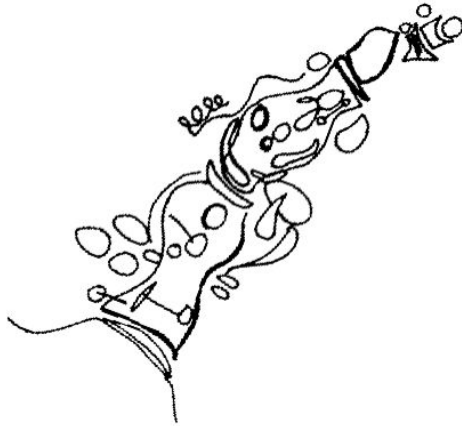


10,000 Instruments for a Semi-connected World

Design Fiction and Absurd Making as NIME Practices

NIME 2020, 21-25 July



Workshop (Re)actions

14:00 welcome - intro from organisers

14:10 solo crafting - find inspiring artefacts + objects around the home, craft, make and photograph the results, add idea as a slide

14:30 collective sprint I - explore others' ideas, get inspired, start collaborations and create a bunch of new ideas

14:50 optional coffee & group reflection - a quick pause in making, how is it going? sharing techniques... who wants to group together? - let's have a drink in an imaginary cup!

15:00 collective sprint II - expand ideas, make variations, join the dots!

15:45 finale - summaries, reflection and pataphysical greetings

Workshop (Ir)rational

- **One idea per each slide** (if you want to make a variation create a new slide)
- Add a **new idea next to a similar idea**, so that we end up with a long "linear taxonomy of the absurd".
- We can only add stuff (please **do not delete** your work or other people's work)
- Feel free to comment on any slide, but remember, **let's be nice with each other** :)
- Stuck for a starting idea? Try the [absurd instrument ideas generator](#)! (seeded with ideas from the last workshop).
- Break out rooms in Zoom may happen!
- All ideas created will be under a Creative Commons License (CC BY-NC-ND)
- **Key words**: Light Touch; Come and Go; Trust and Intuition; Humour and Risk; Multiplicity and Divergence; No need for closure; "Yes, and ..."
- remember we're aiming for **QUANTITY** not **QUALITY** :-)

Instrument Template

Add a title above and a short description here...

Copy and paste this slide to create a new idea ... or duplicate an existing idea and start from there!



**add images, text
or anything you
like here!**

15 example instruments
(only 9,984 to go!)

Fork

A component designed for use inside a larger modular musical system. The fork is particularly well designed for percussive or friction-based interactions.



Knife

As with Fork, Knife is useful as a striking implement, but doubles as a guiro-like soundmaker. Has its own resonant properties due to the acoustic properties of the metal.

Additionally, may be used to customise existing instruments (e.g. cardboard, paper, etc).



Grater

Varied scraping percussive instrument, inspired by the washboard. Comes with four default modes with different properties. Depending on scraping speed, this may manifest as timbral or rhythmic variation.

Varying the scraping tool also provides variation in tone and haptic response.



Greater than Grater (Electronic version)

Added whirring sounds, and tempo (speed) can be auto-adjusted. Different veg / fruit gives different sound timbres



Multi-Fork

Head mounted. Actually not,
more of a windchime.

Can be used to strum string
instruments, too.



Egg Slicer Harp

An egg slicer with the wires tuned to a minor pentatonic scale.

A hard boiled egg acts as a mute, allowing for practice during antisocial hours.

Wes Montgomery was a keen Egg Slicer Harp player, this experience leading to his developing the unusual thumb plucking jazz guitar style he became known for.

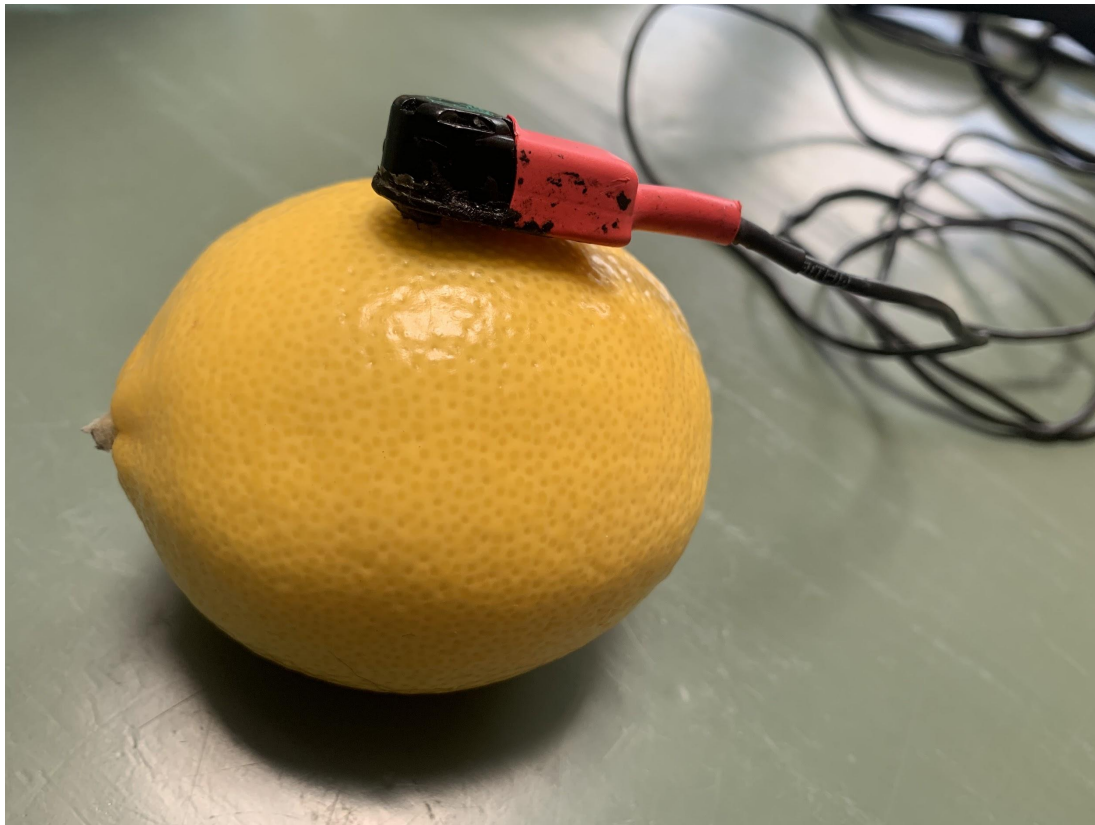


Sonic Lemon (after Eric Singer)

Squeeze to “expressively”
drive a synth arpeggiator.

Along the lines of:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5JJH2SenWGk>



Musical Popsicle

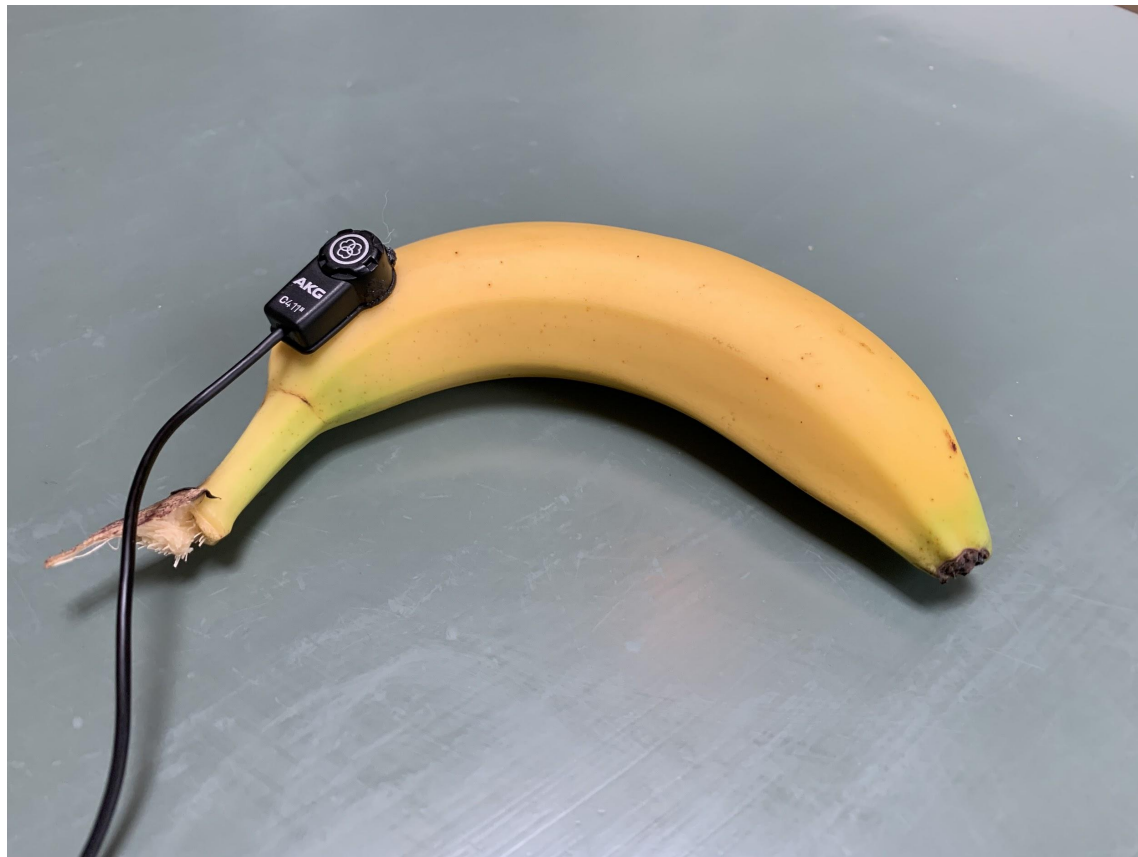
Lick it and hear square noises .

The more you put your tongue into it the louder and brighter! The more you eat it the higher the pitch!



Fair Trade Sonic Banana

A *just* intonation implementation of Eric Singer's Sonic Banana (see above Sonic Lemon slide for link).



Random Pea Generator

Generate some Pea Noise with some peas excited to move to a fan, the tray is attached to a contact mic for all your ambient noise pleasures!



Random Pee Generator

Generate some Pee Noise for
all your ambient noise
pleasures!



John Coal-Train

Duchamp's urinal modified
with an alcohol sensor that
is used to adjust the
quantity of coal fed into a
steam engine powered calliope
which only plays
multiphonics.



giant bovist

Bovistian Drum

Sit on it.

Hit it,

Hit it again after peel off the skin

Heat it,

After Heat it hit it

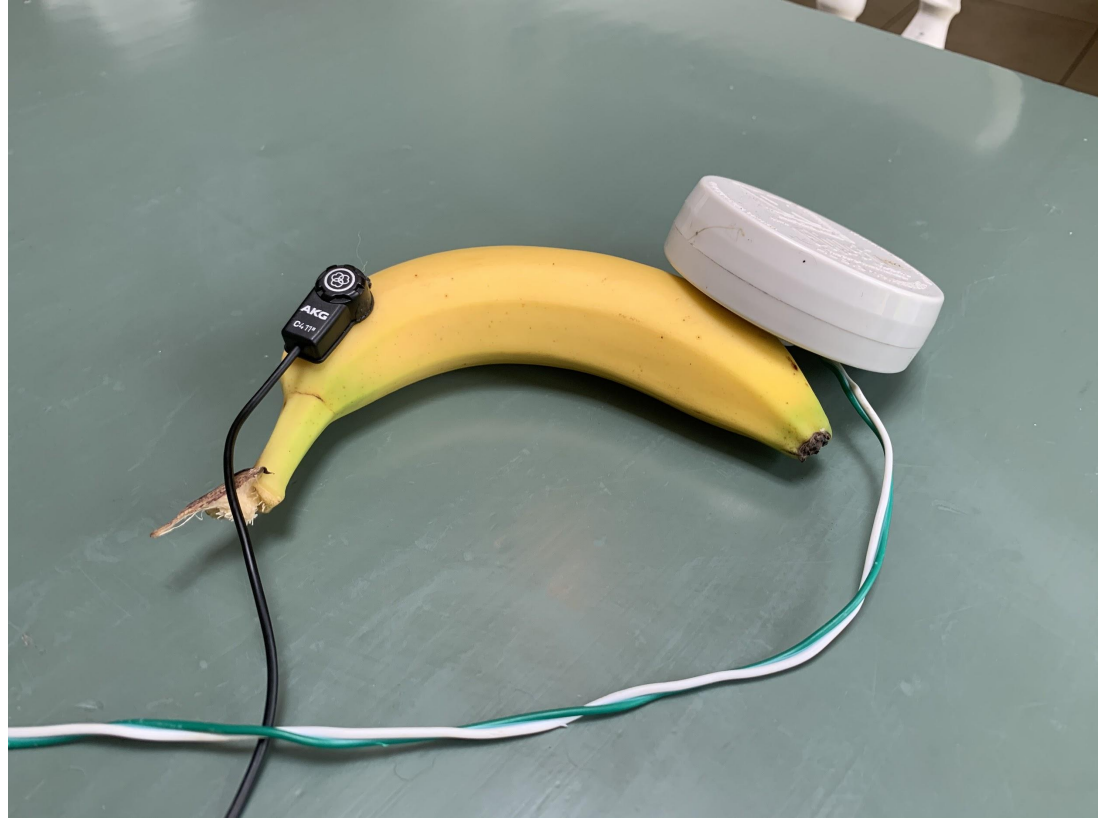
Eat it :)

Using a contact mic and a
hydrophone



Feedback Banana

An attempt to bring together the disparate practices of novelty fruit-based midi sequencer controllers with the emerging field of feedback musicianship.



Cachaça trumpet

To all those ethilic trumpeters, a cachaça bottle where you can play your most sorrow songs.



Breathalyzer Saxophone

No alcohol no sound, the more alcohol the louder and notes selected in a Hidden Markov Chain closer to a Kenny G melody and timbre.



Breathalyzer Trumpet

In the same logic: no alcohol
no sound, and pistons change
pitch. Each kind of spirit
gives a different timbre,
cachaça is out of tune, wine
has a smooth sound, absynth
sounds like classic synths
brass, rum sounds like a
group of trumpets and
trombones



Tuned up Glass Harp

Variation of the classic glass harp but with different beverages in the glasses. A straw can tune each glass in real time as the player pleases



Fill Up Glass 2.0

Variation of the classic glass harp but only plays the scales used in Philip Glass's Music.

The player must drink each glass to complete the performance.

(after Eric Singer)



The skiful-a-phone

A bagpipe like hydrophone
that only plays when full of
whiskey.

One pipe is for playing.

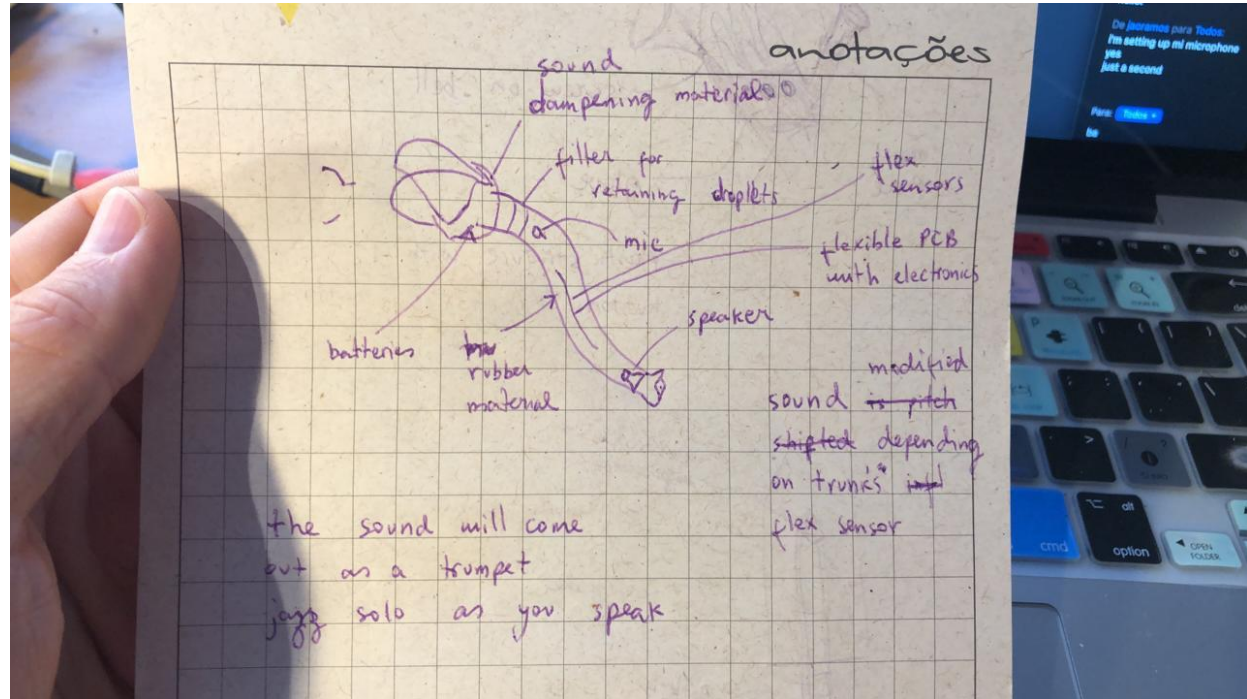
Another pipe is for drinking.

Commonly played in a duet
with the breathalyzer
saxophone.



Corona Mask Trunk Trumpet

Mask with elephant trunk that is squeezable to generate from the trunk random jazz trumpet solos whenever someone speaks



Corona Mask Breath Amp

Sad about the muffled murmurs
present in current human
communication? Amplify them
for pleasure and profit!



Corona Mask Replica

A specially made version of the Corona Mask Kazoo instrument designed to play only the scales used in Captain Beefheart's "Trout Mask Replica"

The trout gives adequate but not complete protection against airborne diseases.



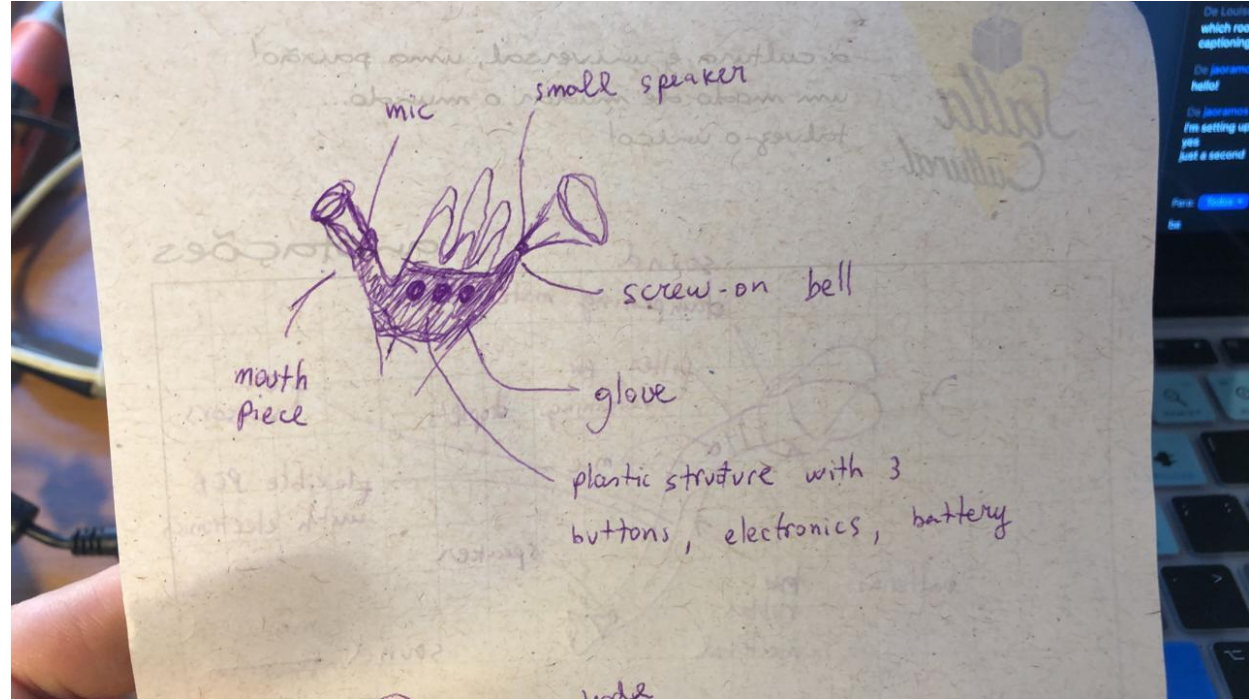
Personal Amplifier

For socially distanced
whisper-singing.



Glove Trumpet

A glove with a mic as a blowing/lip vibrating sensor and a bell with a sepak with tree buttons to manipulate the input sound grains or to generate sound following the pitch or amplitude of the sound input



Imaginary Glove Trumpet

A pair of heavy duty VR gloves that allow you to feel virtual imaginary glove trumpet gloves.



Autonomous Wooden Jaguar

A keyboard playing robotic jaguar that plays traditional songs on keyboards from information about climate change



Pool Noodle Patchbay

Want to patch new sounds while keeping cool in the pool? Use the Pool Noodle Aquatic Patchbay to create a floating network of interconnected patch points.

Swim & Synth!

Pink = VCO

Blue = LFO

Yellow = VCF

Indoor bathtub sequencer version also available.



Slow Growth Piano

An instrument for your garden, this specially adapted upright piano allows you to grow plants that over time will press the keys and create slow, long-form generative pieces.

Your job as gardener is to cultivate chord formations through careful topiary. Pre-seeded to play "Daisy Bell (A Bicycle Built for Two)" over the course of 15yrs.



Plant Invasion

Plant many plants

Mic up the tiny sounds as
water travels through plants



12-tone basketball

Basketballs tuned to
different musical scale.

When slamdunked an internal
sensor deflates the ball to
play the next note down. This
continues until it is
deflated.



