

Seminar Series

Topics in the Aesthetics of Music and Sound

Thursday, May 8, 2014
3:15-5 p.m. in U73



Organizing the Half Tones and Working with Dissonance

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Abstract: Some scholars claim that contemporary music was conventionally born when Schoenberg wrote Six Little Piano Pieces op. 19, a work that explores the possibilities provided by dissonance as such. After this, some composers have preferred to deal with a free treatment of dissonance, others have developed ways of organizing the twelve tones that make up the *totale cromatico*. During the seminar I will present some approaches for dealing with dissonance that stem from research methods in artificial intelligence. These are based on the theories of block designs (Tom Johnson), cycles and kaleidocycles (Luigi Verdi), and magic stars (Sergei Zagny). These, together with the notion of stochasticity (for instance, John Cage) and brute force (again, Tom Johnson), can provide frameworks for help composers and practitioners' to deal with the task of working with dissonance.



All are welcome - also via Skype 🌿

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- Cross-Disciplinary Interplay between the Humanities, Technology and Musical Practice
- Backdrop for the SDU-IKV Research Program

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