

Research Report

DATABASES DEVOTED TO ELECTROACOUSTIC MUSIC STUDIES IN EAST ASIA: THE EMSAN DATABASES

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ABSTRACT

The Electroacoustic Music Studies Asia Network is a project to document the growth of electroacoustic music in East Asia. Music from the West, as well as music from Latin America, have been thoroughly documented (Hugh Davies's International Catalog for early EA music, Folkmar Hein's Berlin database, as well as Riccardo Dal Farra's database at the Langlois Foundation in Montreal are good examples of such endeavours). EMSAN aims at providing a list of works and writing references related to electroacoustic music from the origins up to 2010. After a first database set up in Taipei as an experiment, two databases are now being offered at the university which saw the launch of the project, born at the MINT research group, principal investigator, at the university Paris-Sorbonne in France. These database are now part of the Web site of "UMS Maison de la Recherche", a larger research unit which links the University Paris-Sorbonne to the national research centre of France (CNRS).

These Web-based databases (Musical works and Writings) will be shown during the presentation and it is expected that a discussion on the role of such projects will follow.

1. THE EMSAN DATABASE

The newly developed EMSAN databases can be reached at this address: <http://www.ums3323.paris-sorbonne.fr/EMSAN/DEV/> Then choose either "MUSICAL WORKS" or "WRITINGS"

2. AUTHOR'S PROFILE

Marc Battier

As a composer, Marc Battier has mainly produced electroacoustic music, including mixed music with instruments and electronics. As a musicologist, he specializes

in contemporary and electroacoustic music studies.

As a full professor of musicology at the University of Paris-Sorbonne, he has founded the MINT research group in 1997. This led to the creation, in relation with Leigh Landy from De Montfort University in the UK, of the Electroacoustic Music Studies Network (EMS), which co-organizes an annual international conference on the musicology of electroacoustic music. The EMS is now co-directed by Leigh Landy, Daniel Teruggi and himself. In 2007, he has launched an international research project for the study of electroacoustic music in East Asia (EMSAN), which has led to various endeavours, such as two databases currently being developed at the university of Paris-Sorbonne, one database in Taiwan, and a publication project for Contemporary Music review, as well as an annual symposium in Beijing during the Musicacoustica Festival.

His music, realized in various studios such as GRM or IRCAM or in his private studio, have received many commissions and have been played by Ensemble l'itinéraire, Ensemble Intercontemporain, 2E2M as well as by soloists. Following a commission from GRM (Groupe de recherches musicales) in 2008, he started to write for Asian instruments (shakuhachi). This was followed by commissions from the Beijing's Musicacoustica festival (pipa, then guqin). This year, he is writing a piece for 13-string koto for Naoko Kikuchi, following a commission by DAAD for the Technische University in Berlin, and for pipa for New York's Min Xio-Fen thanks to a commission from Boston's Northeastern University.

Battier is or has been on the board of several professional journals, such as Organised Sound (Cambridge U. Press), International Journal of Sound, Music and Technology (IJSMT), Computer Music Journal (the MIT Press, 1980-1996), Leonardo Music Journal (the MIT Press, 1992-2011), Cahiers de l'Ircam (1992-1995). He is a Leonardo honorary editor (the MIT Press). He was a founding member of ICMA (International Computer

Music Association) in 1979 and an elected member of the board (1980-1984). He is currently Associate Director of Electronic Music Foundation (EMF), New York.