William Kleinsasser Available Instruments [c74-006]

1. Available Instruments 14:41
2. Double Concerto 29:46

c74
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The migration of the tools of computer music from large specialized systems to “personal” machines has become a common theme in discussions of art in the new century. Regardless of genre or style, the newly liberated composer faces similar questions regardless of their area of interest: how does one use a computer as an instrument?

William Kleinsasser’s Available Instruments provides two possible answers. His new c74 release includes two works that match high levels of musicianship from ensembles and soloist with his own compositional concerns about the relationships between timbre, performer, and machine.

The title track is a duet for piano and computer whose energy lies in the tectonics of a complex player-controlled interplay between “memories” of a performance and the human performer. The Double Concerto embodies a different strategy, where the performers collectively vitalize a complex system of memory and transformation composed of interactions with prerecorded, recalled, and reordered versions of performance.

It is music with the scale and drama of a great soundtrack—two carefully and fully imagined sonic worlds destined to reward the serious and regular listener.

c74 (http://www.cycling74.com/c74/) is a label devoted to works by artists the world over who use Cycling ’74 software technology (Max and MSP, in this case) to make extraordinary music and art. The label presents the full range of genres and contexts in which the community of composers and performers who use Cycling ’74 software work - from traditional electroacoustic music to electronica and beyond. c74 also features areas of activity not recorded as such by other labels, such as live performances of interactive systems, less predictable works by individual artists who are already well known, and hybrid releases which may include Cycling ’74 software examples in a data portion of the CD.

Cycling ’74 (http://www.cycling74.com), headquartered in San Francisco, CA, develops, distributes and supports innovative software for composers, artists, and producers who dream of life above and beyond traditional sequencing and media applications. Cycling ’74 products include the Max graphical programming environment, MSP, the Pluggo collection of Max/MSP-based audio plug-ins, the real-time loop-based performance program radiaL, and the interactive algorithmic composition program M.