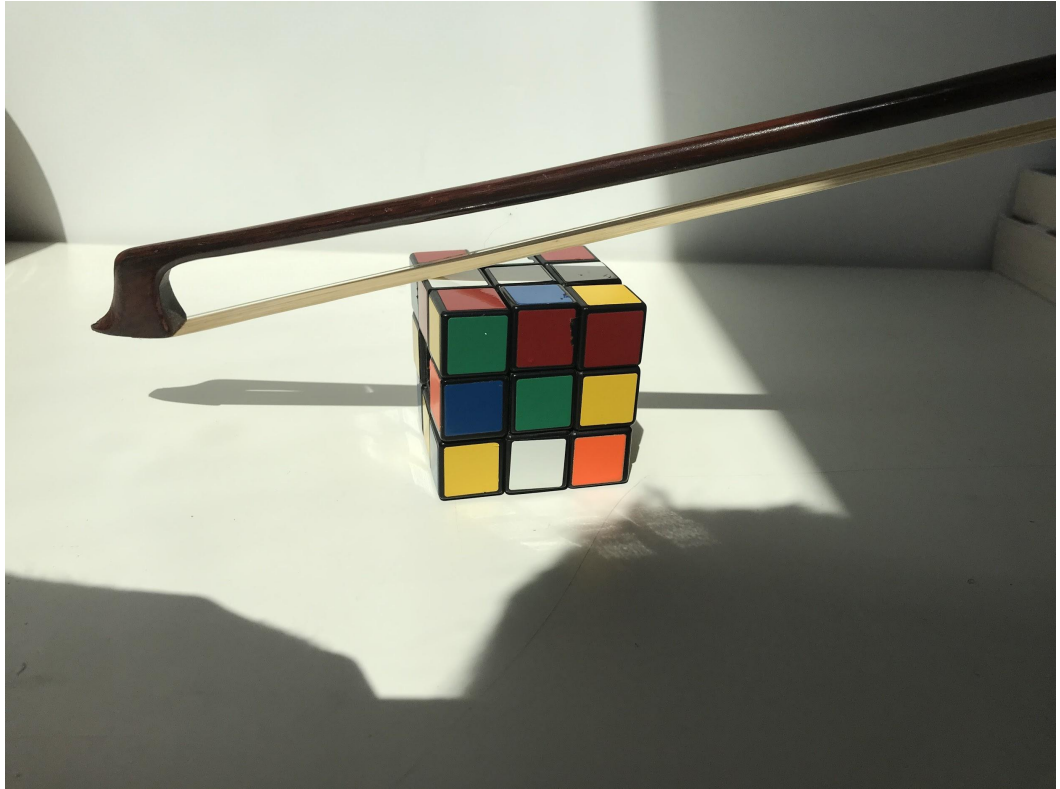
Tone Cube

Each colour is a different note.

Rotate the cube to create different musical sequences.

Can be bowed, plucked, hit or strummed.

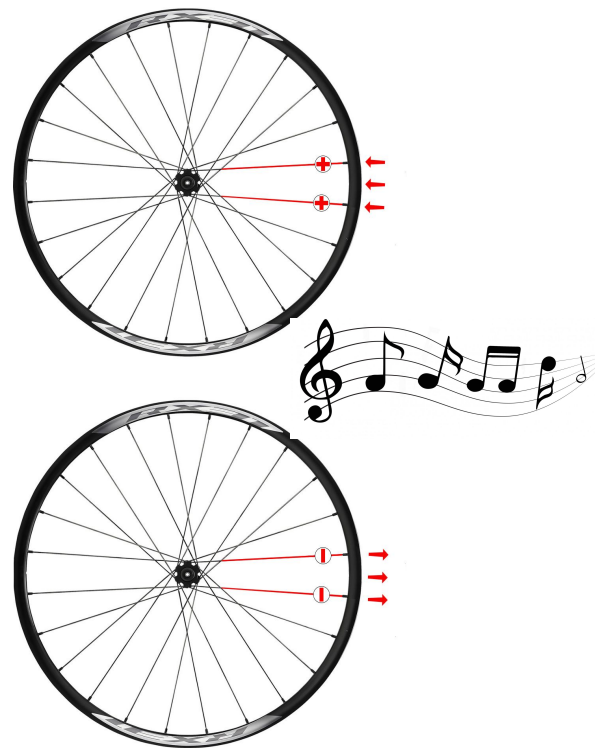
When solved and all colours are on the same side a new instrument sound is unlocked!



I Spoke Too Soon

Through careful tuning of the spokes on your tandem you create an instrument that can play the melody to Daisy Bell.

Further development of this instrument allows you to perform primitive vocal synthesis using the "formant wheel formula", eventually allowing the rear wheel to accompany the melody of the front wheel with a clacking rendition of the vocals.



I Spoke Too Soon

It was lost.



Zoomtar

Make your Zoom calls more musical! Zoomtar selectively unmutes participants microphones allowing you to play their background noise.

The Zoomtar boosts team morale and provides an exciting performance to accompany important meetings.

Back on Kickstarter now!
\$499 dollars for the basic version in red.
\$599 for the GOLD EDITION



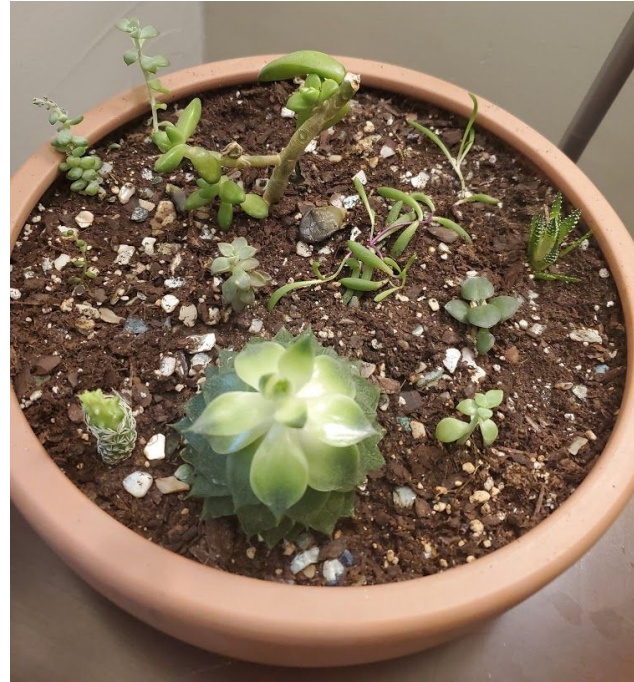
Are you going to Scarborough Fair?

Simon and Garfunkel
lyric-based remix tool, e.g.
sage, parsley, thyme, and
rosemary.



Plant Pad

Each plant produces a different beats and sounds. The plants can be played to make your own melodies and beats.



Bonsai Thyme

Time to play that bonsai!

Paul is one of the foremost players of miniature plantstruments.



Pee Thyme

With a little training you
can play any classic!
Each leave is a note, each
branch is an orchestra
instrument.



Edible Instrument

An instrument that you can add to your cooking when you are finished playing with it.

Allows for a sustainable and ecologically sustainable music practice.



Sounds Spiky

This cactus has been genetically modified to produce spines that resonate chromatically.

Careful not to over-water or it will go out of tune!

Can also be plucked at your own discretion :)



Knivelin

Play sharp music before
cooking!



Live Piano

Each pot can be tuned to a pitch based on the amount of water given to the plants. If watered correctly you can make some lovely music.



A . N . T

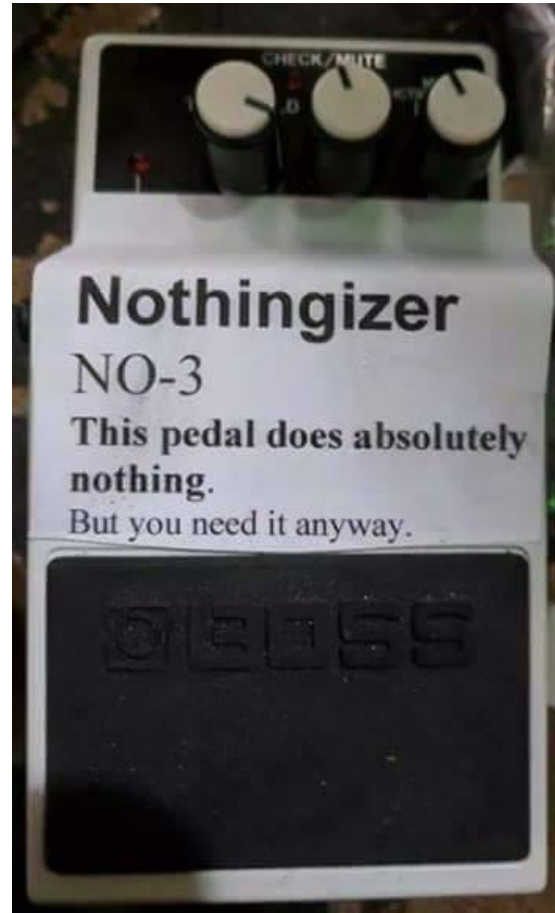
Soundscape in the castle of
ants!

Depending on their path or
movement...



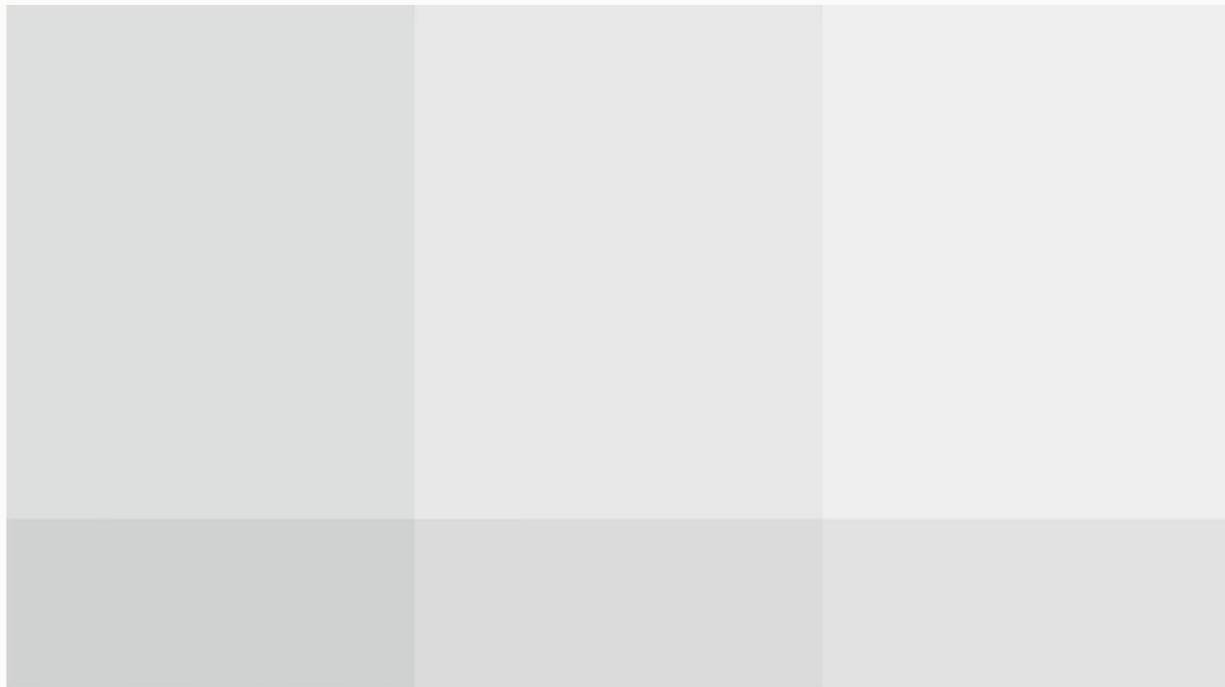
Nothingizer

Be in full control of the most powerful and efficient music gear ever designed.



Imaginariophone

A fictional musical instrument, designed to liberate music from capitalism.



£0

pledged of £10 goal

0

backers

30

days to go

Back this project

Remind me



All or nothing. This project will only be funded if it reaches its goal by the campaign deadline.

Content-o-phone

Everyone knows that the real purpose of music is to generate shareholder value.

This instrument cuts out the middleman. When you play it, it deposits money directly into the bank accounts of the shareholders of Apple, Google and Spotify.



the eternal flame of bureaucracy

Generates darkness.

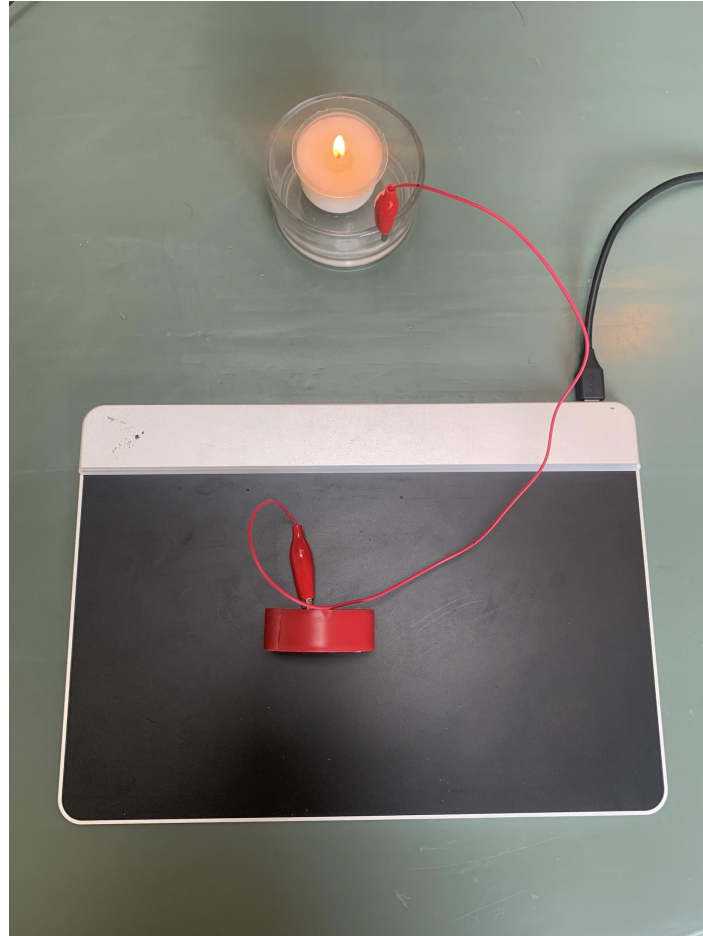
Creates its own fuel.

Stops or exhausts anything it
touches.

Has no outside.

Loved by dictators
everywhere.

Will eat itself.



Hand wheel turntable

Spin your records at random
bpm!



The Digital Piano



Surreal
Piano



Hot & Cold Hydroponic instrument

Use to play jazz both hot and
cold!



Cool Hydroponic instrument

Use to play strictly cool
jazz.

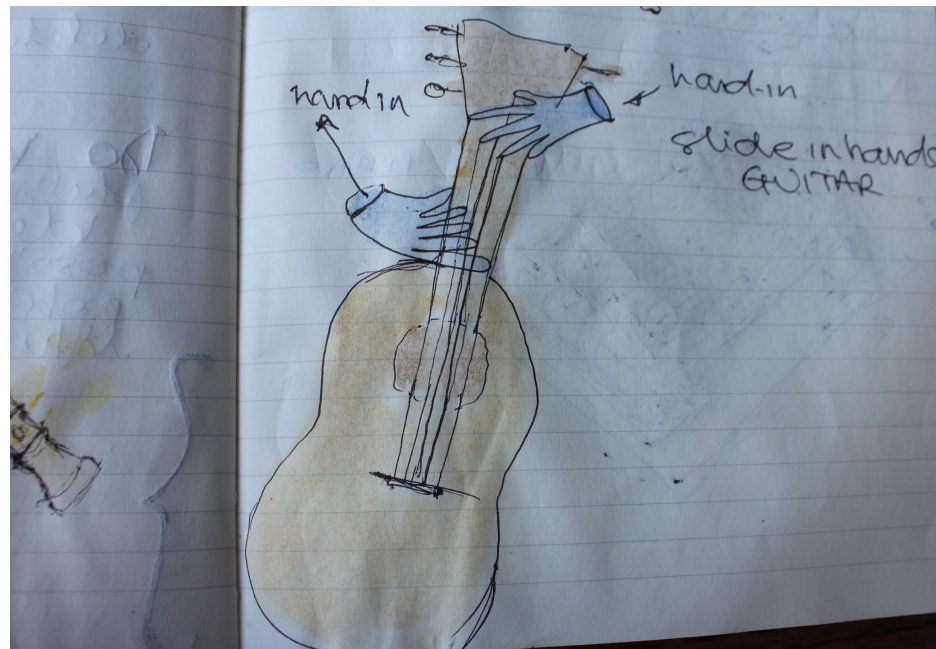


British singing bowl

A UK version of the tibetan
one



Test your dexterity
guitar



Hand pump flute



CarpeTone

Broadcast your steps to your
neighbours



Song RandomGenerator

Place webcam over bubble with
computervision script
interpreting the resulting
letter-code to a fullsong
sequence



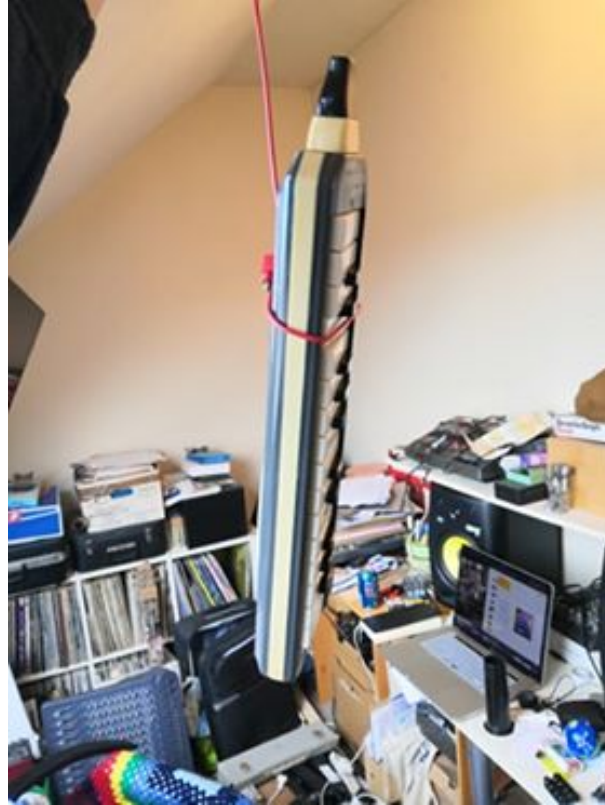
Melodiyoga

A yoga matt that allows you to play the classics during inhales and exhales.



Melodiyoyo

A yoyo that allows you to play the classics during yos and yos.



Frisbow

An instrument that can only
be played mid-flight.

Attempt to bow the Frisbow
before it lands!



Skate & Create

An instrument that allows you to play a note every time you ollie. Kickflips release a special bonus pattern of notes.

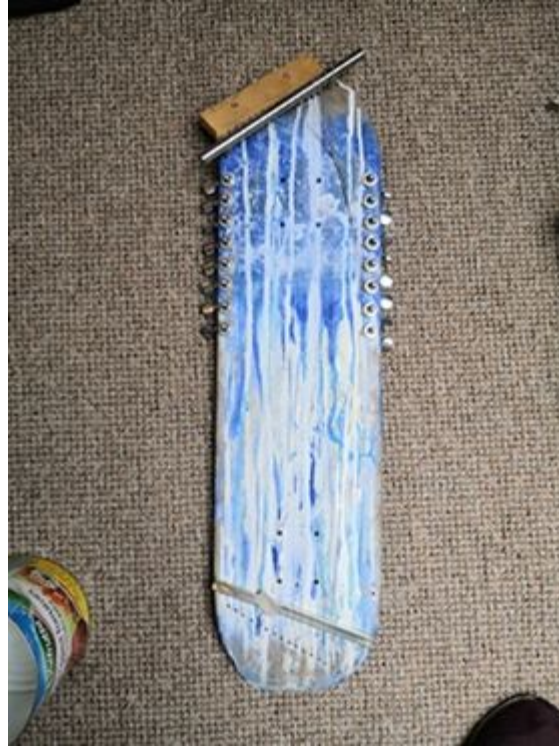
This one only plays hits of the 80s including several Wham hits.



Don't Skate Do Create

An instrument that allows you to play a note every time you don't ollie. Kickflips release a special bonus pattern of notes but you can't do them sorry.

This one only plays folk hits of the 1880s.



Carpet Sample(r)

A stain resistant and bleach
cleanable interface. Just
feel me!



Build Your Own Lockdown Organ

Build your own organ from everyday materials! Collect panic bought toilet roll tubes over a series of weeks and cut to size.



**Cry about toilet paper
shortage**

Who is hoarding toilet paper?



Lock Down Wind Instrument

Make your own performative
sculpture to be enjoyed by
you and your neighbour



Door Mat Music Maker

Welcome home to some funky
grooves and clean floors



LightOperaTribe

In recognition of the fact that many beat based hardware boxes make it impossible for you to make anything other than crap dance music...

We present the LightOperaTribe which only generates crap light opera with adjustable racism, cultural imperialism and bourgeois smugness for the automated libretto generator.



Emcee 303

In recognition of the fact that many beat based hardware boxes make it impossible for you to make anything other than crap dance music...

We present the Emcee 303 which only generates crap Music Hall/ Working Mens Club banter with adjustable racism, cultural imperialism and non-bourgeois smugness for the automated bawdy chuckle generator.



Tea Ping Point

two chopsticks are used to
manipulate five ping pong
balls

a very quiet instrument that
needs careful mic placement
to capture the full range of
pings and pongs produced



Sonic Eggs

A cracking idea.

Yolk Music?

Ready for your first Albumen.



Allergy Music

Wireless amplified tissues for audience participation. Also available as plastic lozenge wrappers.

Optional machine learning audio processing removes extraneous sounds of orchestral instruments, leaving behind a pure recording of coughs and sniffles.



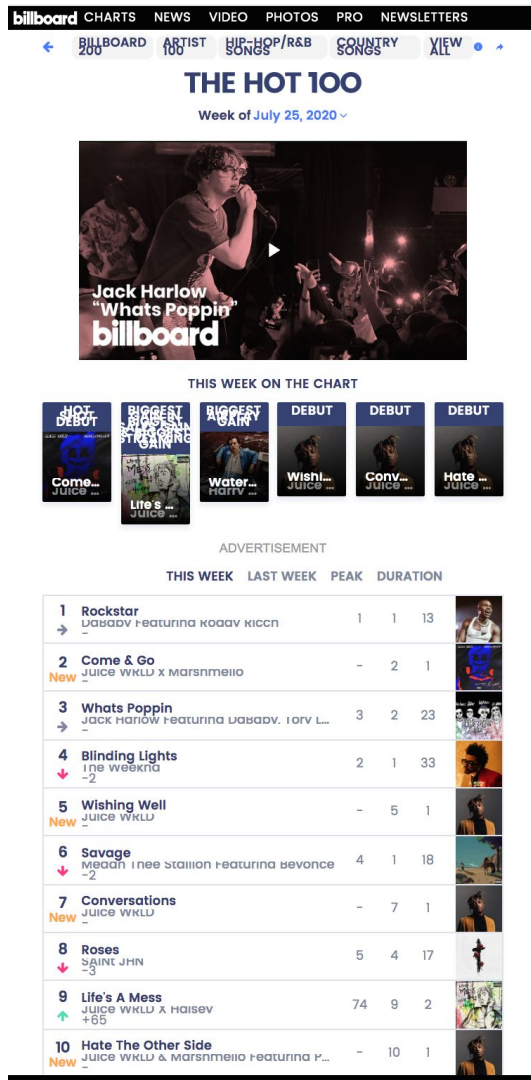
The Shit Factory

Algorithmically generated pop music sonifies stool health.

