Tues. - Sat.  
7PM-2AM

Alley Cat

THURSDAY THURSDAY THURSDAY THURSDAY

DOLLAR DAYS