

Variations of a Paper Organ: Introduction

Exploring resonance and feedback with an experimental musical instrument.

Keywords: Music, listening, communication, physics, electronics

Variations of a Paper Organ is an invitation to unite science and art by building an instrument that explores the invisible experience of sound. In our quest to connect art and science, music is a natural fit. We hope that by building your own paper organ we help inspire your students to think about this world of waves as they create their own sounds.

Learning outcomes:

- To help students connect with their surroundings through listening.
- To build an interactive listening experiment with music made from the feedback network of mobile phones in tubes.
- For students to reflect on and learn about sound, resonance and communication technologies, as well as thinking about how we perceive and translate what we hear.

This experiment is about forming a feedback network. Participants will use three things to do this: a mobile phone, a conference call app, and a tube and/or tubes. The experiment will explore what it's like to control sound. It will also help participants think and learn about sound, resonance, and communication technologies.

About artists:

Harmony is a fictional character created by **Martina Buzzi**, who first studied visual arts (Bachelor and Master's in Fine Arts, ZHdK, Switzerland), and is now studying electroacoustic composition as a second Master's degree at the Zurich University of the Arts. Her work, situated at the intersection of music, installation, and performance art, revolves around possible interdependencies between people and the world they live in. She composes multi-layered moments and situations that even constantly evolve outside the moments of the performances. Martina Buzzi has exhibited at NAC Lithuania, Kunsthalle Fribourg, Architecture Biennale São Paulo, UG at Folkwang, VOLUMES at Kunsthalle Zurich, Upstate Zurich, Les Complices Zurich, Cabaret Voltaire Zurich, Caravan at Kunsthau Aarau, Alpina Huus Geneva and Kunstraum Klingenthal, Basel.

Nicolas Buzzi is a composer, performer, and sound artist, born in Bern and is based in Zurich and Frankfurt. Buzzi works in the fields of music, installation, media, and performing arts, with a focus on activating spaces, ties, and verges, and on perspective, perception, time, and memory as well. Buzzi builds rigid conceptual constructs, dealing with human experiences of perceiving oneself and one's cultural, social, political, and spatial surroundings. Those constructs are defined in such ways that they allow to place concrete musical matter like sounds, textures, gestures, phrases, or other processes in a free, sometimes intuitive manner; in ways that it is possible to react to circumstances (such as moments or environments). The result is a sort of music that is often site-specific, performance-oriented, connected to acoustic phenomena and/or listening mechanisms.



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