From poop to pop!

Fully integrated with the Bristol Stool Chart and the US Hot 100.

(Of course, as an occasional bass player, I would lower the tone.)



Aural Doughnuts

When you get tired of
"normal" music, three simple
steps can free your mind.

1. Put doughnut in mouth.
2. Chew
3. Enjoy the sounds of
wonderful doughnut.



Aural Doughnuts if you don't like Doughnuts

When you get tired of
"normal" music, four simple
steps can free your mind.

1. Offer a doughnut to a
friend who likes
doughnuts
2. Ask him/her to put it in
mouth.
3. Ask her/him to Chew
4. Enjoy the sounds of
wonderful doughnut.



Bribery Tactics

Aural donuts for everyone!



Bribery Tactics

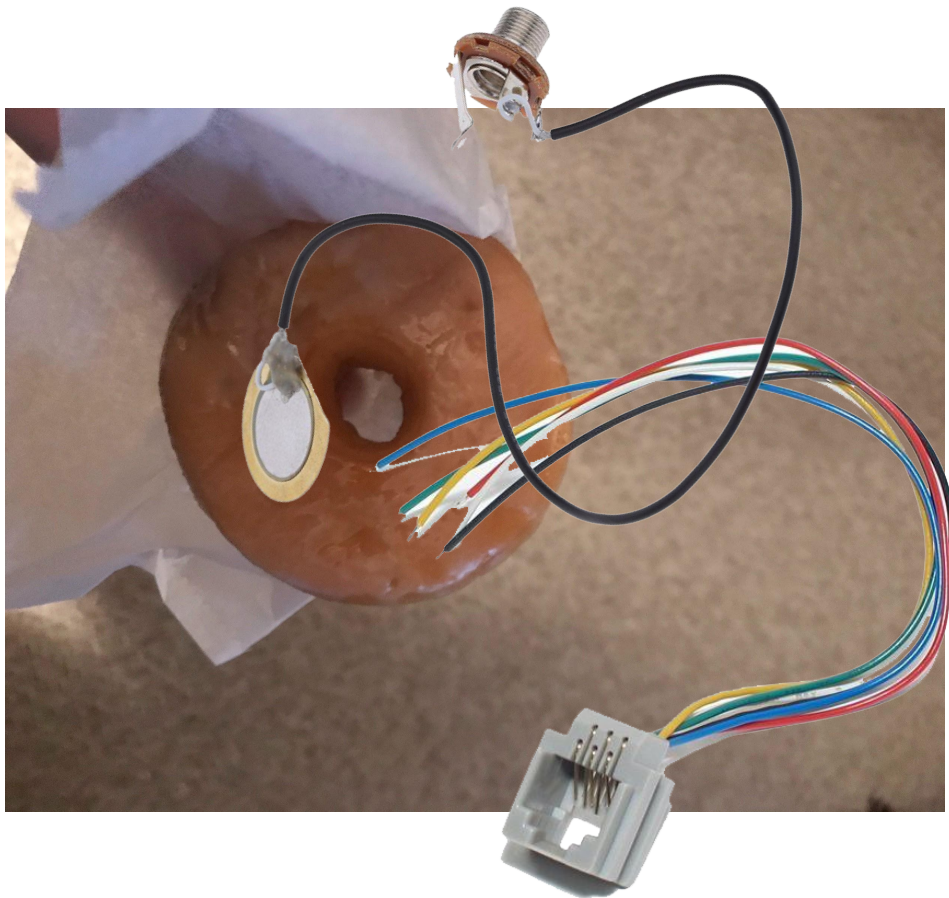
Aural donuts for everyone!

For those who don't like
sticky fingers.



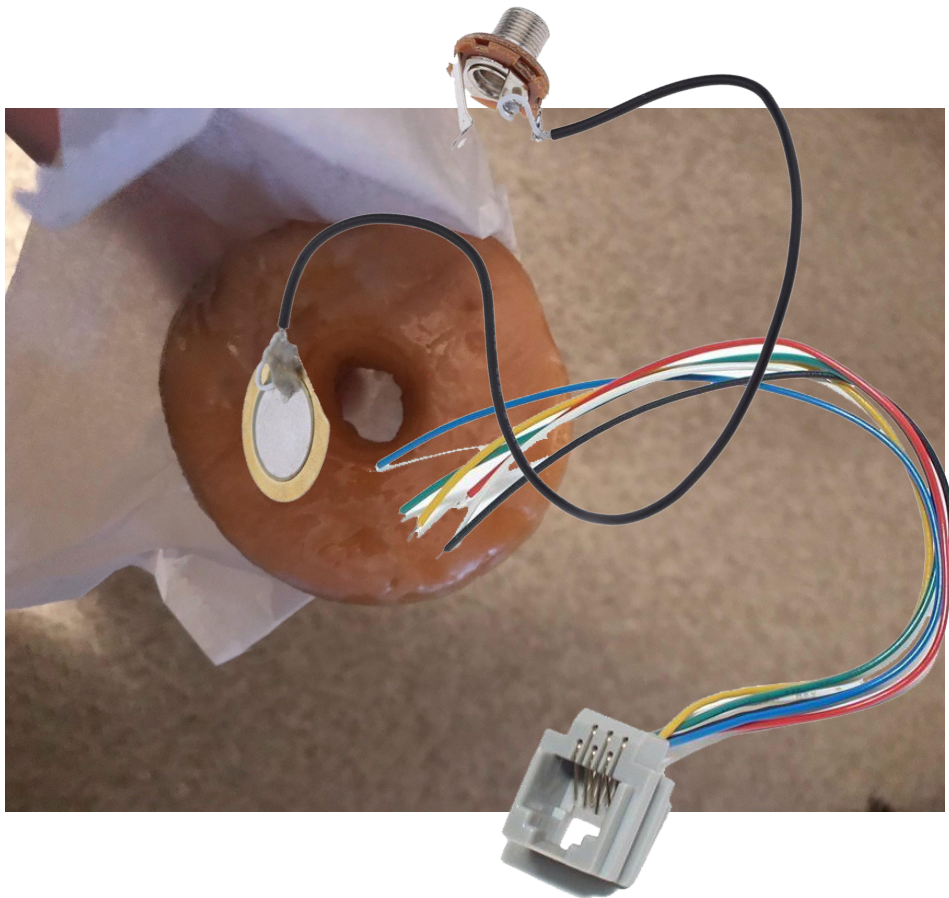
Smart Bribery Tactics

Aural donuts for everyone!



Smart Aural Doughnuts

Aural donuts for everyone,
connected and augmented!



Whispyness

A string of time obstructing
movements along its length.
The past is covered /
layered. Antenna to the world
(for broadcasting).



A Flash Modded Special Edition U2 iPod from 2004

There really isn't much to this. It's literally a slightly faster old iPod. But hey, you can play WAV files on it!

And yes, I actually flash modded this. So it's very possible to make, but a really dumb idea for a musical instrument!



"Musical Keyboard"

Oh, you thought I was talking
about a piano keyboard?
Think again!!!



Mechanical "Musical Keyboard"

Another version of the "Musical Keyboard" that will bring you back to the 90's and early 2000's and is soooooo loud!



Macbook "Musical Keyboard"

Just try typing (I mean
playing) on this keyboard!
You will never know if you
are pressing a key or not!



Macbook Macs

Eat a Macbook like you would
a big mac



The Cat Bed

It will only make sound if a cat is sleeping in it. Hopefully the music won't wake the cat! Otherwise this bed will never play music for longer than 5 seconds!



Hammeck Sing and Swing

As you swing you can sing as
you relax and the hammeck
will follow you.



Banana Hammock

Plays sound when there are bananas in it. The more the bananas weigh, the more tones play in harmony, until all bananas are gone.



Lego Circuits

I love building with lego!
What if the lego made noise
as you built, played with, or
broke your creations?
Introducing Lego Circuits

No one asked for this, but
whatever!



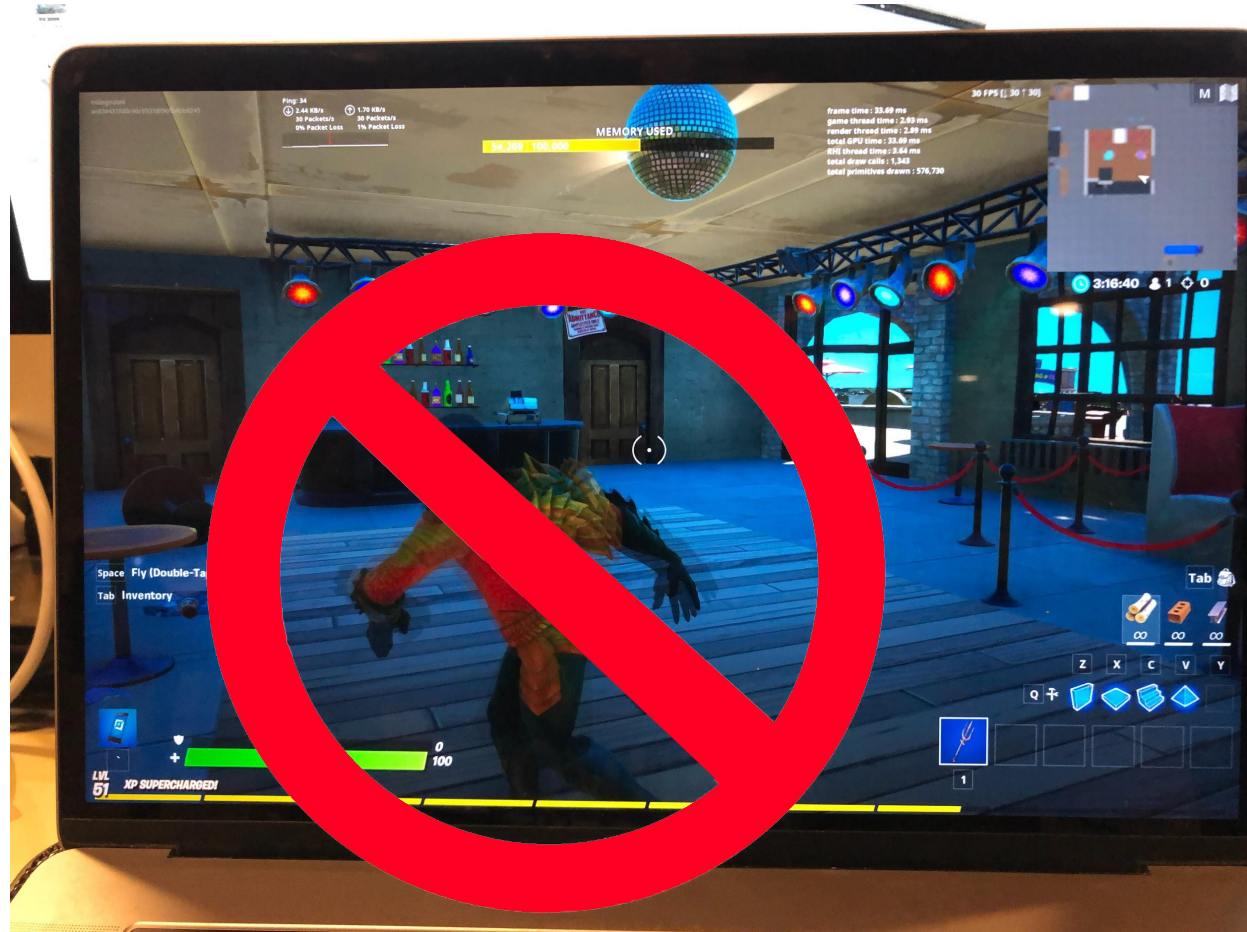
Fortnite Dance Instrument

This is the ultimate instrument of 8 year olds! Tell your squad to dance, and the more people dance, the more sick beats get generated! I'm so sorry for even coming up with this idea!



Fortnite Anti-Dance Instrument

Tell your squad to stop
dancing and to just play the
game! Now I can relax in
piece!



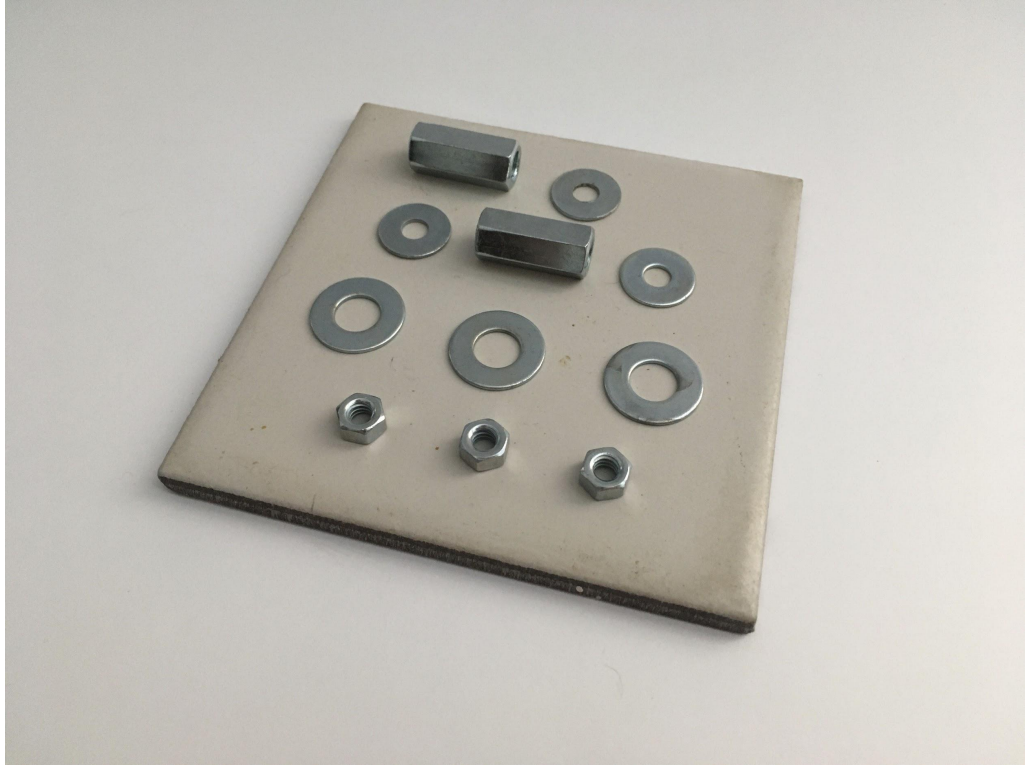
Fortnite is better than
Minecraft!

That's all I have to say! I
am literally an 8 year old!



Metal porcelain sequencer

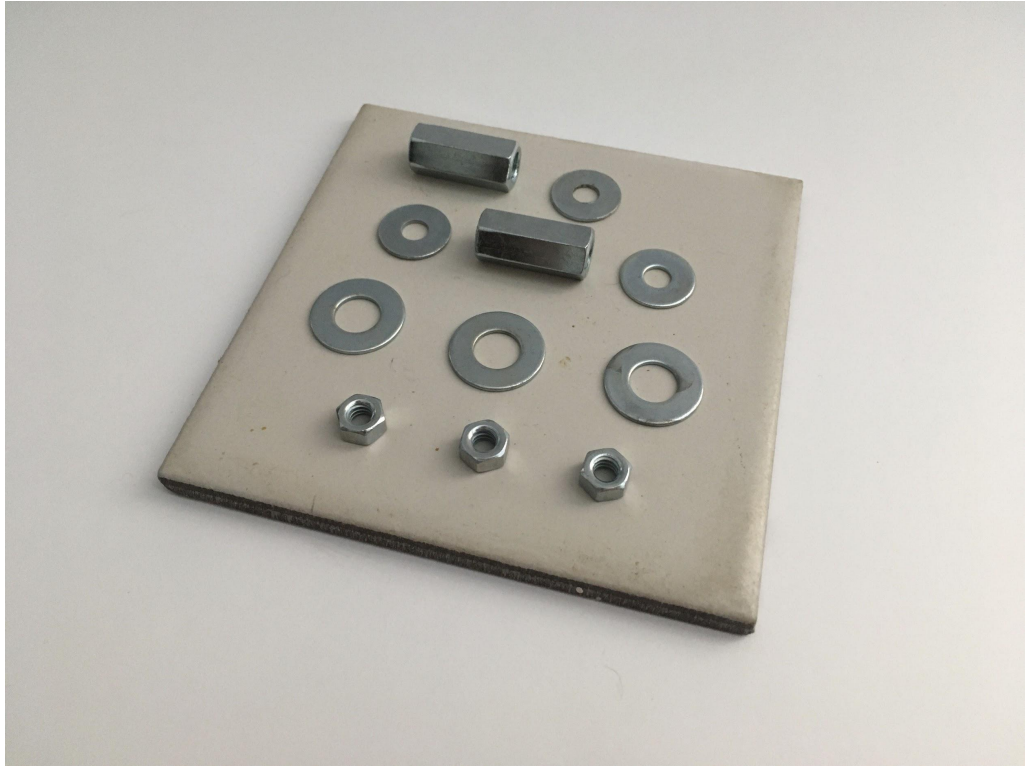
Metal pieces and porcelain



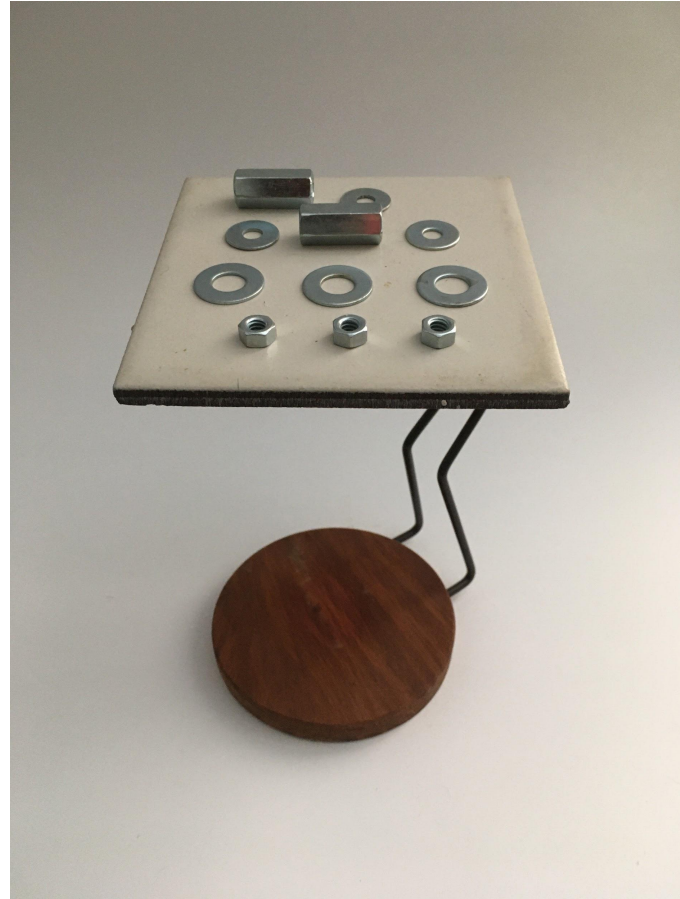
Dysfunctional Toilets

An ill-fated attempt at
building a miniature toilet
for your hamster...

Frantic scuttling ensues



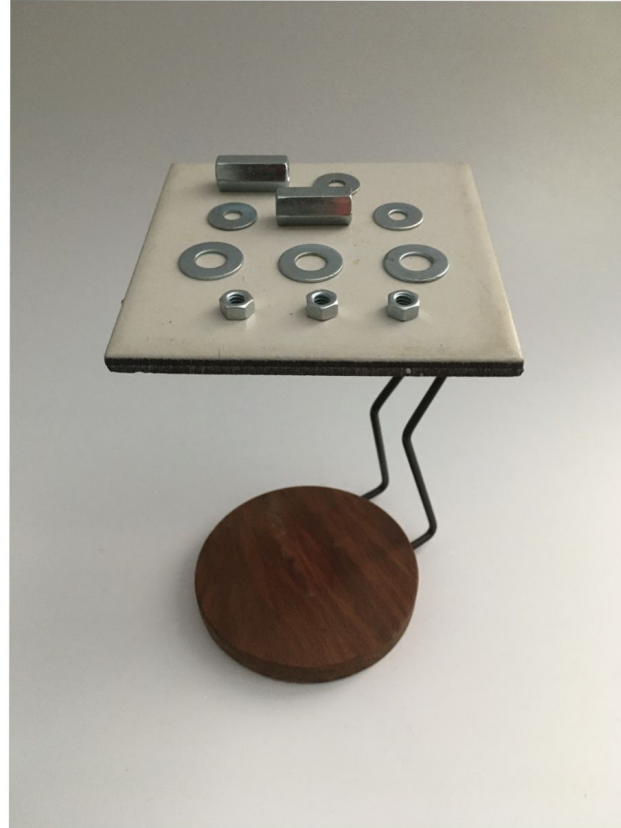
Higher Metal Porcelain Sequencer



RENT ME

Hire Higher Metal
Porcelain Sequencer

Enquire within



Bendable continuous
instrument



Metal Bendy Straws

Save the turtles!



