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Director, York Interactive Music Project

oeuvres/works/opere \_\_\_\_\_

Works produced using the York Interactive  
Music System:

Cycling, a pattern piece by Michael ROSS

MPeC

Serendipity, a systems programmer's nightmare  
of indeterminate length, program by Michael ROSS

MCC

Gamelan, a pattern piece by Michael ROBINSON

Heptaphrygia, a pattern piece by Michael ROBINSON

Numerous exercises and test-pieces by various  
authors, ages 9-49

programmes/programs/programmi \_\_\_\_\_

EASY CODE

MCC

PDP-10 computer with special peripherals  
Interactive real-time composing and performing of  
notated or procedurally generated musical structures,  
providing special facilities for individualized  
storage and identification systems, individual  
design of scales and other notational modes, and a  
repertoire of pre-coded operational tools designed  
to aid rapid mastery of the principles of melodic,  
rhythmic, contrapuntal and harmonic transformation  
through trial-and-error dialog via typed, gestural,  
and graphic control of sonically limited music output.

CAME

CAMA

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cont.

This system has been successfully tested through classroom use in elementary, junior and secondary schools.

Other advanced system modules, such as SONIC SPACE (large-scale procedural structure-building in the manner of simple process-simulation languages), SONIC PATTERN (designed for evolving-ostinato structures), SONIC PIX (variable graphic representation of melodic structures), and SONIC FUGUE, as well as rudimentary choice-systems simulating algorithmically some of the skills of traditional music-theory exercises, have also been implemented in compatible format.

The entire system is designed and engineered for maximum simplicity and ease of operation in a school setting, but is also well adapted for research in musical perception, and as a tool for analysis-through-synthesis of existing musical works.

textes/writings/testi

BECKWITH, Sterling R.  
"COMPOSING COMPUTERS FOR KIDS -- A PROGRESS REPORT."  
Les Cahiers Canadiens de la Musique/The Canada  
Music Book, Automne-Hiver 1974/Autumn-Winter 1974.  
149-154

CAME MCC

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"TALKING MUSIC WITH A COMPUTER."  
Symposium, Spring-Summer 1975.

CAME MCC

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"THE WELL-TEMPERED COMPUTER."  
"DESIGNING A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR MUSIC."  
Above two articles now in process of publication

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activité/activity/attività

1. Analysis of the structure of rhythmic expectation in a group of selected melodies by J.S. BACH, using the York Interactive Music System as an analytic-synthetic tool.
2. Design of a compact portable music teletype suitable for use with a remote computer and the EASY CODE special-purpose music software, by school-age users, and especially by physically handicapped children. (Part of an integrated concept of special music hardware and software developed for the York Interactive Music Project.) Would welcome inquiries and assistance from industry or other research agencies in a position to help with design and manufacturing problems.
3. An essay on the relation and possible contributions of computer-aided music processing, via high-level languages, to the current developments in artificial processing of natural languages. Tentative title: Computational Linguistics and Musical Thought.

biographie/biography/biografia

Born New York 1931, studied in U.S. and Europe active as conductor, singer, musicologist, currently Associate Professor of Music and Humanities, York University, Toronto, Canada

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