

Noisescape with Voice

for an improviser and smartphone

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The performance of this work consists of a free improvisation on any instrument, guided by electronic noise textures from the system described below. Think of it as a sort of unscripted sound interview, where a musician improvises in response to a live smartphone-generated stream of electronic noise. It is usually performed as a duo where two musicians, an instrumentalist and a smartphone-performer, respond to each other, but it can be performed as a solo as well, like a self-interview.

Videos with previous performances can be seen on this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpOJrvzMyXFN4kRoernIfGWgDhn0zlFxT>

Equipment configuration is the following:

Connect a smartphone or a tablet to an amplifier. Open a web browser on the tablet/smartphone. In it, open the following page:

For solo performance: <http://andrejaandric.altervista.org/Noisescape.html>

For duo performance: <http://andrejaandric.altervista.org/javascriptnoise1.htm>

For solo performance the interface of the web page has two buttons only: Play and Change. The page is capable of playing different electronic noise textures. With Play button you start and stop the electronic part. When you press Change button, the density, pitch area and other characteristics of the electronic noise will be reset to new values at random. Position the smartphone/tablet close at hand.

For duo performance the interface has three buttons and a swipe panel. As above, Play starts and stops the performance, while two other buttons affect the speed of sound flow and the pitch area. Swipe panel does the same as the last two buttons, but permit more “theatrical” gestures.

How to play:

Play continuous, irregular, rapid and energetic bursts of sound, as fast, differentiated and rapidly changing as possible. Listen closely to the electronic part and let it guide you. Follow it and try to match the sound from the loudspeakers. If it is a solo performance, then from time to time (normally every 5-10 seconds) press the Change button to change the noise texture. In a duo performance, the smartphone performer will do that, creating an interview-like dynamic between the two.

The performance can last for any amount of time.