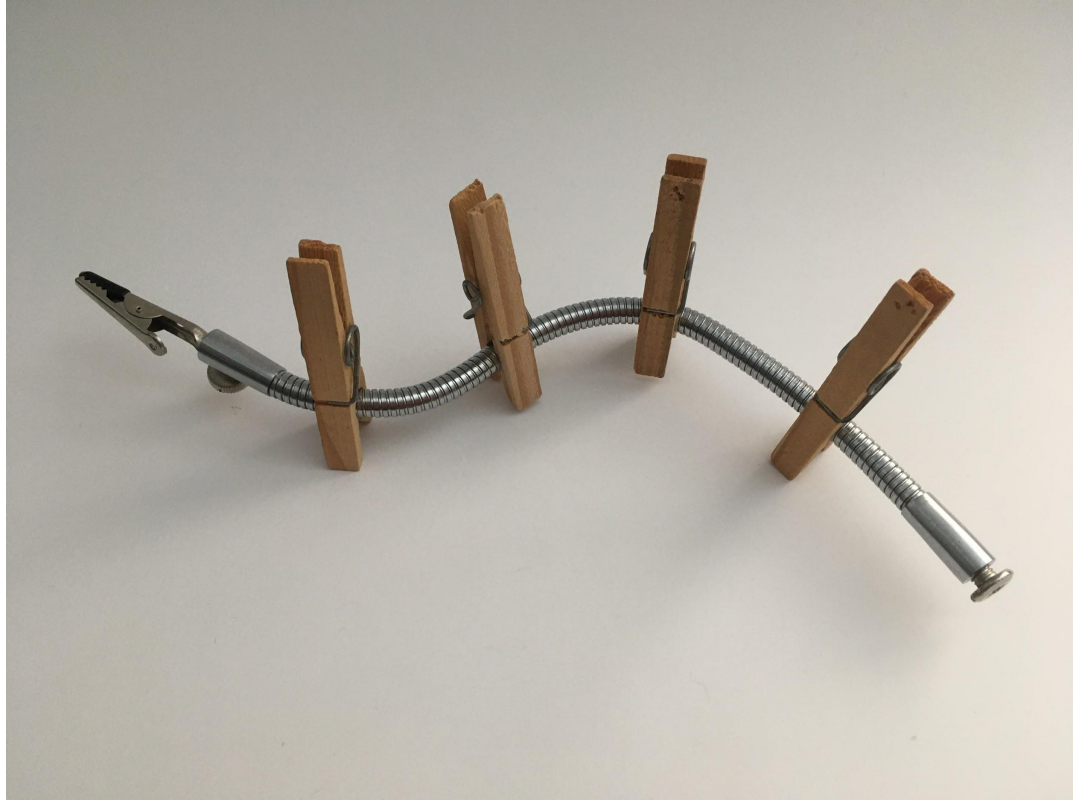
Breath actuator

Interface for activating
surrounding environment
through breath with embedded
sensors and paired with
headphones for sonic
biofeedback



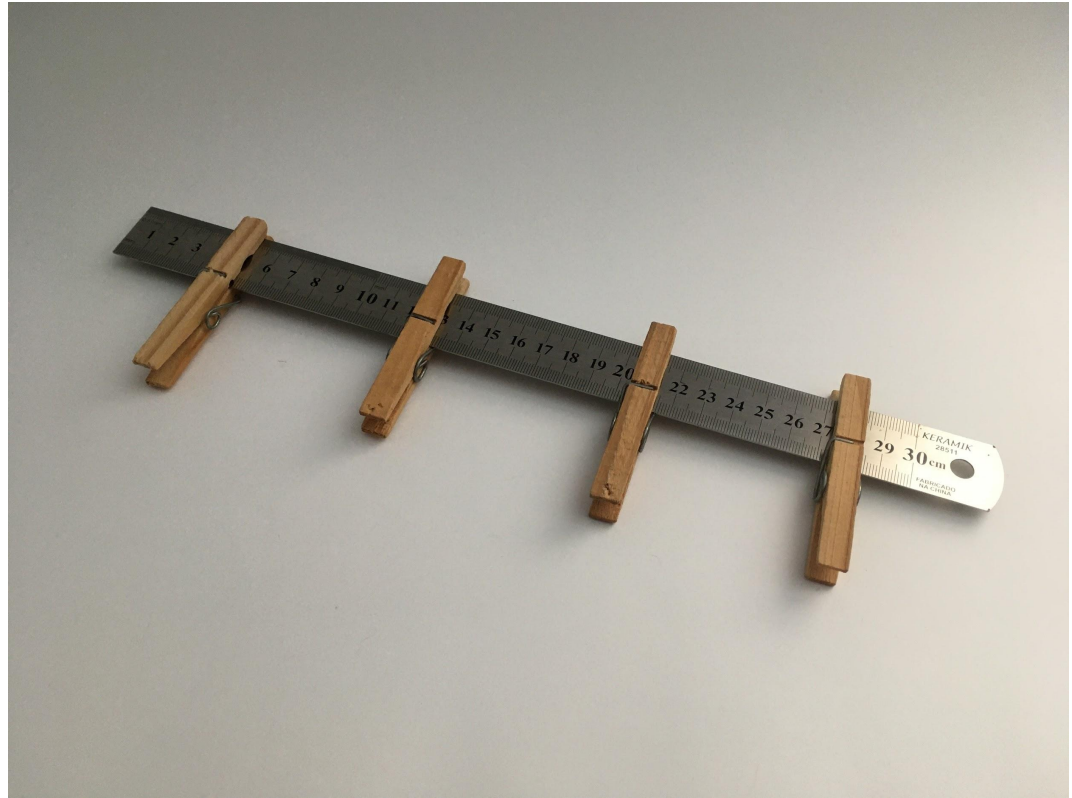
Bendable discrete instrument

This instrument does have
pitch bend! Have fun synth
players that overuse the
pitch bend wheel!



Not bendable discrete instrument

It cannot do pitch bend,
which might be a good thing
since synth players can be
known to overuse the pitch
bend wheel!



Stick and Play Anywhere

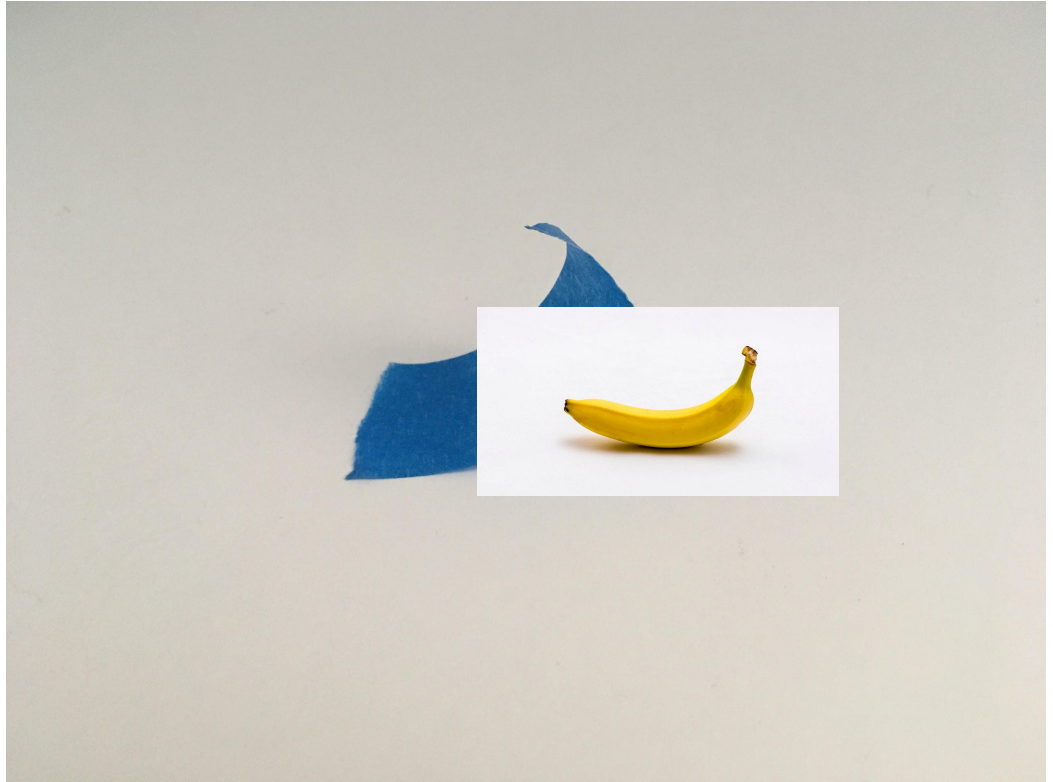
IEEE 935.1 Protocol, MIDI 5.0, OSC 2.1, Bluetooth 5.1, 2 GB RAM, and bendable finest hardware material to stick and transform any material in a perfectly Zodiac aligned expressive artifact. Pressure-time and stress-free sensor with polymorphic properties.



Stick and Play Banana

Stick and add banana

The Banana is very vital to
the timbre of the instrument.

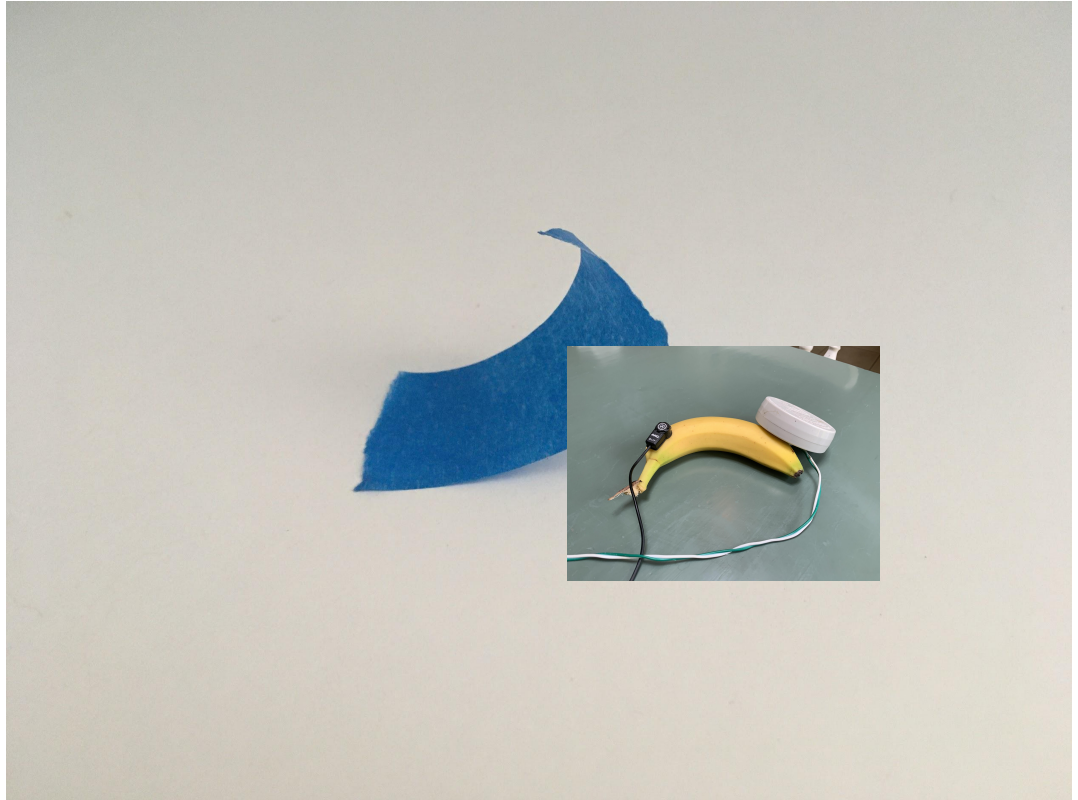


Stick and Play Feedback Banana

Stick and add banana

The Banana is very vital to
the timbre of the instrument.

The Banana is the king of
instruments



Musical Spray Can

A spray can that has little knobs coming out of it. Those make music! That's really it!

Piano-baser modular approach.



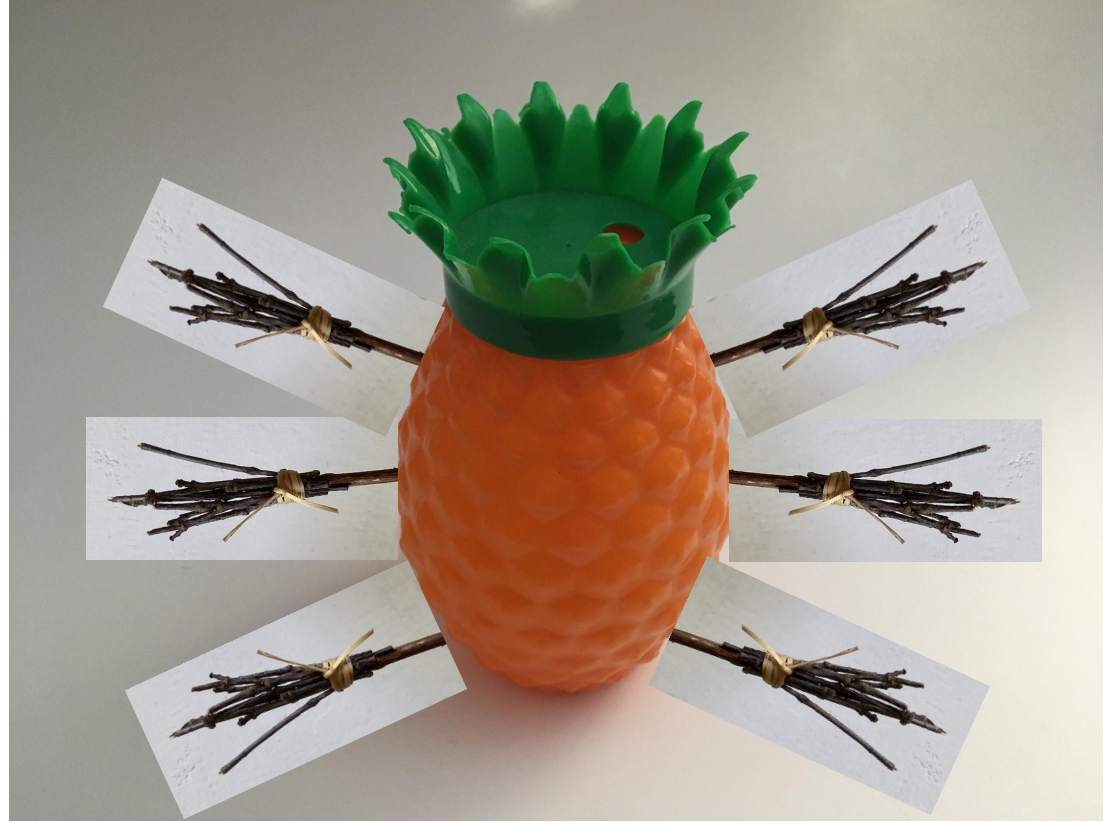
Pineapple Jammer

The Pinapple Jammer only needs a bassoon reed placed in the top to be able to play tropical classics.



Pineapple Jammer over time

Over time the jammer gets
jammed and weird. Which is
better.



Close Your Eyes to Infinity and Beyond

Put this on and imagine the next beautiful and expressive piece of music. Remember to remove it.

add half cutted onion in front of performer's nose



Close Your Eyes to Infinity and Beyond

Put this on and imagine the next beautiful and expressive piece of music. Remember to remove it.

add half cutted onion in front of performer's nose



Close Your Eyes and Ear Set - To Infinity and Beyond!

Put the eye mask on and the
ear plugs in and imagine the
next beautiful and expressive
piece of music. Remember to
remove it.



Mixer and Filter

Used when making sonic culinary creations.

They both include CV control for integration with modular synthesisers.



Muted Shaker

If you want to join in the
jam but you have no rhythm.
Shake in safety.



Magic Rub

Rub on anything to generate
sound

Rub on anything to remove
sound

Bend it as you like

Don't bend it or it will
break



Magic Eraser

Break in half and duel the
halves to the death...



Sewing machine guitar strummer

The up and down action of the sewing machine is used to pluck strings while sewing a fabric instrument.



Silver Birch Marimba

Contact mics amplify the resonance of a tree when it is struck with a soft birch beater.

The silver birch marimba can be arranged according to any scale or tuning system. It is recommended that the microphones are kept on overnight, so that the marimba can be played by passing foxes and badgers.



Rotating Spice Rack

Great for metallic drones
when using a metal exciter.
Potential to be motorised?



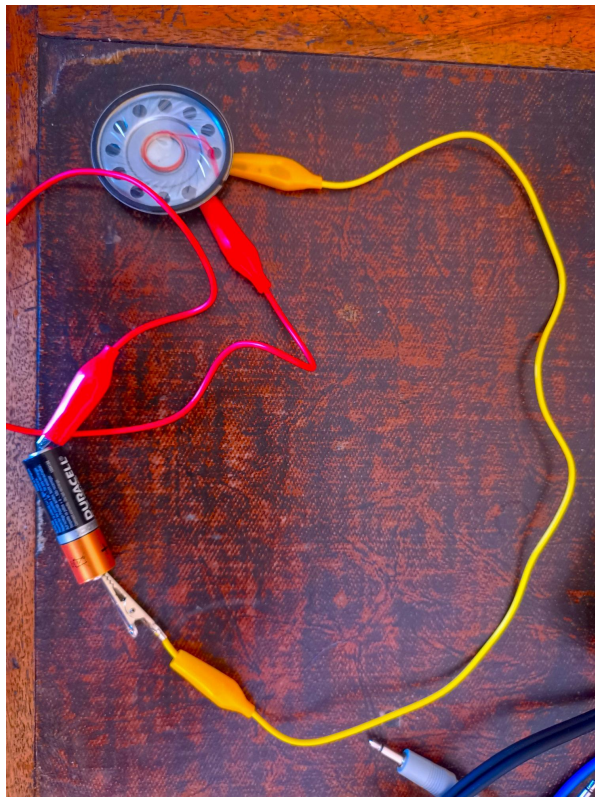
Rotating Sneeze Inducers

Great for fast speed
sneeze-inducing; use at own
risk



0Hz Drone Machine

DC powered.



Personal Stylus

Wire directly to ear canal.
Spin record on other finger
and hold on the groove, or
just rub it wherever.



Topography Explorer

Virtual audio hiking at your
finger tips



Patchless Bay

Connect nothing to anything,
or itself



Spinning Wire Dude

Spinning wire figure using
Arduino



Screw ICE

Pecking ice via screwdriver



Sheet Music Flower Bed

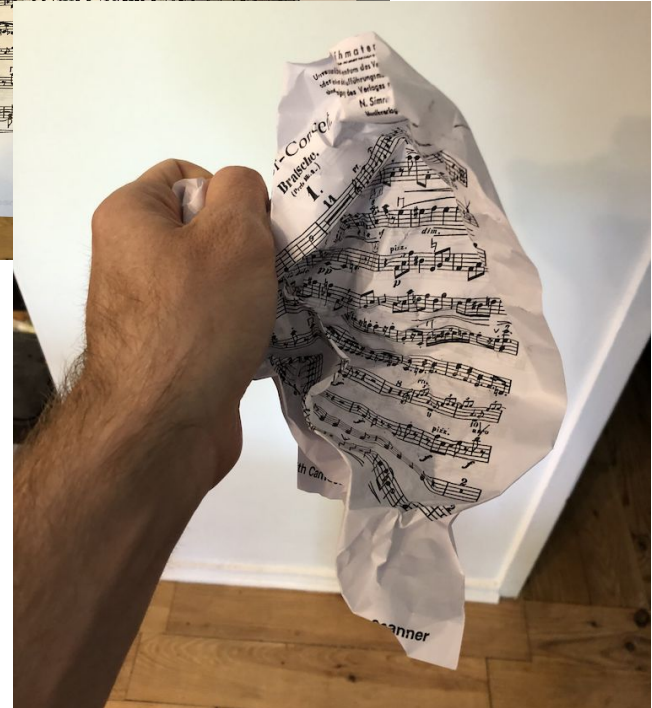
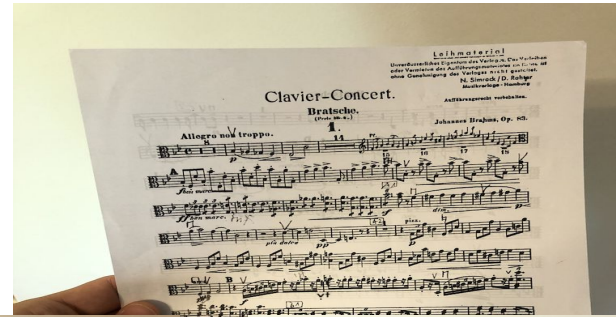
Flowers made out of recycled
sheet music

Embed DC motors and use
Arduino to create synthetic
rustling



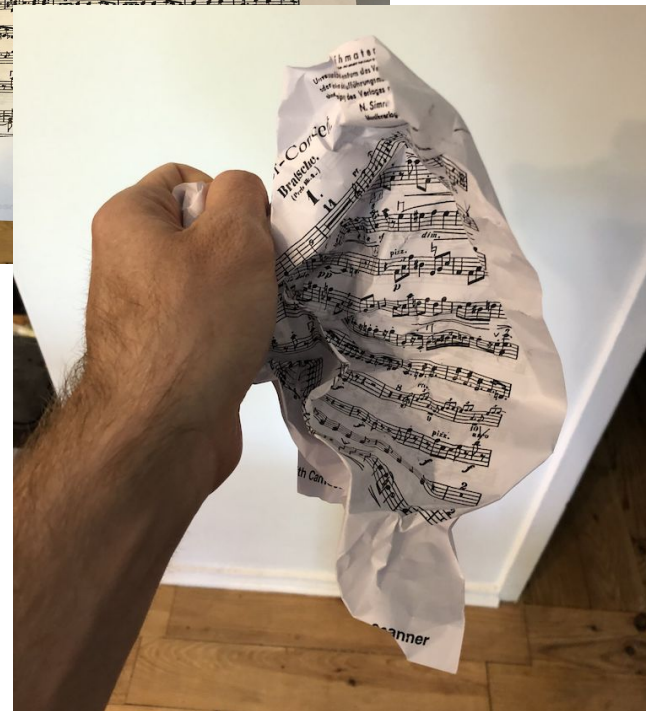
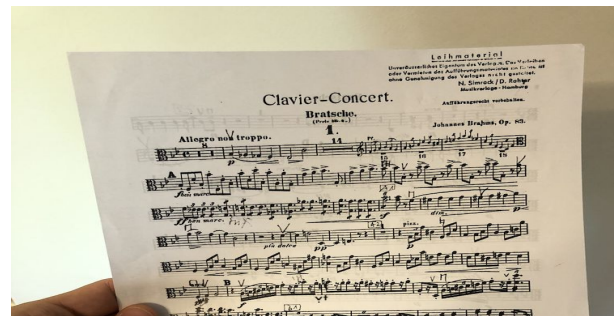
Crumple Brahms

The composition is the
instrument.



