# Michael Winter

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#### About

My work often explores simple processes where dynamic systems, situations, and settings are defined through minimal graphic- and text-based scores that can be realized in a variety of ways. To me, everything we experience is computable. Given this digital philosophy, I acknowledge even my most open works as algorithmic; and, while not always apparent on the surface of any given piece, the considerations of computability and epistemology are integral to my practice. I often reconcile epistemological limits with artistic practicality by considering and addressing the limits of computation from a musical and experiential vantage point and by collaborating with other artists, mathematicians, and scientists in order to integrate objects, ideas, and texts from various domains as structural elements in my pieces.

I have performed across the Americas and Europe at venues ranging in size from small basements to large museums to outdoor public spaces (some examples of more well known venues are REDCAT, Los Angeles; the University of Lille, France; the Ostrava Festival of New Music, Czech Republic; the CEAIT Festival, Los Angeles; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; and Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Santiago, Chile). In 2008, I co-founded and currently co-directs the wulf., a Los Angeles-based organization dedicated to experimental performance and art. As a laboratory and hub for exploring new ideas, the wulf. has become an experiment in alternative communities and economies. Similarly, my work subverts discriminatory conventions and hierarchies by exploring alternative forms of presentation and interaction. I currently live in Los Angeles in the same place where the wulf. primarily organizes and hosts events.

#### Experience

## University of Southern California

Jan 2014 - present

BODB and GBDB Lead Developer

Neuroinformatics project connecting large datasets to promote cross-discipline collaborations

♦ Helped developed and teach the neuroinformatics track of an Al course; Python/Django

### Wolfram Research

Jun 2012 – present

Research Programmer and Consultant

Signal processing

Developing real-time audio/visual system

the wulf.

Aug 2008 - present

Cofounder and Codirector

A 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization that presents free experimental music performances

Organizing regular public events in experimental arts; grant-writing

Wolfram Alpha

Apr 2011 – Jun 2012

Research Programmer

Computational knowledge engine

Developed algorithms for parsing music theory related queries; scraped and formatted large music- and sports-related datasets

## Jun 2010 - Apr 2011 The Art Institute of California, Hollywood Instructor Courses: Logic of Programming, Web Design, Sound Design, Interactive Design • Topics: interactive design, game theory, DAWs, sound design and synthesis, Python, HTML, CSS, history of electronic music Jun 2008 - Jul 2009 Music Mastermind Developer and Consultant Game engine for generating music • Created algorithmic tools for automatic music creation Aug 2007 - Apr 2008 University of California, Santa Barbara Teaching Assistant Courses: Transvergance, Digital Audio Signal Processing • Topics: digital architecture, philosophy of art, sound design and synthesis, composition, history of electronic music, Java, motion detection, immersive environments Aug 2006 - May 2007 University of Virginia, Charlottesville Teaching Assistant Courses: Technosonics, Introduction to Music and Computers • Topics: DAWs, sound design and synthesis, composition, history of electronic music Aug 2003 - May 2005 California Institute of the Arts Teaching Assistant Course: Introduction to Electronic Media and Computers • Topics: DAWs, sound design and synthesis, composition, history of electronic music Skills Teaching: Music Composition, DSP, Electronic Music, Music Theory, Programming, Neuroinformatics Coding: SuperCollider, Python, JavaScript, Lilypond, Java, Mathematica, CSS, HTML, MySQL, NoSQL Education Jun 2010 University of California, Santa Barbara ☐ PhD in Media Arts and Technology May 2005 California Institute of the Arts, Valencia ☐ MFA in Music Composition Jun 2003 University of Oregon, Eugene ☐ BS in Music Technology

#### **Publications**

From Scratch: Writings in Music Theory

Tenney, J. editors Polansky, L.; Pratt, L.; Wannamaker, R.; and Winter, M. UI Press. 2015.

On minimal change musical morphologies

Winter, M. Proceedings of the 2014 International Congress on Music and Mathematics. forthcoming.

Approximating Omega

Winter, M. Carbono (online). volume 7. 2014.

Chordal and timbral morphologies using Hamiltonian cycles

Akhmedov, A. and Winter, M. Journal of Mathematics and Music. volume 8 (1). pages 1-24. 2014.

Relativity and scalability with respect to sound and silence

Winter, M. Word Events: Perspectives on Verbal Notation. editors Lely, J. and Saunders, M. Bloomsbury. 2012.

