

Music, Humans & Machines

22–23 May 2019

Orpheus Institute (Ghent, Belgium)

This conference explores the story of the musician's long relationship with their instruments and instrumentalities, questioning issues of autonomy and agency in the apparent dichotomy between tools and musical expression. From the "machene" of Greek theatres from which gods were suspended, to Mozart's description of the Stein fortepiano's knee-lever as "Die Maschine", to the epoch-defining technologies of recording, sound synthesis, and algorithmic composition of more recent times, performers and composers have relied on mechanical means to create magic in their art.

Keynote Speakers:

Fari Bradley (London College of Communication - LCC, University of the Arts - UAL, London), Nic Collins (School of the Art Institute of Chicago) and Nicholas Cook (University of Cambridge)

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

We invite to send proposals that critically explore the relationship between musicians and their musical instruments, tools, and utensils by multiple perspectives, covering an extended range of artistic experiences, from historically informed performance to contemporary and electroacoustic music creation.

For the presentations in the form of **paper**, please submit an abstract (200 words) containing:

- Purpose of the research and its importance to the field
- Description of the proposed approach

Format: Duration of the presentation should be within 15 minutes

For the presentations in the form of **performance**, please submit an abstract (100 words) including:

- Description of the performance and connection to the research
- List of technical requirements
- A link to video (ideally) or (at least) audio documentation

Format: Duration of the performance should be within 15 minutes

Deadline for proposals: **1st of February 2019**, to be submitted at odc2019@docartes.be

Abstracts should be submitted as Word or PDF attachments. Include the name of the presenter(s), institutional affiliations, a biography and contact information. Notification of acceptance will arrive by February 15, 2019, as registration opens.

Convenors:

docARTES students started in 2017: Prach Boondiskulchok, Daniela Fantechi, Marco Fusi, Marie Guilleray, Goran Krivokapic & João Rival