2019 T-Stick Music Creation Project Call for composers

CIRMMT Research Axes 1 and 4 are delighted to announce a call for composers and sound artists who are interested in creating a new work for the T-Stick digital musical instrument. This project will bring together five composers (any nationality, all ages) to develop new live electroacoustic works for the wireless 33.5 cm. long **Sopranino T-Stick** with the support of two tutors: D. Andrew Stewart, composer/T-Stick instrumentalist (University of Lethbridge) and Joseph Malloch, T-Stick designer and developer (Dalhousie University). Selected participants will be introduced to the current modes of performance on the T-Stick during two workshops that will focus on the technical foundations of the instrument, while developing participants' unique musical vocabularies for integrating physical playing gestures and electroacoustic sounds. The program will culminate with the performances of participants' new works for the Sopranino T-Stick, performed by the artists, with support from D. Andrew Stewart, in February 2020 at improv@CIRMMT in Montreal.

We are looking for composers or sound artists who envision a unique project that both illustrates a wide-ranging use of the Sopranino T-Stick and seeks to expand the performance practice of the instrument. For this project, we also welcome group submissions for collaborative projects, including projects with other types of performance (e.g., art, dance, drama).

Applicants are invited to submit (1) their biographies along with (2) a one-page project proposal, identifying anticipated software requirements and audio equipment specifications, if possible. Additionally, applicants are invited to send (3) one optional sample of their music or sonic art that illustrates a concept or musical idea they find applicable to the T-Stick. Applications must be written in English or in French and should be emailed to **takuto.fukuda[at]mail.mcgill.ca** no later than October 16, 2019.

More information about the T-Stick and the tutors can be found in the links below;

T-Stick: http://www-new.idmil.org/project/the-t-stick/
D. Andrew Stewart: http://dandrewstewart.ca/
Joseph Malloch: https://josephmalloch.wordpress.com/

The program is supported by the CIRMMT, Nomura Foundation, McGill University, the University of Lethbridge and IDMIL–Input Devices and Music Interaction Laboratory.

Timeline

October 16, 2019: the application deadline
Applications should be emailed to **takuto.fukuda[at]mail.mcgill.ca** no later than October 16, 2019.

November 16, 2019: the first workshop at CIRMMT
This workshop will include presentations on the instrument functionalities and compositional approaches for the T-Sticks, and a hands-on workshop on the practice of the T-Stick, including how to set up, perform and notate. A sopranino T-Stick will be provided. Participants should bring their laptop.

From November 17, 2019 until February 8, 2020: the individual working period
Following the first workshop, the selected participants will work on their proposed compositions with the provided T-Stick under the support of the tutors and the IDMIL T-Stick development team.

February 9, 2020: the second workshop at CIRMMT
This workshop will be dedicated to finalizing the participants' compositions with the aid of the tutors.

February 11, 2020 : improv@CIRMMT at Café Resonanca
The improv@CIRMMT will showcase the participants' compositions in Montreal.

Biographies

D. Andrew Stewart is a composer, pianist and digital musical instrumentalist. A convergence of acoustic and electroacoustic instrumental praxis is at the centre of Stewart's oeuvre. His music is dedicated to exploring composition and performance for new interfaces for musical expression by adapting and evolving traditional praxis. Stewart's work asks whether musical idea – concept, theory, material, technique and means – has kept pace with developments in digital lutherie; furthermore, what are the essential constituents for creating a viable digital instrument for the twenty-first century performer. Stewart has contributed to the field of music technology through his demonstrations at: the International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, International Computer Music Conference / International Computer Music Association, Electroacoustic Music Studies Network, Electronic Music Foundation, ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Society for Music Theory, and the Guthman Musical Instrument Competition. Andrew Stewart's music has been featured in countries such as: The UK, Netherlands, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Poland, USA, Germany, France, Mexico, Norway, Denmark, Austria, Italy, Korea Republic and his home country of Canada.

Dr Joseph Malloch is an Assistant Professor with the Graphics and Experiential Media (GEM) lab and the HCI, Visualisation & Graphics research cluster in the Faculty of Computer Science at Dalhousie University. Previously, he was a postdoctoral fellow with Ex(Situ (Extreme Situated Interaction Lab), part of the Laboratoire de Recherche en Informatique (LRI) at Université Paris-Sud XI and INRIA. He holds a Ph.D. in music technology from the Input Devices and Music Interaction Laboratory at McGill University. Malloch's research focuses on Human Computer Interaction, especially as applied to creative and expressive interaction with digital tools. His new "digital musical instruments" – including the T-Stick and the prosthetic "Spine" – have been performed and demonstrated across Europe, North and South America in dozens of concerts, including at international conferences, new music festivals, and performances with dancers.