A few more words about James Tenney: dissonant counterpoint and statistical feedback Polansky, L.; Barnett, A.; and Winter, M. Journal of Mathematics and Music. volume 5 (2). pages 63–82. 2011.

Notes on a new economics for a new music

Winter, M. Experimental Music Yearbook (online). volume 2. 2010.

LiveScore: real-time notation in the music of Harris Wulfson

Barrett, G.D. and Winter, M. Contemporary Music Review. volume 29 (1). pages 55-62. 2010.

Structural Metrics: an epistemology

Winter, M. Dissertation. 2010.

James Tenney: Selected Works 1961–1969 (review)

Winter, M. Journal of the Society for American Music. volume 4. pages 531-533. 2010.

James Tenney biographical entry

Hanson, S.; Streb, C.; Polansky, L.; and Winter, M. Grove Dictionary of American Music. 2009.

On James Tenney's Arbor Vitae for string quartet

Winter, M. Contemporary Music Review. volume 27 (1). pages 131-150. 2008.

Mavericks on mavericks: James Tenney's last courses at CalArts

Winter, M. MusikTexte. volume 112. pages 66-69. 2007.

**Automatic Notation Generators** 

Barrett, G.D.; Winter, M.; and Wulfson, H. Proceedings of the 7th International NIME Conference. pages 346–351. 2007.

### Talks

## University of Southern California

Oct 2015

On James Tenney's Changes for six harps

California Institute of the Arts

Oct 2015

A few ways to get from one thing to the next

Universidad del Claustro de Sor Juana Noise in the system: reading Claude Shannon Oct 2015

Conservatorio de Las Rosas

Nov 2014

New music for guitars

| Universidad de Buenos Aires<br>Algorithmic Information Theory, Metabiology, Music  | Aug 2014 |
|--|----------|
| Universidad de Chile, Santiago<br>Algorithmic Information Theory, Metabiology, Music   | Aug 2014 |
| Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso<br>Algorithmic Information Theory, Metabiology, Music  | Jul 2014 |
| Universidade de São Paulo<br>Shape and Structure: a few good ideas on form and detail  | May 2014 |
| Escola de Música e Belas Artes do Paraná On community and radicality: a personal survey of dangerous artists and art movements   | May 2014 |
| University of California, Santa Cruz<br>Several extremely simple ideas   | Feb 2014 |
| University of California, Santa Barbara  Adapting and applying digital signal processing techniques to high-level music information  | Jan 2014 |
| Workshop for Algorithmic Computer Music at University of California, Santa Cruz  A few thoughts on musical structure   | Jul 2013 |
| Workshop for Algorithmic Computer Music at University of California, Santa Cruz James Tenney's computer music  | Jul 2013 |
| Dartmouth College Where do you get your data from?   | May 2013 |
| Dartmouth College The computer in my life  | May 2013 |
| Wesleyan University  My software thinks your software is beautiful: a few words about metabiology, beauty and music  | Nov 2011 |
| University of California, Santa Cruz A few words on elegance, creativity and beauty  | Oct 2011 |
| Dartmouth College Three Ideas: 1) sometimes I steal, sometimes I don't, and sometimes I think I am not stealing but actually am; 2) some thoughts on generalizing graphs and mathematical problems from musical ideas; 3) music, structural metrics and algorithmic information theory | Apr 2011 |
| Dartmouth College On James Tenney's Changes for six harps  | Apr 2011 |
| IRCAM On generalizing graphs and mathematical problems from musical ideas  | Jan 2011 |
| California Institute of the Arts Structural metrics  | Apr 2009 |

|          | Columbia University On James Tenney's Arbor Vitae for string quartet  | Feb 2008 |
|----------|---|----------|
|          | State University of New York, Buffalo Lecture on the machine and music  | Dec 2006 |
|          | State University of New York, Binghamton Lecture on infinity  | Aug 2005 |
| Releases | west coast soundings small world Edition Wandelweiser Records. CD. 2014.  rounds welcome round for larry  |          |
|          | the wulf. records. Vinyl. 2013.  Music of Ostrava Days 2009 Live recitation, code, and (perhaps) round Ostrava Center for New Music. CD. 2009.  DIY Canons Filter IV P.I.X.L. Study No. 1 Pogus Productions. CD. 2005.                                    |          |
| Works    | A performance history, scores, and recordings are available at <www.unboundedpress.org>.  All scores are also published or forthcoming through Frog Peak at <www.frogpeak.org fpartists="" fpwinter.html="">.</www.frogpeak.org></www.unboundedpress.org> |          |
|          | single track sustaining septet  tergiversate low sustaining trio  fade and aviary sustained sounds and computer   | 2015     |
|          | to hum and walk voice and electronics  Approximating Omega (redux) variable ensemble  [south america] miscellany speaker and electronics a conversation speakers  necklaces plucked strings   | 2014     |
|          | 5   |          |

