The University of Iowa
Electronic Music Studios

A Concert of New Music

February 2nd 2003
Clapp Recital Hall
School of Music
A Concert of New Music
02.02.03

program

8 pm

Improvisation
Billy Gomberg, electronics

Plastic Seashell

Amphibian

Dice Game
Paul Clevenger, sax

Le Rhythme Analogique

You're out of your element

Demon-song/song-demon

Sonata for Double Bass and Enhanced Double Basses
Mark Urness, double bass

Clapp Recital Hall

Billy Gomberg

Chris Diehl

Lyle Zehringer

Nikolas Francis

Anthony Nusbaum

Paul Clevenger

Matthew Butler

Mark Urness
For Plastic Seashell composition, I used several samples of me singing in vocal warmups and distorted them in Kyma and Protools. I wanted the listener to achieve the atmospheric sensation of being by a seashore, but still recognize that the sounds are unquestionably digital. It’s a soothing trip to an ocean of ones and zeros.

In Amphibian, brittle, distorted and airy/dry textures are used to represent an earthen environment while pulsating, and fluvial textures as well as melodic pitch are used to represent water. Like an amphibian, the composition finds both to be a home.

Lyle Zaehringer is a senior, majoring in computer science at the University of Iowa. His pursuits in computer music have led to the study of experimental electronic music under Professor Lawrence Fritts.

Dice Game is a piece loosely based on Mozart’s Musical Dice. Paul Clevenger uses the Musical Dice score as a base for his improvisations on saxophone, which is then processed in real-time and surrounded by previously made sounds.

Nikolas Francis is a 4th year student majoring in Psychology/Speech and Hearing Science.

Le Rhythmme Analogique is a piece that I composed in trying to examine the relationship between pitch, vocalisations, and rhythm. The piece is an attempt to blur the lines of what is normally considered a rhythm track and the sounds and pitches of the human voice.

Anthony Nusbaum is currently an Undergraduate Student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Iowa. He has studied music composition under Larry Fritts for two years.

Paul Clevenger is an undergraduate studying Mathematics and Philosophy at the University of Iowa.

A composition featuring the lower frequencies, which are to be heard and felt. Feel the strife. Feel the current tensions of the world through the tensions of this composition. It will shake you.

demon-song/song-demon
On September 14, 2002, I had a strange run-in with an interdimensional demon in a tree in my backyard (talk to me if you want details). The first part of the composition is a literal audio representation of what the demon sounded like. The second part is a musical representation of the feeling the demon left me with.

Matthew Butler is an MFA candidate in Intermedia Art in the School of Art and Art History.

There are a couple of things I think might be interesting for a listener to know about this piece. The first is that the bass part is mostly improvised. The basic tonal areas and some timbral decisions are predetermined, but the specific melodic and rhythmic content is all spontaneously composed. The second is that all of the sound sources for the computer part came from my bass.

Mark Urness is a versatile bassist, composer, and educator. He currently teaches improvisation and Jazz Theory at the University of Iowa. He is the principal bassist of the Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra and performs with Orquesta de Jazz y Salsa Alto Maiz. He has recently become a member of Odd Bar, an idiosyncratic jazz quartet based in Iowa City. His compositions have appeared on several CDs including the Bob Washut Trio's Songbook, Trümych's Play Here, and the University of Northern Iowa Jazz Band I's Northern Exposure. Recent recordings include a soon to be released project with OffEnsemble. From 1999-2001 he freelanced in New York City where he played with Adam Nussbaum, Lew Solof, Eric Rasmussen, Curtis Fowlkes and many others. In 1999 he was awarded First Prize in the International Society of Bassists Jazz competition. He is formerly an adjunct instructor of Bass at the University of Northern Iowa. Mark received a Master of Music in Double Bass Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Northern Iowa. He is currently pursuing an interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Music and Computer Science at the University of Iowa.