Crumple Beethoven

Screams of sacrilege ensue



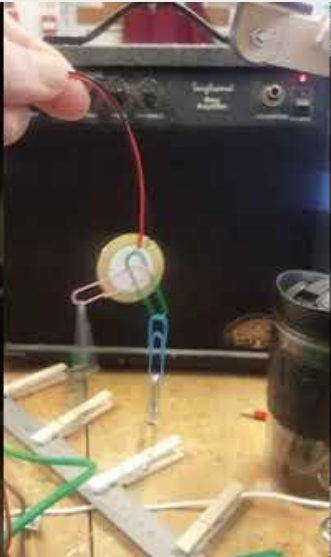
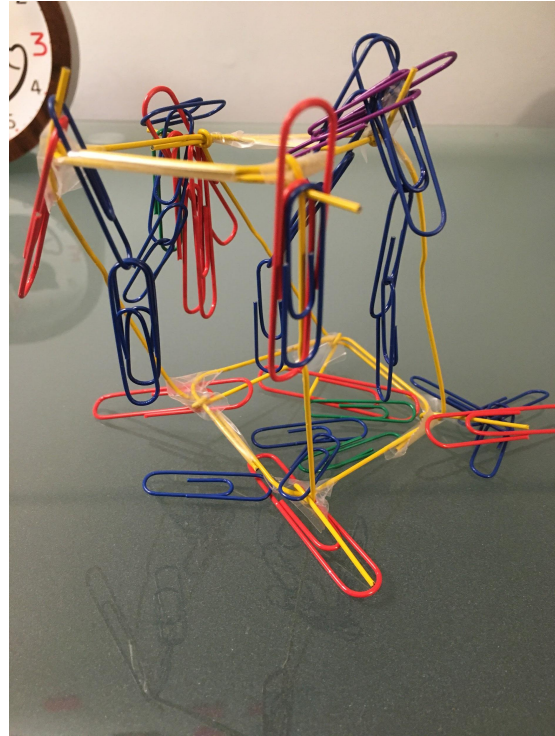
Tossable Butterflies

Tossing paper butterflies
like ninja stars



Paperclip Jingle Tree

Paper clips joined together
and stacked on top of each
other



Spider Screams

Unleash a spider and surprise unsuspecting passerbyers while also unleashing spidey powers.



The Anxietyophone

With the (currently) impossible task of de-cyphering ECG signals brain scans on musicians playing using traditional instruments... A new instrument is designed using highly traceable alert signals in the brain. Spider on nose for example may be more easily traced than a pianist's note press Middle "C". The anxious thought "Fire" could be mapped to F. "Drowning" to the key D. "Explosion" for E... etc. May cause PTSD in most recitals.



Spiders Creams

Unleash a spider and surprise unsuspecting passerbyers while also unleashing spidey powers.

Then have a nice sit down with a refreshing spiders cream.



Catpipes

Played by squeezing,
massaging. Special effects
unlocked via the tail
actuator.



Catpipes

Played by squeezing,
massaging. Special effects
unlocked via the tail
actuator.

Includes reality grounder,
incited by feline claws in
human flesh.



Kitty ASMR

Close mic the kitty and bathe
in the sounds of kitty sounds



Pre-packaged cat controller module

Used in conjunction with the catpipes, kitty ASMR and bowed cat.

Moving the cat controller closer to the catpipes/kitty ASMR etc. will increase the amplitude and pitch.



Bowed Cat

Using a trained musical cat,
it is possible to play the
bowed-cat.

More subtle sounds can be
achieved than with plucked
cat.



Bowing Cat

It is possible for your cat who is clearly superior to bow down...

DISCLAIMER: results in unhappy cat sounds



The Cat Bed

It will only make sound if a cat is sleeping in it. Hopefully the music won't wake the cat! Otherwise this bed will never play music for longer than 5 seconds!



Snoot Boop

Each boop will produce a unique and lovely sound based upon the snoot's size and sassiness.

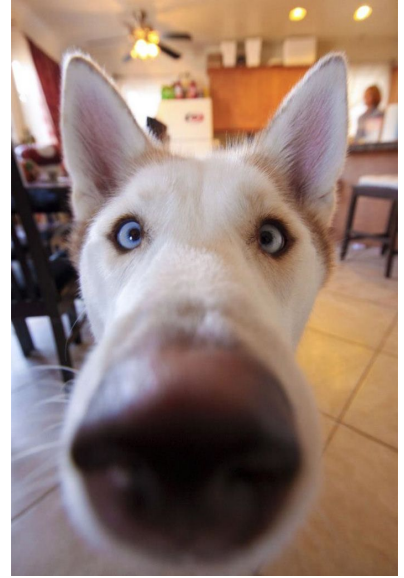
The Pavlovian-o-phone.
Using well known call and response techniques for desired effect>
Call "Who's that"
Response: Dog goes ballistic.



Snoot Boop 2.0

Each boop will produce a unique and lovely sound based upon the snoot's size and sassiness.

This time with added lurcher 'controllable' LFO.



Ultra-sound whistles

A full set of ultra sound whistles covering all the ranges of non-audible frequencies.



Tissue Box Wall of Sound

Wall of tissue box drums



Allergy Queller

Take group of allergy struck people to wall and slowly a cacophony of nose-blowing ensues



Random Pea Sequencer

Pea-sequencer. Every note played is very similar, but subtly different.

Part of a balanced sonic diet.



Pin cushion

Release tension and generate
sound by pushing pins into
the cushion



Elicit Tomato Screams

Tis a tomato voodoo doll...



Retractable Clothesline Accordian

Open and close to generate
sounds...bonus if you can do
so while drying clothes



IR Loom

Tapestry of sound



HyperMetaCyberInstrument

(With apologies to John)

The only instrument you will ever need. Full body suit with sensors on every single muscle fiber of the body. By definition, every other instrument is simply a subset of this one. So many degrees of freedom!



Unravel a ghost

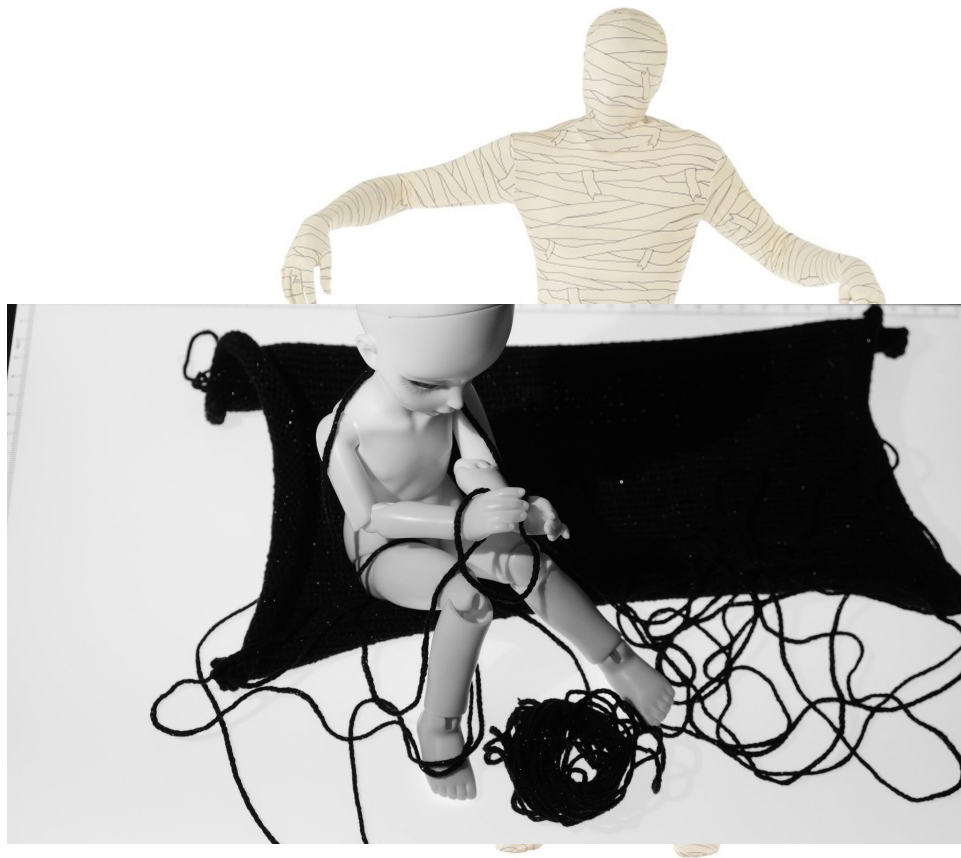
Keep unraveling until you
scream because you've
unraveled a ghost



HyperMetaCyberInstrument t -unwired

(With apologies to John)

The only instrument you will ever need. Full body suit with sensors on every single muscle fiber of the body. By definition, every other instrument is simply a subset of this one. So many degrees of freedom!



Chocolate music random selector

Shake the can before drinking, when you drink it will shuffle between a chocolate playlist (Tim Maia - Chocolate, Chocolate Quente -Michel Teló, etc.)



Cookie Cutter Sounds

Sonic dough that generates sound dependent on the cookie cutter shape.

Or cookie cutters with embedded doodads and sensors to make sound



Chuck out the window

Chuck out the cookie cutters
so that you'll get some tinny
sounds



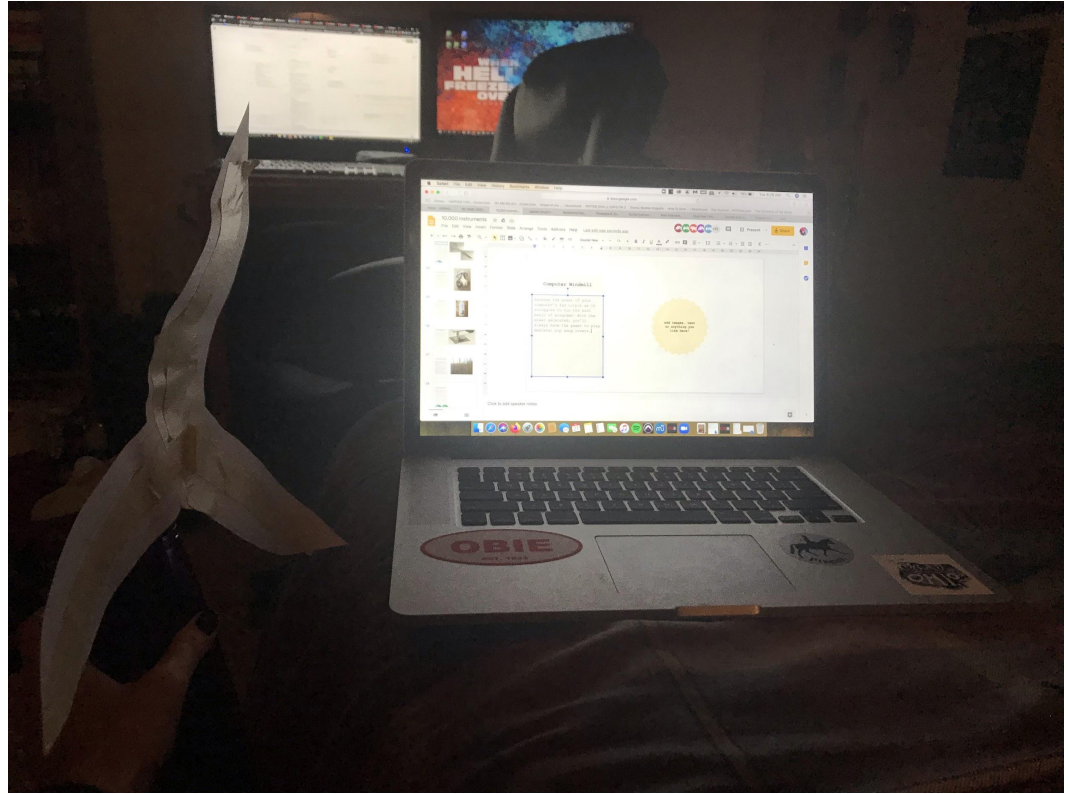
**Chuck out the window
and back and so on**

Chuck out the cookie cutters
so that you'll get some tinny
sounds.
With added string for easy
retrieval.



Computer Windmill

Harness the power of your computer's fan output as it struggles to run the most basic of programs! With the power generated, you'll always have the power to play medieval pop song covers.



Laptop Ensemble

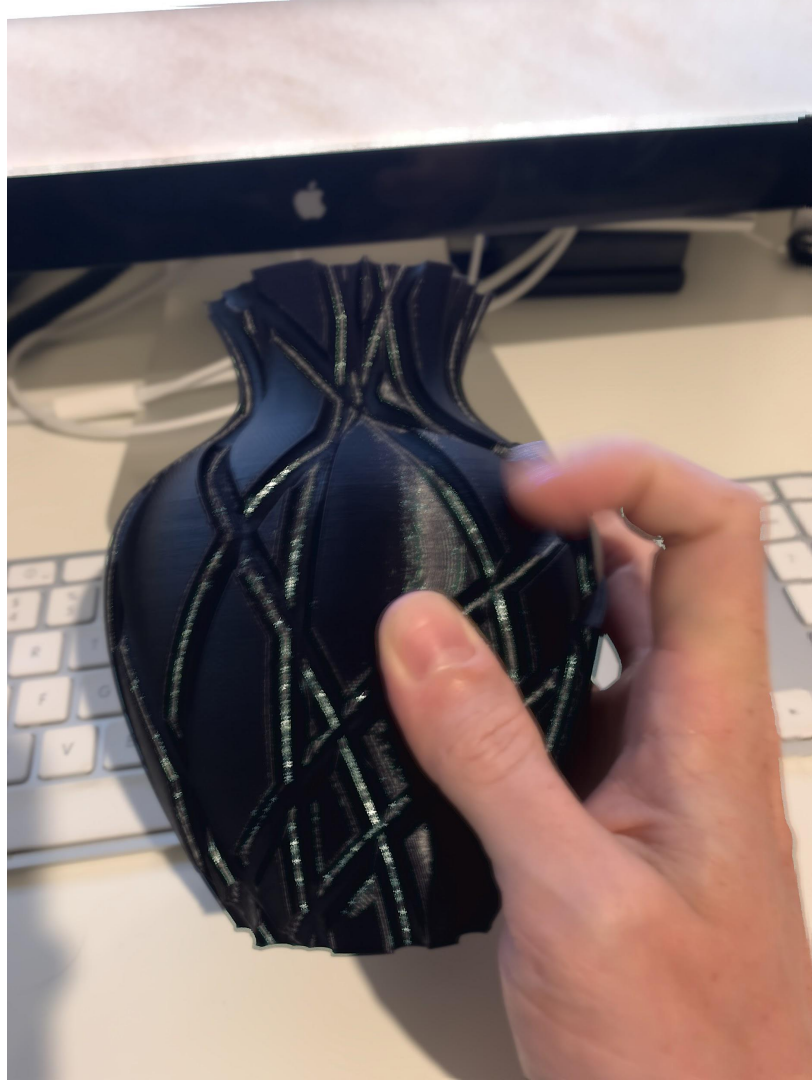
Default OS sounds are left on, and a group of performers use the computers to go about their regular business, leading to alert prompts, start up sounds, notifications, the sound effects of various applications and so on.

Ideally the ensemble would use a variety of operating systems from different points in history.



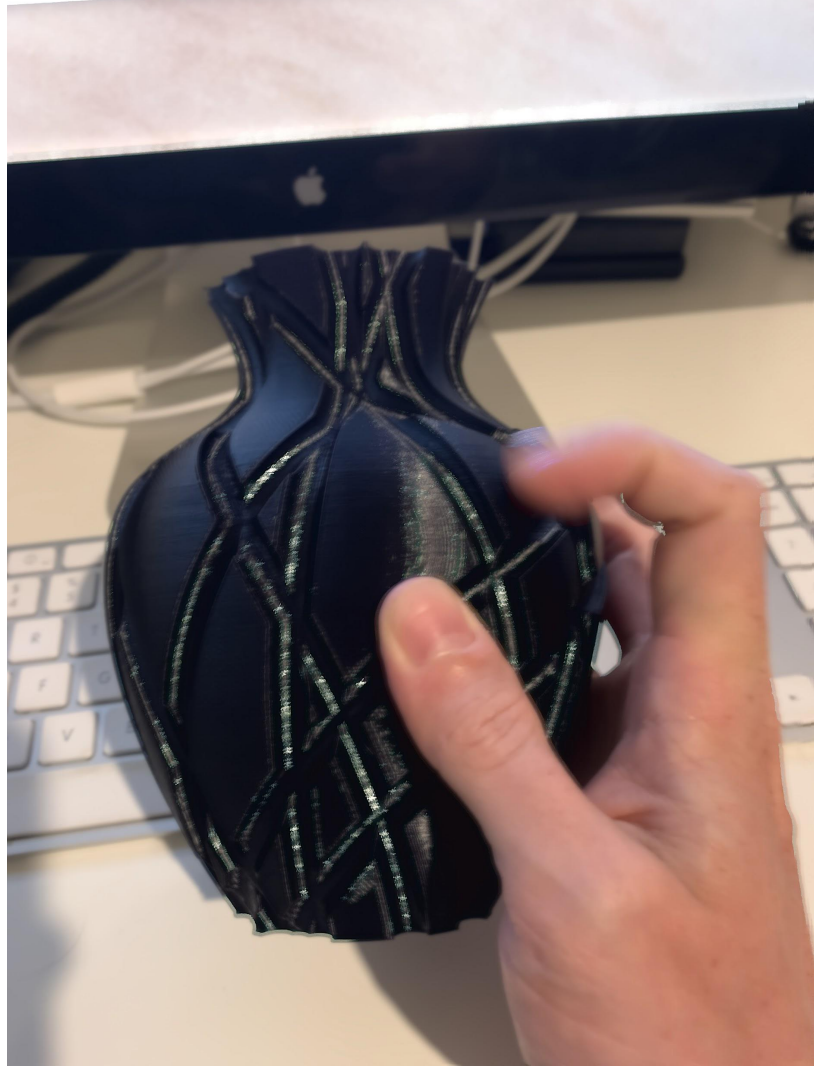
Scratcher

Scratch a 3D printed vase -
self amplifying!



Jealous Scritcher

Scratch a 3D printed vase to induce the wrath and jealousy of your dog



Fermented Equilibrium

A fermentation-based generative instrument based on Rupert, a 2 year old active sourdough culture.

Submerged sensors detect ongoing transformations of the starter, which is sonified into a slowly evolving soundscape.

Stir gently with a wooden spoon to change your tune...



Fermented Equilibrium v2

A fermentation-based generative instrument based on The Cultured Collective's KIMCHI classic.

Contact mic detects ongoing transformations of the starter, which is sonified into a howling feedback loop via a transducer.

Eat for a similar experience...



detune vst

AI translatur

荒诞

Lersta

This floor lamp instrument is an interactive audio-visual instrument that is intended to be played by drum sticks, kitchen utensils, pens, etc. When it is on, it makes a nice musical buzzing sound.

Feel free to augment it with light sensors, piezo pickups, or the switches.



6 am

Shake it!



The forever snooze

Snoozing so much that the clock breaks and you can only shake it in rage when you've missed your class



The Accessories

What if the tools we use to maintain/tune instruments were instruments in and of themselves?

Make music directly with your
feeler gauge/capo/harp tuner
- no instrument needed!



The Accessories part 2

What if the tools we use to maintain/tune our accessories were instruments in and of themselves?

Make music directly with the tools that you use to maintain your accessories - no instrument needed!



The Accessory

Be the tool for maintenance,
repair, care.

Make the music from this work
of maintaining something
else.

Make the music from this work
of maintaining something
else.

Be the alan key.



Sproing

When pulled down and released, it makes a lovely ringing noise.



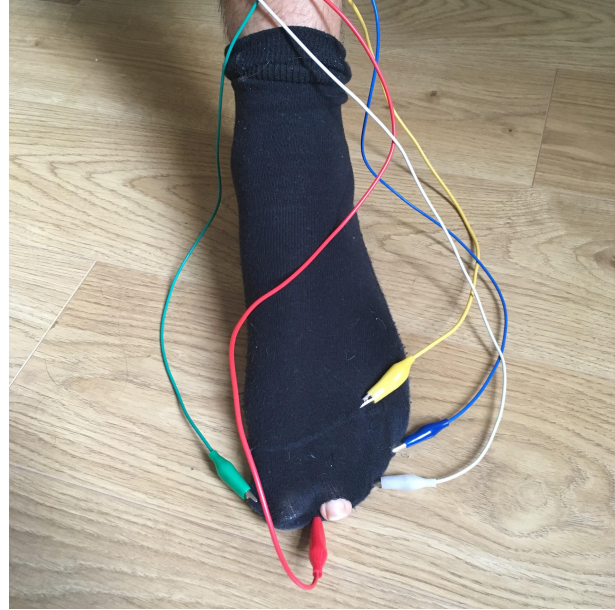
Sproing Ladder

Little animals will scurry
down the ladder



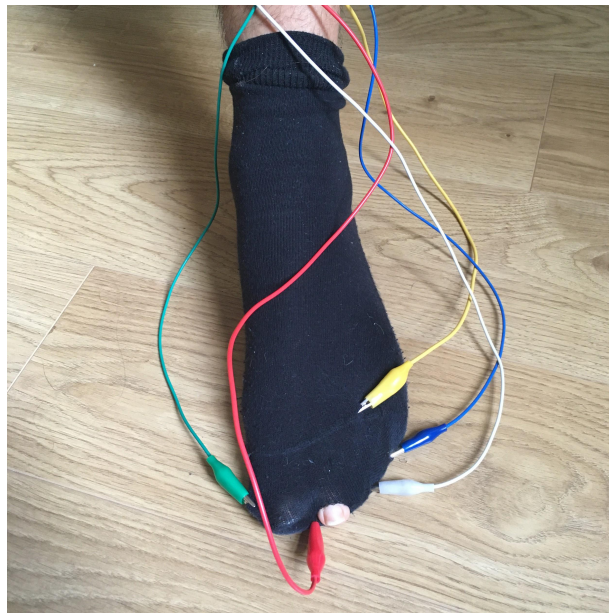
DIY data sock

sonify wiggly toes



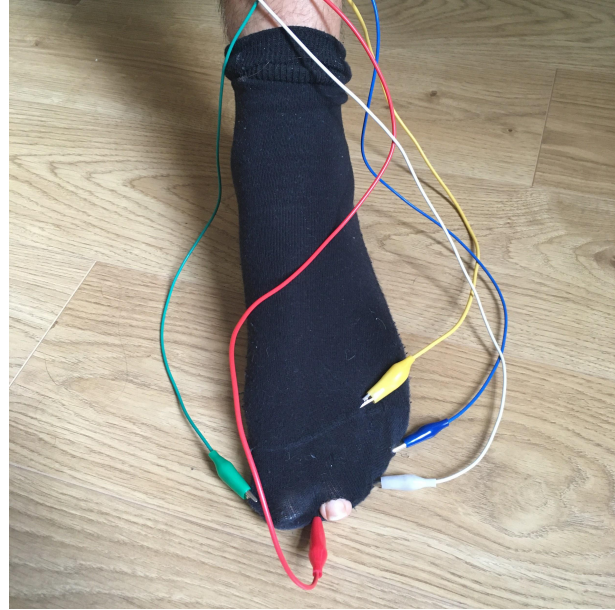
Wiggly Sock puppets

sonify wiggly puppets



Wobble Socks

Add another sock inside for bolas style design, and a younger sibling to get multi-layered sound of bass Thud/ high pitched Scream or wail. Add half brick for delayed siren wail.



