

Sound Studies and Sonic Arts

Summer Semester 2022

Phase Focus

Module Practice

Course Title Silent Modifications / tokyoberlin | Seminar

Course Times and Location Fridays | 3:00-7:00 p.m. | LIE318

Instructor [Boris Hegenbart](#)

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Office Hours Upon request after class

Course Description

This seminar is a cooperation between the UdK Berlin - Sound Studies and Sonic Arts and the Musashino Art University in Tokyo.

The course instructors are Boris Hegenbart (in Berlin) and Christophe Charles (in Tokyo). The two seminars take place in parallel; the material is exchanged throughout the creation process. The aim of this course is to create an intermedial installation as joint work, which will be presented in two different versions in autumn 2022 in Japan and Germany.

During this course we will develop media compositions for virtual rooms with virtual speaker settings. Later we will map these compositions to real speaker settings.

To start off the composition process, MIDI scores will be created as basic material - these won't be classic notations, but MIDI control data, that can be mapped to various instruments (Max/MSP patches, software, and hardware synthesizers, etc.).

These notations are based on events in public life, created by "human sensors" in urban environments:

Instrumentalists play MIDI instruments in response to everyday sonic events in their surroundings, such as: bicycles, vehicles and pedestrians passing by. Thus, the city is interpreted with silent instruments.

Themes: Material and score creation, mapping, interpretation, spatial composition.

Requirements for Attending

Maximum of 15 students.

Basic competence in Ableton Live / Max for Live is required. Students should be willing to engage in group work in person and online. Due to the time difference between Germany and Japan, work meetings sometimes take place outside of the regular schedule (by appointment).

Regular attendance and active participation are expected!

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Exam / Credit

4 CP Assignment (graded: Practice):

Contribution to fixed media group composition. Presentation on a multichannel system (t.b.a.). Due 1 Nov 2022.

No 2CP option available.

Schedule

- 1) Location search for inspiring urban places (a train station, an intersection, a pedestrian zone, etc.)
- 2) Development of performance instructions: Interpreting the city on silent MIDI instruments.
- 3) Development of instruments and interfaces: "Max for Live" patches and hardware controllers to generate MIDI data in real-time.
- 4) Live performance / interpretation of the urban environment on MIDI instruments.
- 5) Mapping the resulting MIDI data to sound and space.
- 6) Montage of the complete material from Tokyo and Berlin.
- 7) Spatial Composition: The transformation of (home) studio work into a multi-channel sound system.
Public Presentation of the group work (Autumn 2022).

Supporting Media

Please read the Ableton Live manual.