# partition and gate sustaining instruments

chorale and finely tuned resonators

variable ensemble

order matters variable ensemble

to converge (abstract) variable ensemble

sca old and map variable ensemble

material... for james klopfleisch variable ensemble

Ιv

variable ensemble

glass economies prepared piano, piano, and/or glasses.

economy study (in one dimension) prepared piano, piano, and/or glasses.

copyedit

variable ensemble

quieting rooms installation

delayGraph pre-alpha computer

half-normal variable ensemble

project reflect refract

film projector, reflecting and refracting objects, sustaining instruments, and perhaps percussion instruments with minimal decay

minor third piano

mass and band

plucked strings and optional sustaining instruments

minor third abstract variable ensemble

slip and stitch chimes

2013

2012

2011

6

lower limit variable ensemble

line and cipher chimes with variable ensemble

partition conjugate prime (choir|orchestra|choir + one|two|one) variable ensemble

2010

subset canon variable ensemble

scene++

variable ensemble with electronics

before you cure the beast... variable ensemble

just above and/or below the waterline...

pedal, triangle machine, and (perhaps) coda

after eons variable ensemble

variable ensemble

variable ensemble

Approximating Omega variable ensemble

2009

piano machine piano

recitation, code, and (perhaps) round choir

field and perfect circuit variable ensemble

for gregory chaitin variable ensemble

for Sol LeWitt variable ensemble

gray codes variable ensemble

towards completeness variable ensemble

2008

small world variable ensemble

dissection and field variable ensemble

20 arrows 9 dashes variable ensemble

for orin hildestad variable ensemble

room and seams variable ensemble

seams

variable ensemble

resonance i

2007

variable ensemble

maximum change variable ensemble

after a koan solo violin

sound.sound variable ensemble

many many for james orsher and peter kotik variable ensemble

4 James Orsher variable ensemble

Vein Transcription variable ensemble

Entropic Canon variable ensemble

Three

variable ensemble

Transplanting, 06.11.07-06.16.07 (or Transcription, USA!) variable ensemble

a chance happening solo piano

cactus for james orsher variable ensemble

1 sample, x performers, y seconds variable ensemble

4 Ascents for James Tenney variable ensemble

Trajectories 2006 variable ensemble

Prime Decomposition variable ensemble

Intersections I variable ensemble

Streams I glissandi and electronics

diy for larry polansky variable ensemble

three books and a dissertation variable ensemble

in tone variable ensemble

random I variable ensemble

almost every piece variable ensemble

for cassia streb variable ensemble

for michael pisaro variable ensemble

sort I variable ensemble

nothing...I variable ensemble

A Gaussian Canon solo piano

Infinity III variable ensemble

Lecture on Infinity variable ensemble

a tone for Erik KM Clark solo violin

A Flourish variable ensemble

Infinity 2 variable ensemble

2005

Perspectives I variable ensemble Commas variable ensemble a set of pieces with one note variable ensemble 2004 Infinity 1 variable ensemble Filter IV - P.I.X.L. Study No. 1 tam-tam, cellos, cymbals, voices and electronics Filter III - Transformation Filter strings and electronics Chromatic Study variable ensemble Tri-Dimensional Canon variable ensemble Di erence 2 clarinets 2 Filters variable ensemble Flux voice, bassoon, bass, clarinet, didgeridoo, and/or... and 2176 sine tones 2003 Fission flutes, clarinets, trumpet, horn, vibraphones, pianos, and strings Coincidental Canon orchestra Telot's Crystal fixed digital media

A Meditation for Solo Piano solo piano

2002

.

Beat Canon variable ensemble

Density Study No. 2 fixed digital media

The Other Self fixed digital media

2001