DIMINISHED FIFTH

To balance the design
in harmony that currently
leans towards augmentation -
a fifth of whiskey,
diminished. Blow over the top
to achieve deeper notes with
each burning gulp. End the
performance with a crescendo
by smashing it



Finite Audio Machine

All digital audio is essentially a finite sequence of zeros and ones. When you press the button, the Finite Audio Machine will generate a random string of 0s and 1s that is then played back as a 1 second sound file at 8 bit 11kHz.

Can theoretically make a digital representation of any possible 1 second sound! Even ones that never existed! E.g. you might hear Freddie Mercury saying "I love Finite Audio Machine!", or at least the digital representation



Any Sound You Can Imagine

All digital audio is essentially a finite sequence of zeros and ones.

This instrument lets you create any sound by selecting individual bits one after the other. Limited only by your imagination!



Instrument Template

Add a title above and a short description here...

Copy and paste this slide to create a new idea ... or duplicate an existing idea and start from there!



**add images, text
or anything you
like here!**

Laser Harp Gun

Portable, ephemeral, variable scale/dimensions. Twist nozzle to switch between single beam or fan or beams. Button adjusts velocity, use other hand to strum.



FLYING HORN

Pulled at high speeds and high altitudes this large horn is weighted to balance

Multiple horns allows for polyphony



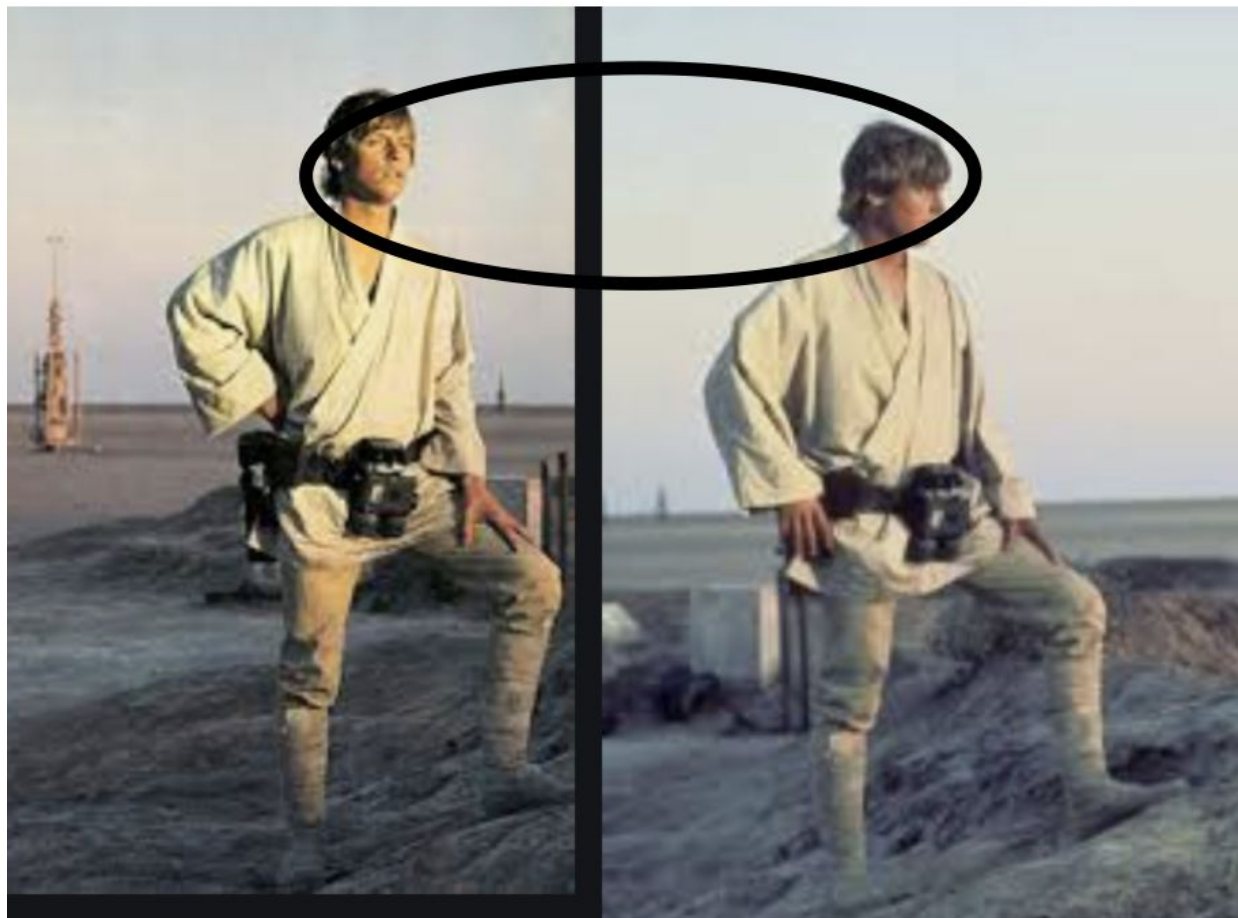
SKYSCRAPER TAPE LOOP

I will plug in my modular synth and play into my tape echo and the tape loop will be spread between two rooftops in chicago for a nice long delay time



SKYWALKER TAPE LOOP

I will plug in my modular
synth and play into my tape
echo and the tape loop will
be spread between two young
jedis in space for a nice
long long delay time ago



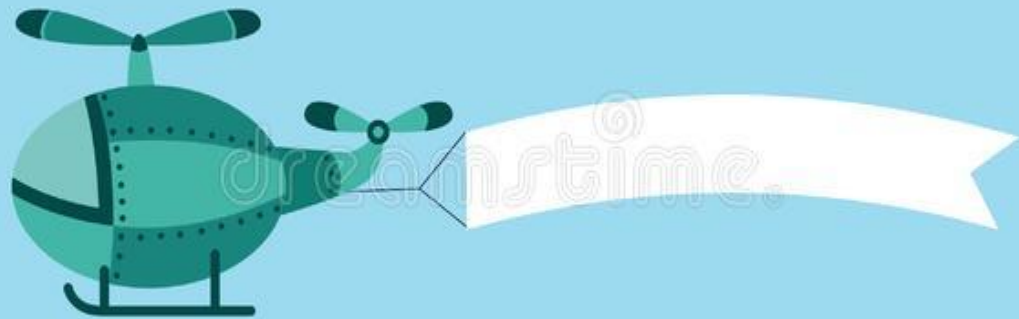
FLYING SAWTOOTH

For the upcoming HLork
(helicopter-powered
orchestra)



FLYING SINE

For the upcoming HLork
(helicopter-powered
orchestra)



Acoustic Wongle

Generally played as part of a set of 17, in mean tone tuning.

Its popularity had declined by the early 1800s. It can be struck or bowed, but is best when amplified.



Just Hammers

Hammers turn anything into a percussive instrument.



Hammer in music

Hammer in the music that you
like



Bag of Hammers

A smart musical instrument.



A bag of bags of hammers



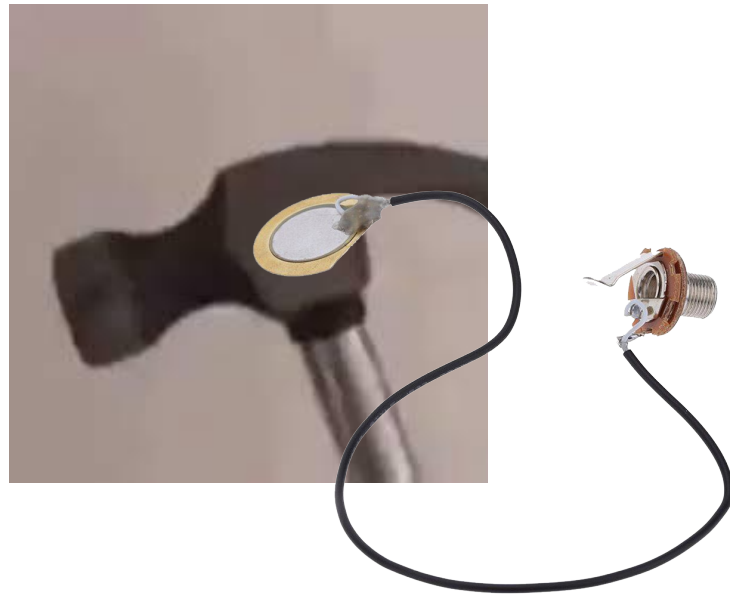
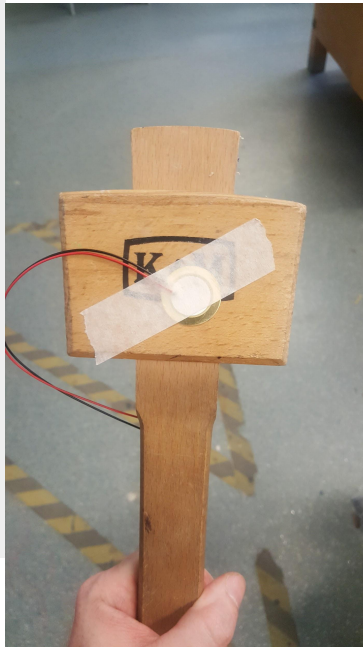
Bag of Hammers with an
Anvil

Just in case



Augmented Hammer

Augmented Musical Instrument
to augment your possibilities



Virtual Hammer

VR Musical Instrument



MC Hammer

A microphone designed to be hit with a hammer.

Designed to accompany the use of the DJ hammer, a form of turntablism based around the heavy use of hammers.



MC Hammer

Perfect for synthesising the
post MIC DROP "MIC DROP"
sound.



Connected and Smart MC Hammer

Perfect for synthesising the
post MIC DROP "MIC DROP"
sound and connected material.



Tuned Nails

Each nail is a different length and tuned to a different note.

A common use is with the MC Hammer.



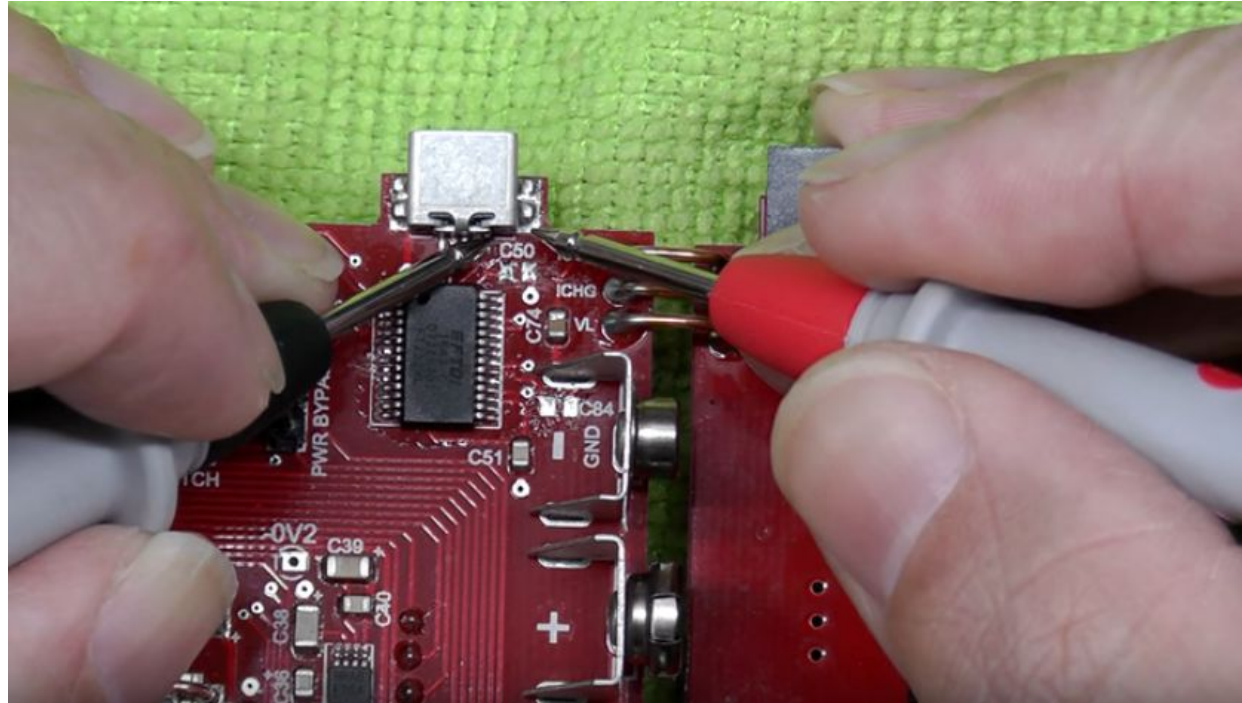
Graffiti Enchanter

A flute soldered to a spray
can to make music as you
graffiti



PCB Prodder

The next step in circuit bending synths is to have a type of test/gauge tool that can poke around old and dead PCBs to find interesting electrical routes and modulation.



Music plantars

Where do they go?

Where are they coming from?

Which music are they playing?



My quarantine rhythmic section

The strings of the mask can be played like a string instrument. Walking bass type of patterns work quite ok. In addition, the bottle can be used as a percussion.



Collaborations

Readymade object. Synth?

Multilayered conductive
substrate. Pins make circuits
between the layers.



Spongebob Stab

Put pushpins in until they
fill up the entire rectangle,
then submerge in water



LRADT

Trumpet police LRADT design



LRAD phase canceller

Phase cancels police LRAD
usage



LRAD phase canceller (hacked)

Phase cancels police LRAD
usage and replaces it with
NWA



LRAD phase canceller (muted)

Mutes police LRAD usage and
makes them look a little
silly



Window Sound Transmutation Device

Replaces sound coming in to a
window with new colourful
sounds



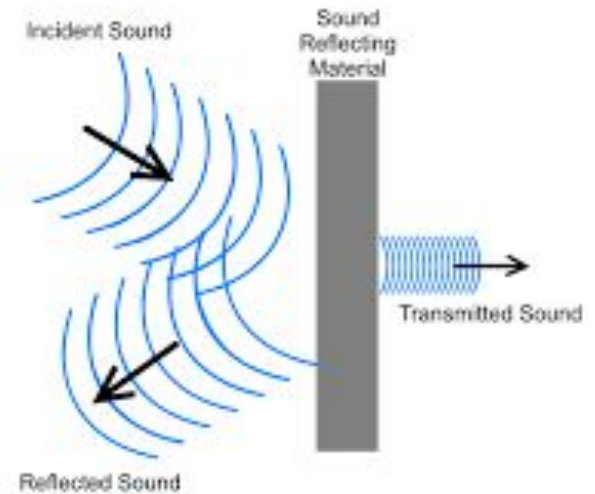
LRAD phase canceller (NIME generator)

Phase cancels police LRAD usage and replaces it with an idea for a new musical instrument.



LRAD Noise reflector

It bounces back the noise back at the police.



Angle of Incident = Angle of Reflectance

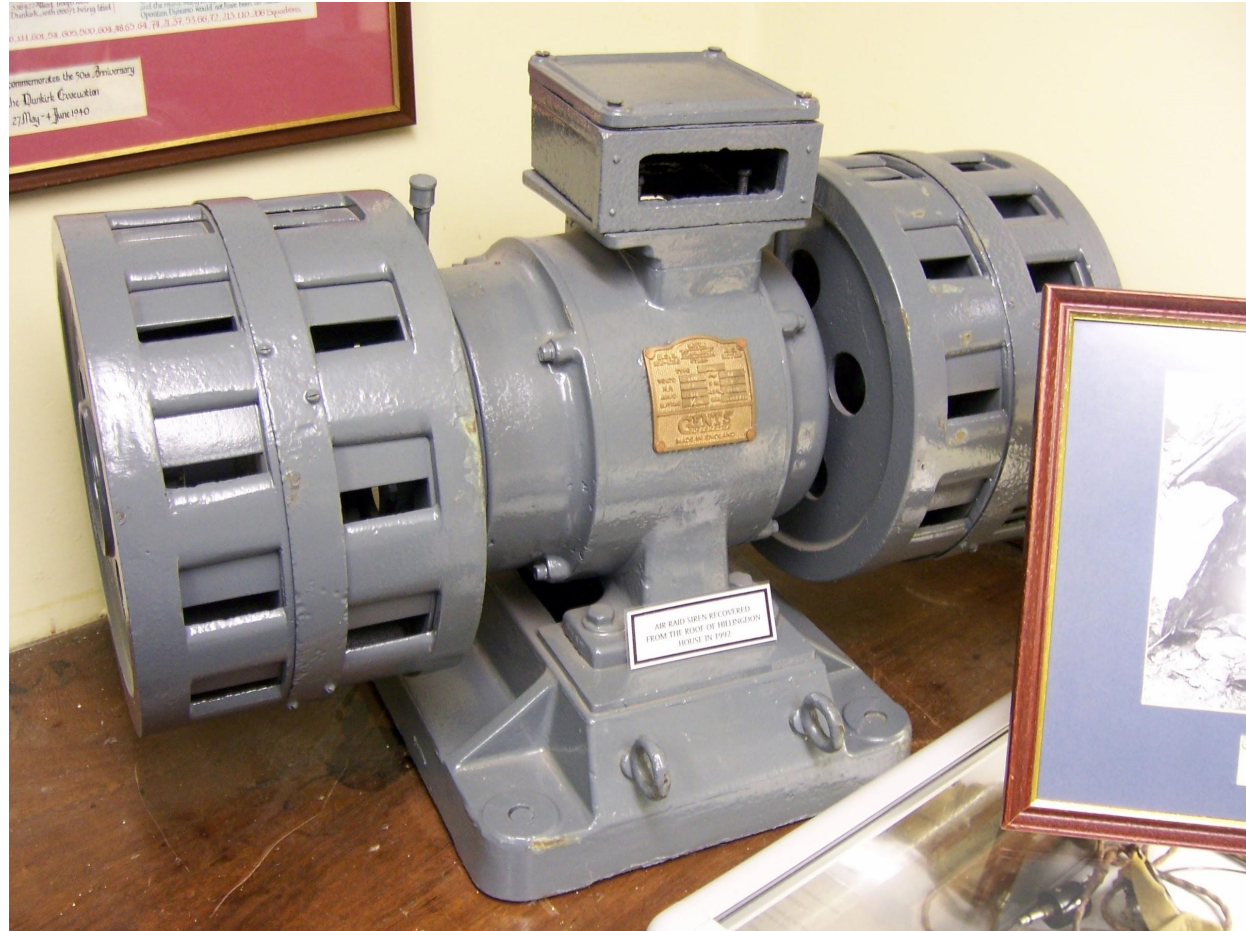
LRAD Noise deflector

Finding ways to modify the noise?



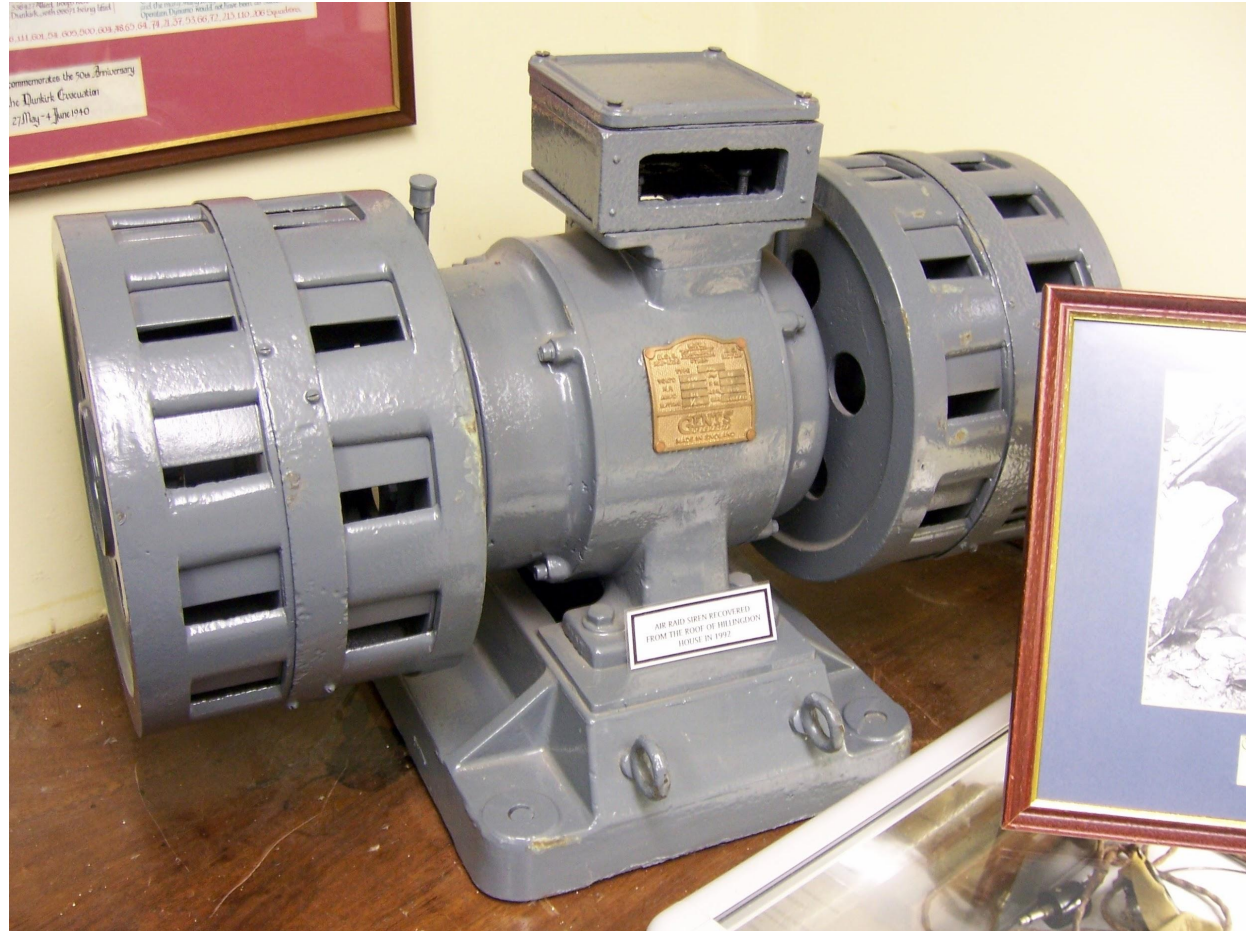
5.1 Surround Sound Air Raid Sirens

6 Sirens: 2 front stereo sirens, 1 center siren, 2 surround stereo sirens, and a big boiiiii subwoofer siren! Now you can be alerted in crystal clear 5.1 Surround Sound!



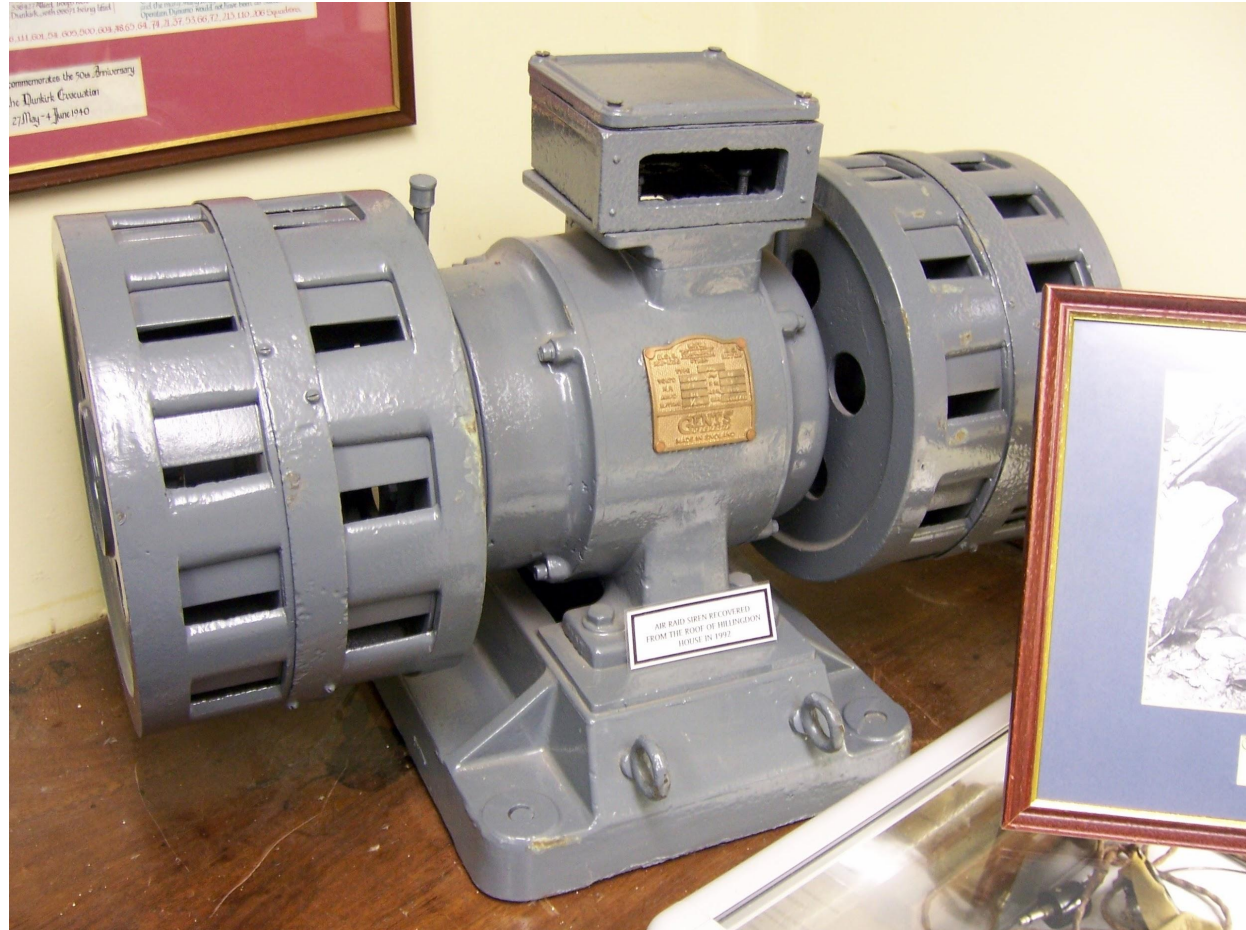
7.1 Surround Sound Air Raid Sirens

8 Sirens: 4 front sirens, 1 center siren, 2 surround stereo sirens, and a big boiiii subwoofer siren! Now you can be alerted in crystal clear 7.1 Surround Sound!



Dolby Atmos Air Raid Sirens

A series of expertly placed air raid sirens to immerse you in whatever alerts are being broadcast!



THX Air Raid Sirens

```
DDDDDEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
EEEEEEPPPPPPPP
```

[illegible]

Connections and disconnection

What touches and what
doesn't? Connections. salt.

Seal a configuration you like
in perspex as a playable lump
of orgonite.



Pandora's Cup

Keep fiddling and making noise until you puncture your finger...whoops!



Prepared Chundaphone

Played like the chundaphone,
but with the addition of
rusty nails. In music of
particularly long duration,
the nails corrode in time
with the chundaphone,
gradually changing the
resonance of the instrument.

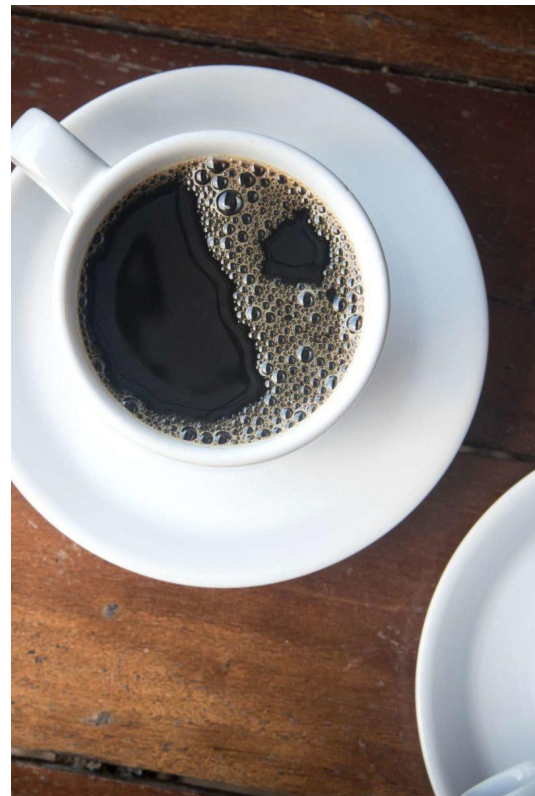


Iron Coffee

A performance instrument - involves filling a cup first with nails, and then a quadruple espresso.

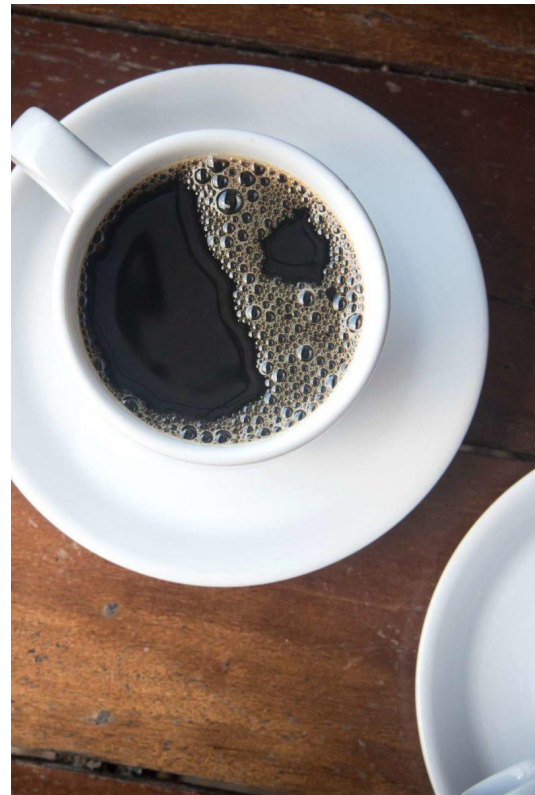
The nails are manipulated with your lips to play a variety of sounds.

The performances played on this instrument usually stops when suitable caffeination is reached.



Iron Coffee

A performance drinking from a
cup, sometimes it is coffee
sometimes it is nails
sometimes it has not decided
what it wants to be yet.



Its complicated

Filter and folding of noise.



Its complicated

Different forms have different results, but settings can be returned to quickly due to easy shape recognition.



Dreamtouch

Dreamtouch is powered only with our body movement and increases functionality as we expand the awareness of our senses, the surfaces we touch, the times in which we are touching, the times in which we are not touching, the living beings that touch us, and the proportions of the world-space that we are sensing. Including the senses in our dream time-space. The sounds-vibrations produced by this instrument can be heard through the feet when connected with others in distant locations (with their feet).



Dreamtouch-listening feet
without *plopper* and *personal*
amplifier plugins

Dreamtouch is powered

we are not touching, the living beings that
touch us,

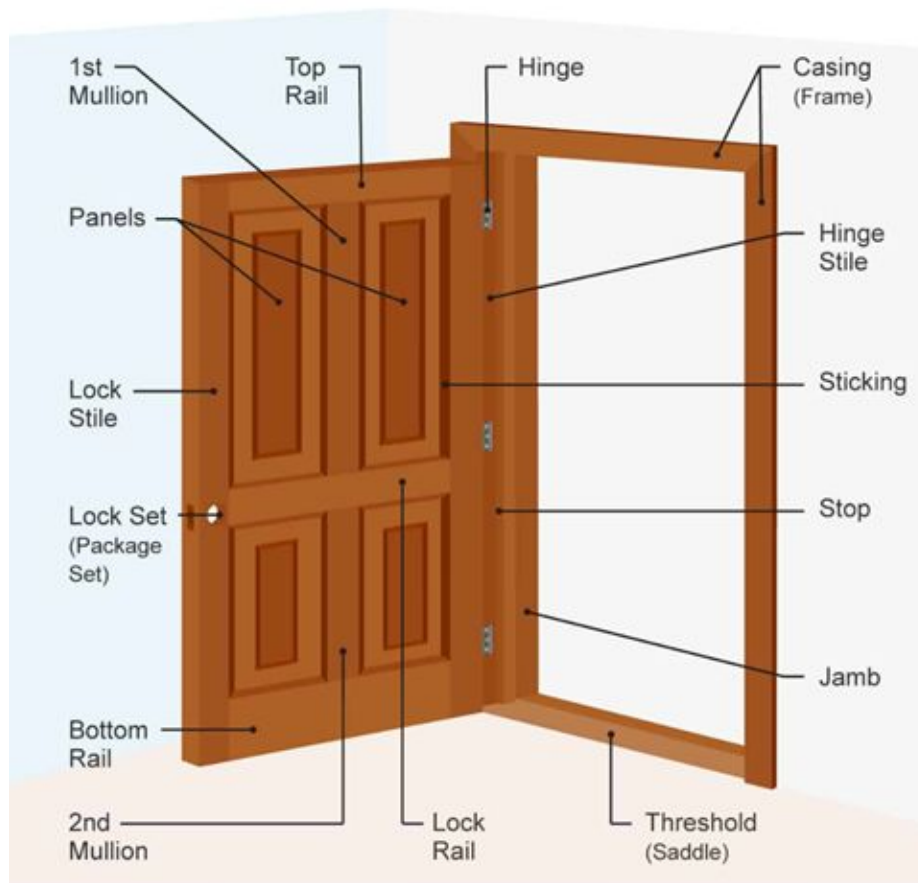
The sounds-vibrations can be heard
through the feet when connected with
others.



Door Jam (b)

Open and close to door to make pitchy, creaking sounds. Knock, scratch, tap on door to make percussive sound. Jam you finger in the door jamb for ultimate jamming (high pitch yelling ensues!)

Door



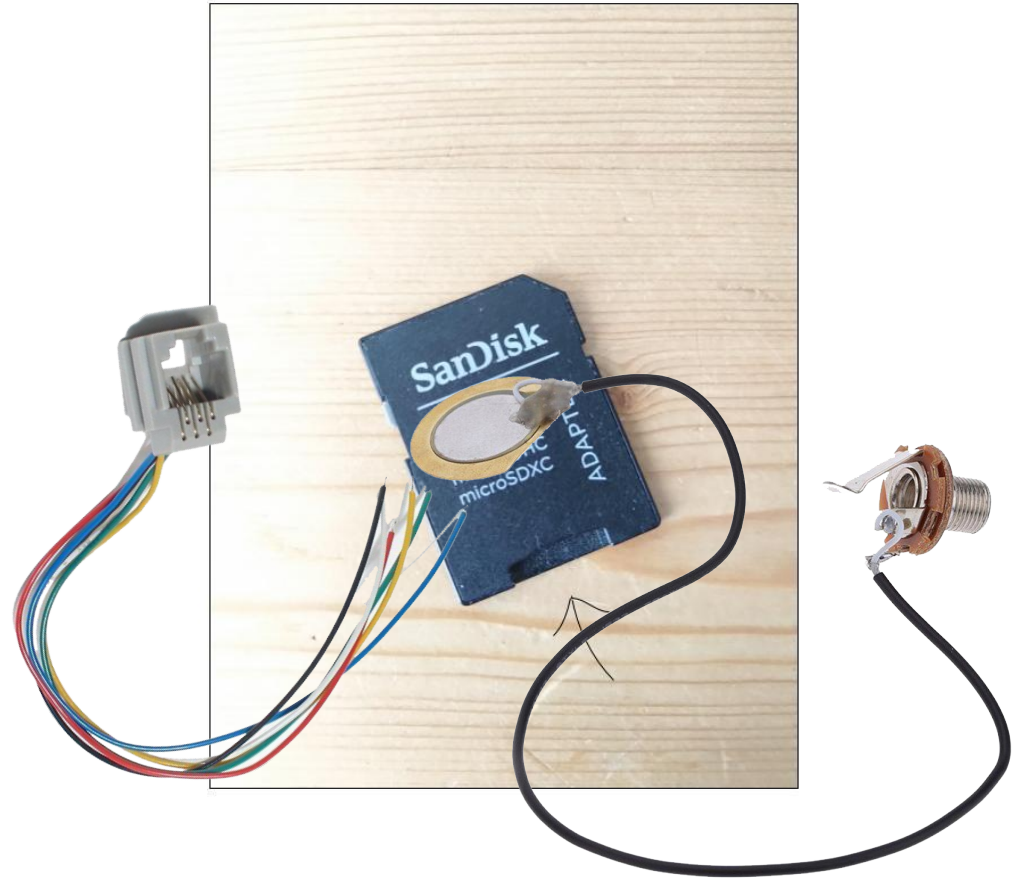
SD-card whistle

To unlock the SD-card,
whistle on it, and it will
recognize your tune to unlock



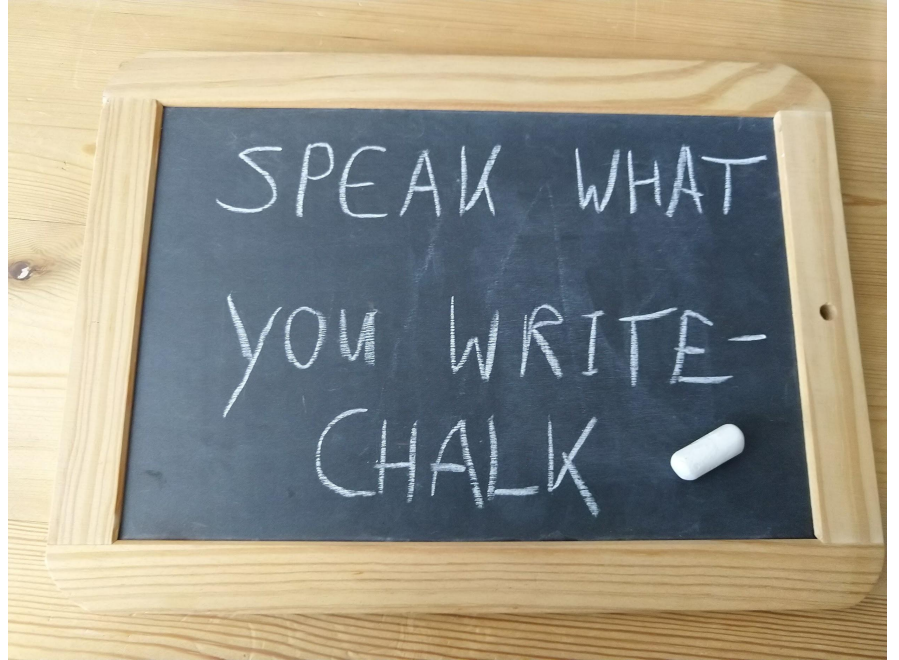
Smart ~~Augmented~~ SD-card whistle

Augment your the SD-card to
unlock possibilities, whistle
on it, and it will recognize
your tune to unlock



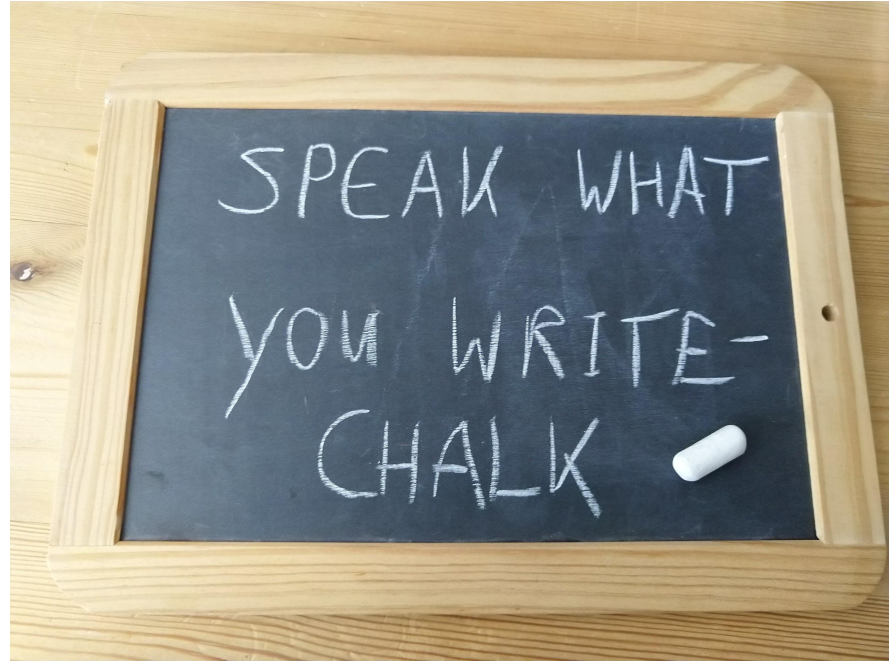
Speak what you write-chalk

The
speak-what-you-write-chalk is
for people who are blind or
visually impaired. They can
choose to download an app to
hear what the chalk says



Do NOT Speak what you write-chalk

The do not speak-what-you-write-chalk is for people who are blind or visually impaired, but NOT interested in hearing what is on the board. They can choose to download an app to hear just the sound of the chalk over the blackboard.



Brushing machine

Put the brush on the fan,
turn on it and move distance
to against the blade, it will
show in tones.



Hair Brushing machine

Use it to brush your hair and ASMR sounds will inevitably be produced.



The Chundaphone

Usually found in sets of 12-18, the instrument is usually immersed in water.



Black Box

I'm not sure what it does.



Instant Acapella
Accompaniment



Schrödinger's cat

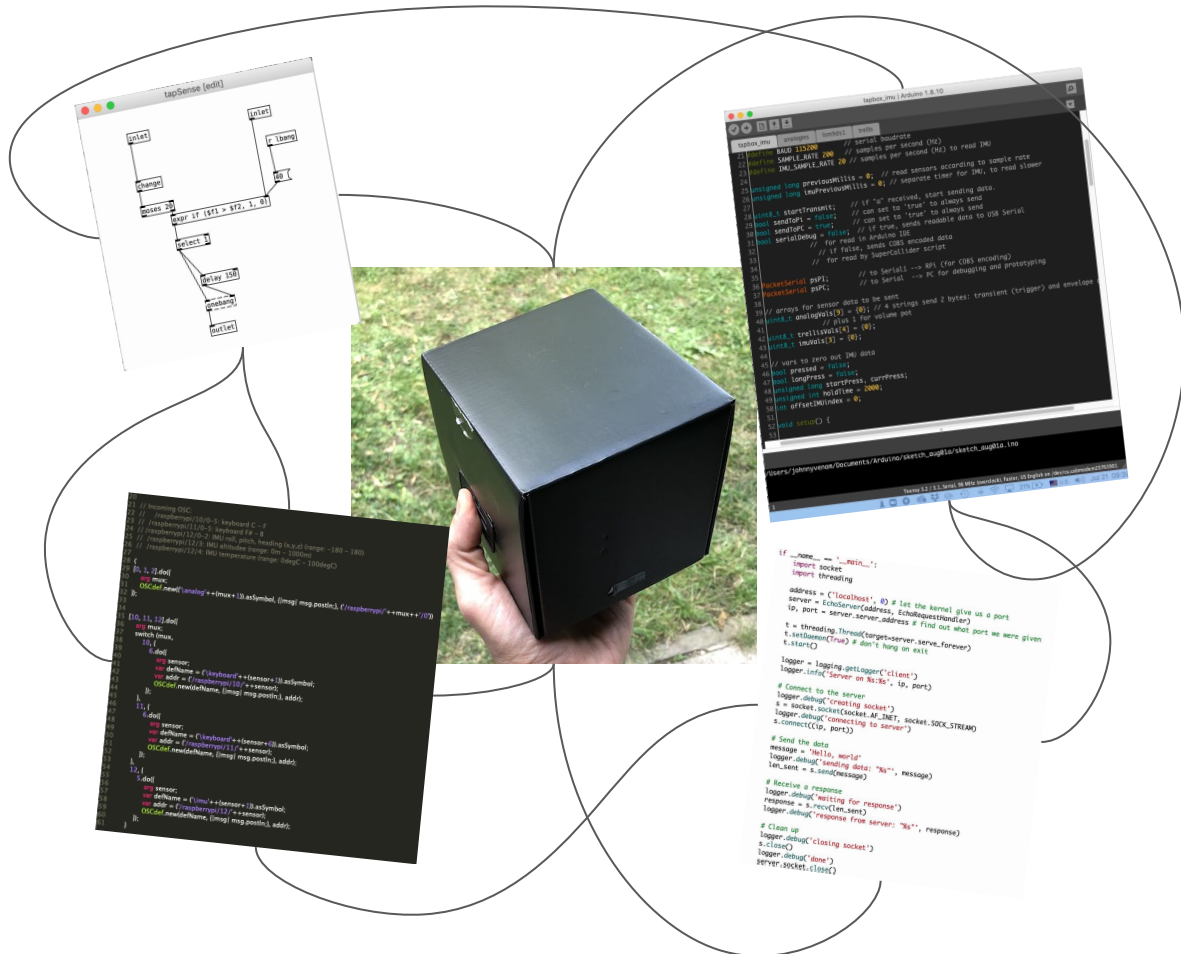
??? The world may never
know...



Frankencode Black Box

Takes all your old crappy, poorly implemented code snippets, normalizes inputs and outputs and turns it all into beautiful music.

*Powered of course by AI: machine learning and deep learning combined



Black Box

I'm not sure what it does.



Black Box Mk. 2

I know what the box does, but
I'm not going to tell anyone
else



The Ultimate NIME

This box contains the ultimate NIME - an interface perfectly balancing a moderate learning curve with quick pay-offs and superior user satisfaction.

The box is permanently sealed.



The Worst NIME

This box contains the worst example of a NIME - an interface that doesn't do anything of interest sonically and is universally hated due to the terrible interface.

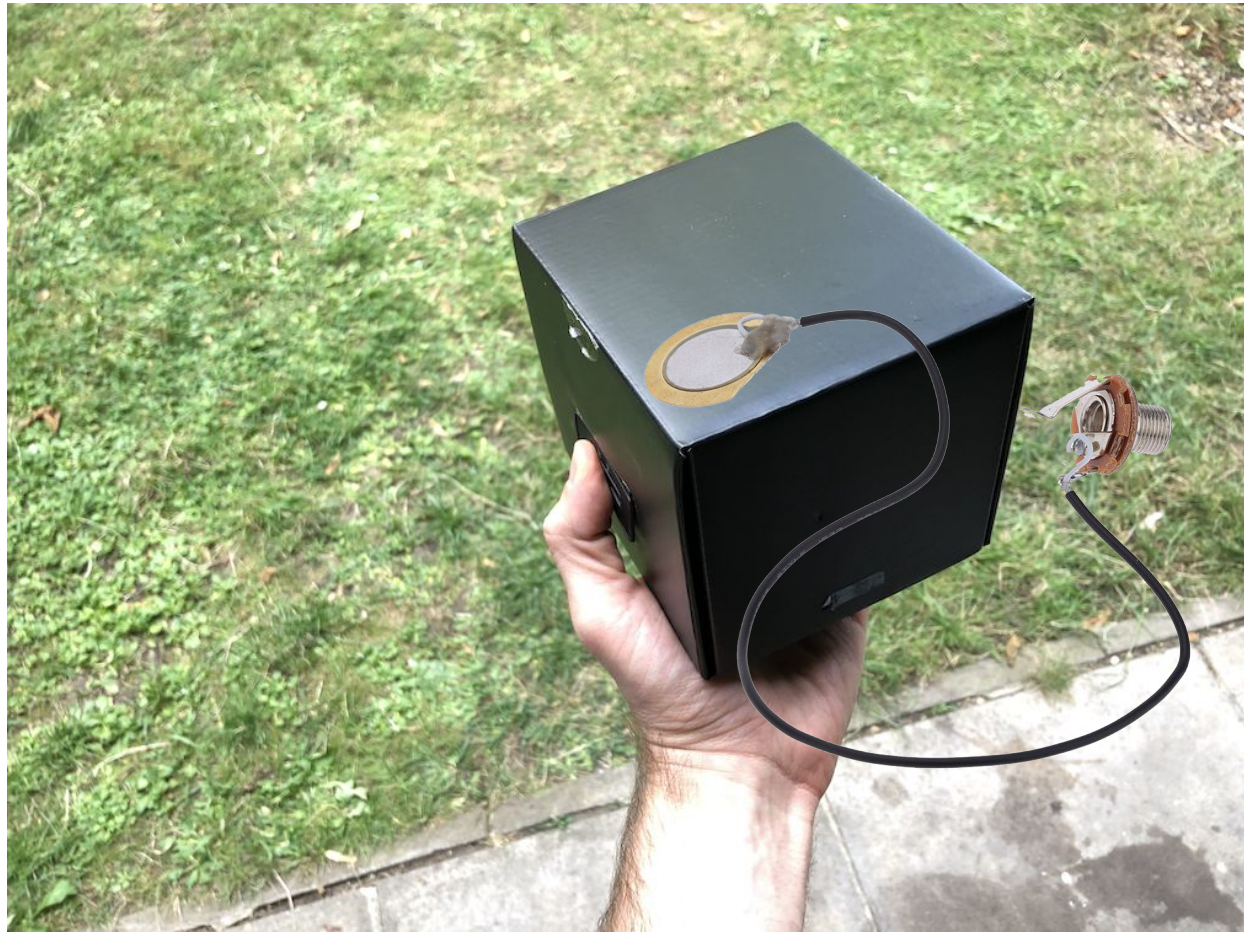
The box is permanently sealed.



The Augmented Ultimate NIME

This box contains the ultimate NIME - an interface perfectly balancing a moderate learning curve with quick pay-offs and superior user satisfaction.

The box is permanently sealed but you can still place things on it.



The perfect instrument



Plopper

Drop rocks in a bucket of water. Plop!

This technique can also be use don the Chudaphone.



Clunker

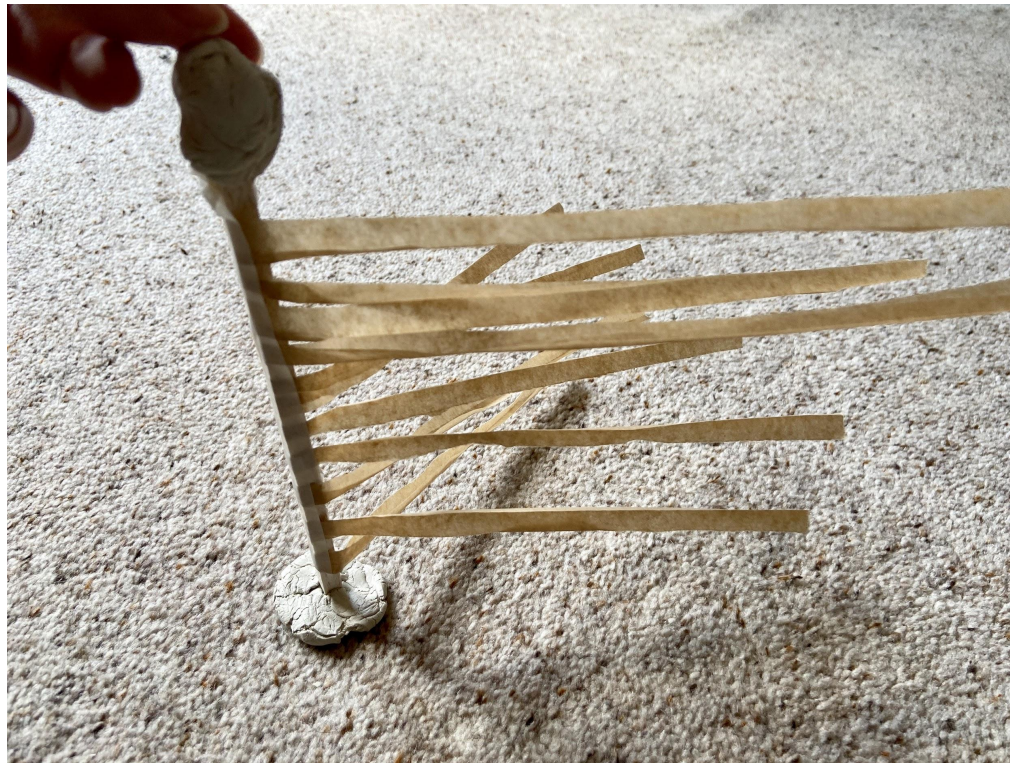
Drop bucket on a pile of
rocks. Clunk!



Sculpturing the Sound

Adjust the angle of each paper and the thousands of combinations will produce variety of noise!

Place outside on a windy day or turn on a fan to create automatic music!



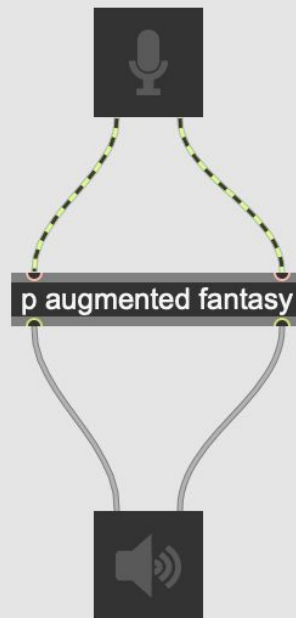
whereto.from

A deliberate point of origin,
the strips grow larger in the
wind...



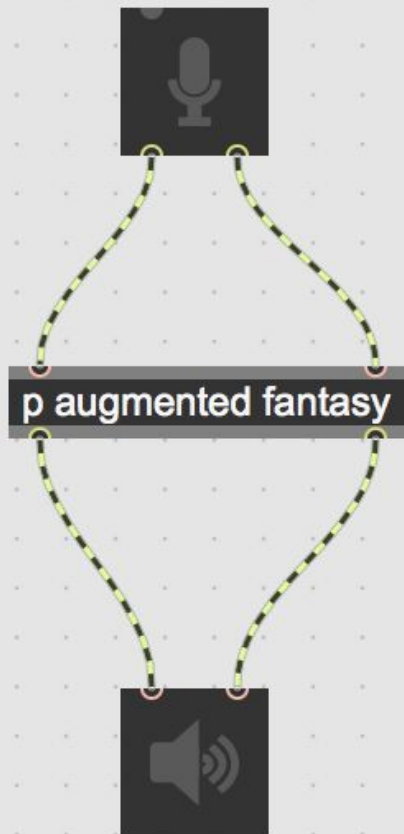
Augmented Fantasy

```
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</code></pre>
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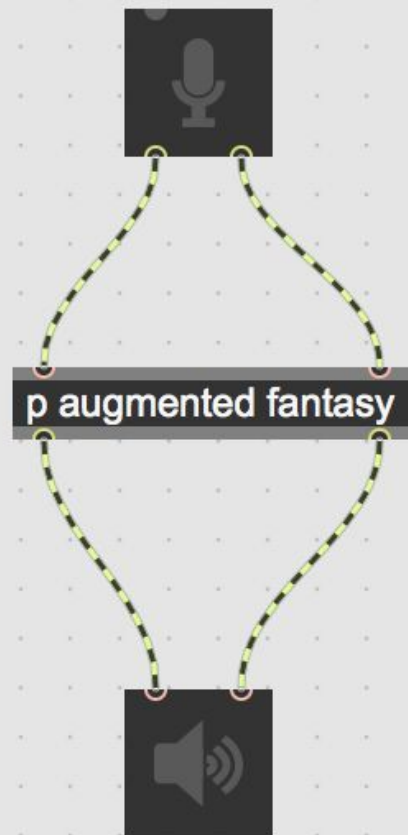
Augmented Fantasy (now with audible output)

```
<pre><code>
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.CS.GG7fwAe2aGw6frCyAQ6IT7QbsfvYI35RmbTUUGwAcNhlndjatnckK8hHL
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.S9OXSWvXrfgpF4vp7BEsLgRgBjMhTTsNPKRwcRWTo7bNsuJ+4n38Rm5JBilM
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AsEM8U70qWz0CzQyTc974sSzya0VayNal9p31u8NWm1dqG3Nma8E2QQFuT21
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-----end_max5_patcher-----
</code></pre>
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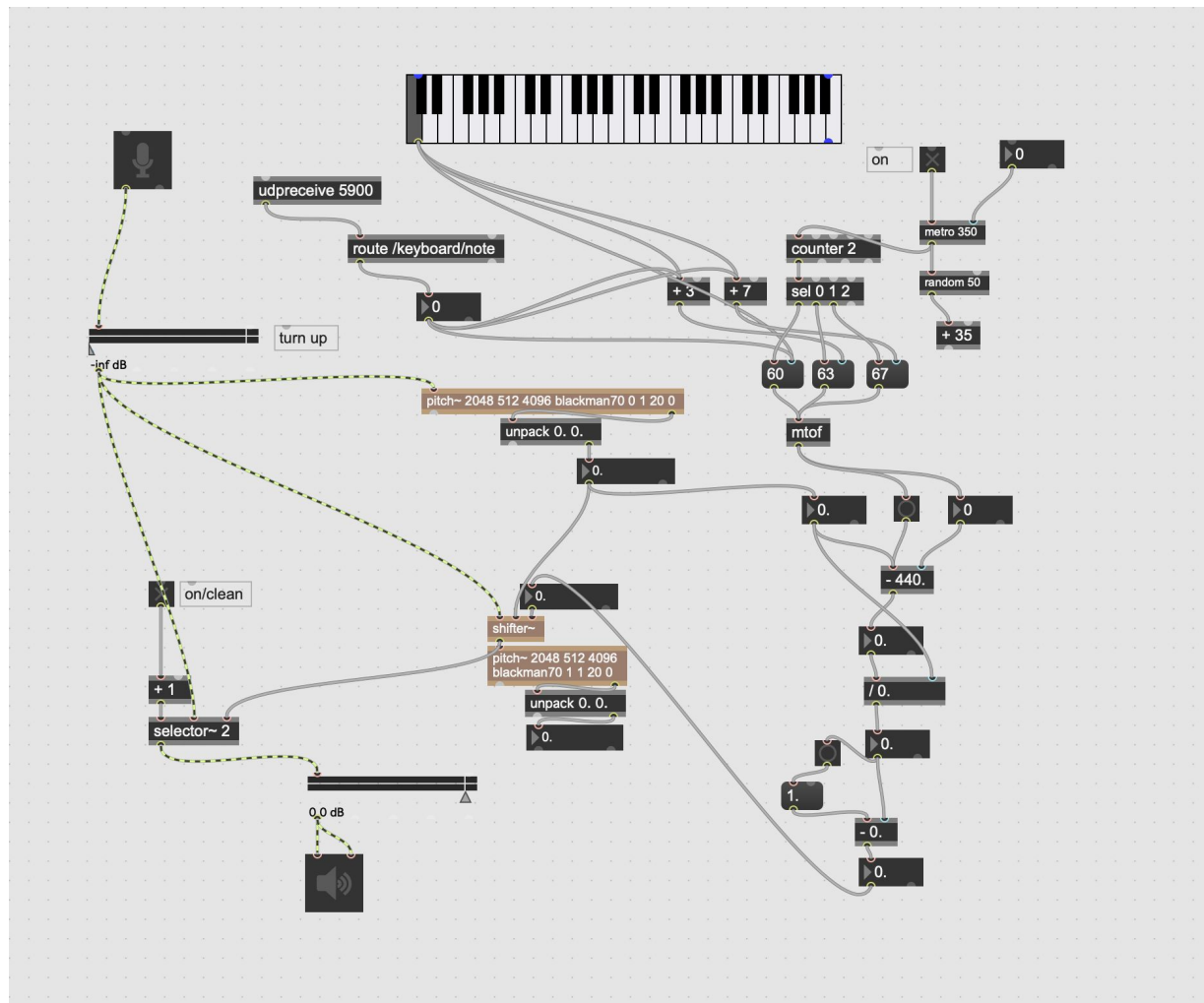
Diminished Reality

```
<pre><code>
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+F.601Tx
-----end_max5_patcher-----
</code></pre>
```



monotune

A rough sketch for democratising karaoke



TRASH CAN DREAMING

Hear the audible thunk of
your hopes and dreams as you
drop them into the trash can

Also featuring a non-erasable
looper so you can obsessively
replay all those lost
opportunities.



Brainstorm

Aim wind inside trashcan to
create rustling.



WHEELIE BIN DREAMING

Hear the audible thunk of
your hopes and dreams as you
drop them into the trash can

Also featuring a non-erasable
looper so you can obsessively
replay all those lost
opportunities.

Amplify it!



Dumpster Fire

The current state of the states...



The Eternal Dumpster Fire of Bureaucracy

Generates darkness.

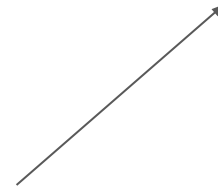
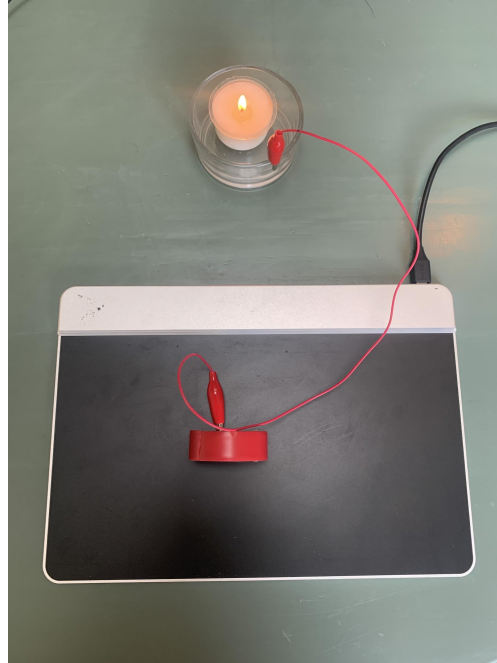
Creates its own fuel.

Stops or exhausts anything it
touches.

Has no outside.

Loved by dictators
everywhere.

Will eat itself.



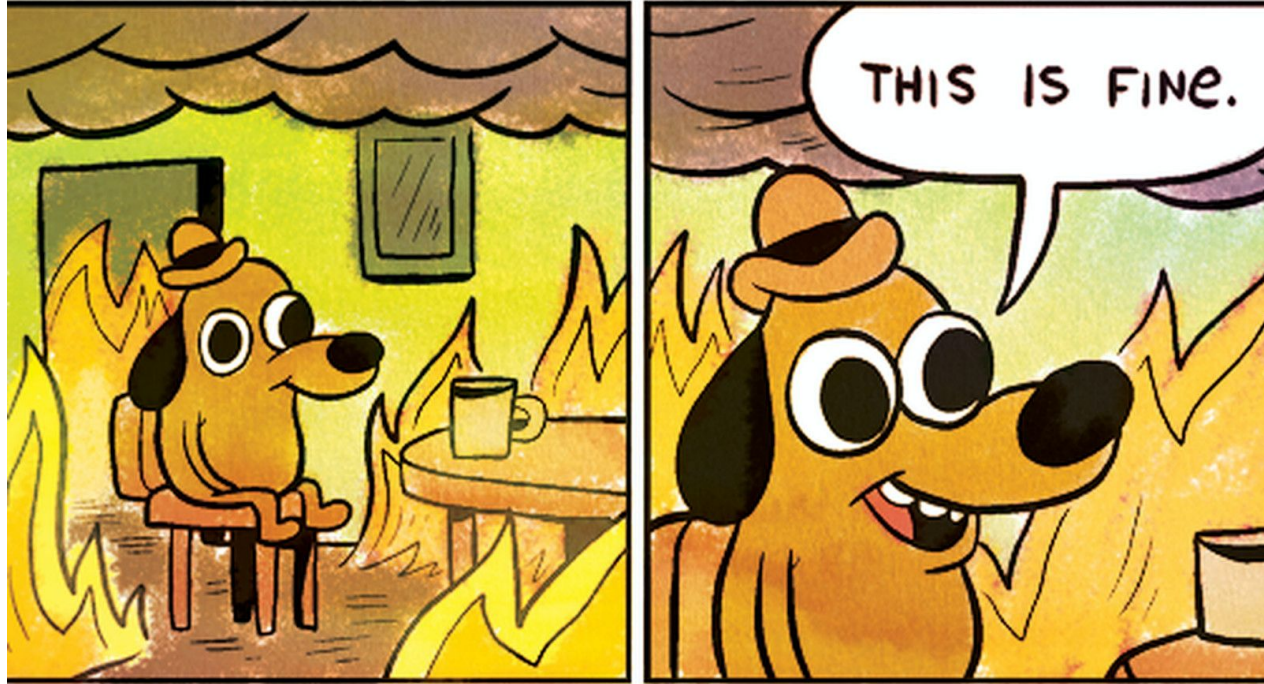
Dumpster Fire

The current state of the
states...



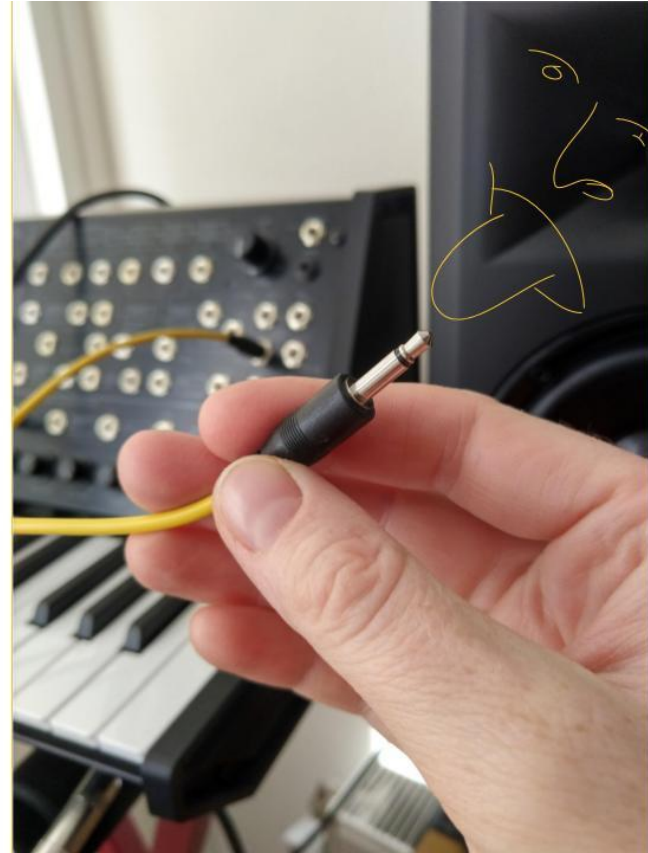
NIME is fine.

I'm okay with the events that
are unfolding currently.



Salivirtuoso

By licking the audio plug,
your saliva will turn into
your personal, synthesized
sounds. Variations possible
by adding more ore removing
tongue/wetness



granular skins

3 D sounds



Weeping Inducer

Weep from stinging



Random Pea Generator Tray

Just move the tray and enjoy
the analogue sounds of peas,
don't eat the peas



granular skins

3 D sounds

A multisensory instrument.

Granulation is directly
proportional to tear duct
stimulation.



Gag Order

This instrument



Hostage Situation

This instrument [REDACTED]

I have your instrument;
please pay in 10,000 sounds



Hostage Situation

This instrument [REDACTED]

I have your instrument;
please pay in 10,000 sounds

Bitcoin donation:

16JX94dYiSKRecBM5E6qAz5UfFqVN
qUBUY



Hostage Situation

This instrument [REDACTED]

I have your instrument;
please pay in 10,000 sounds



old-school otamatone

Play an old school Otamatone unplugged.



Mouthtar

A long lost cousin of the mouth organ, and a variant on the keytar, the mouthtar let's you play the keyboard using just your tongue.



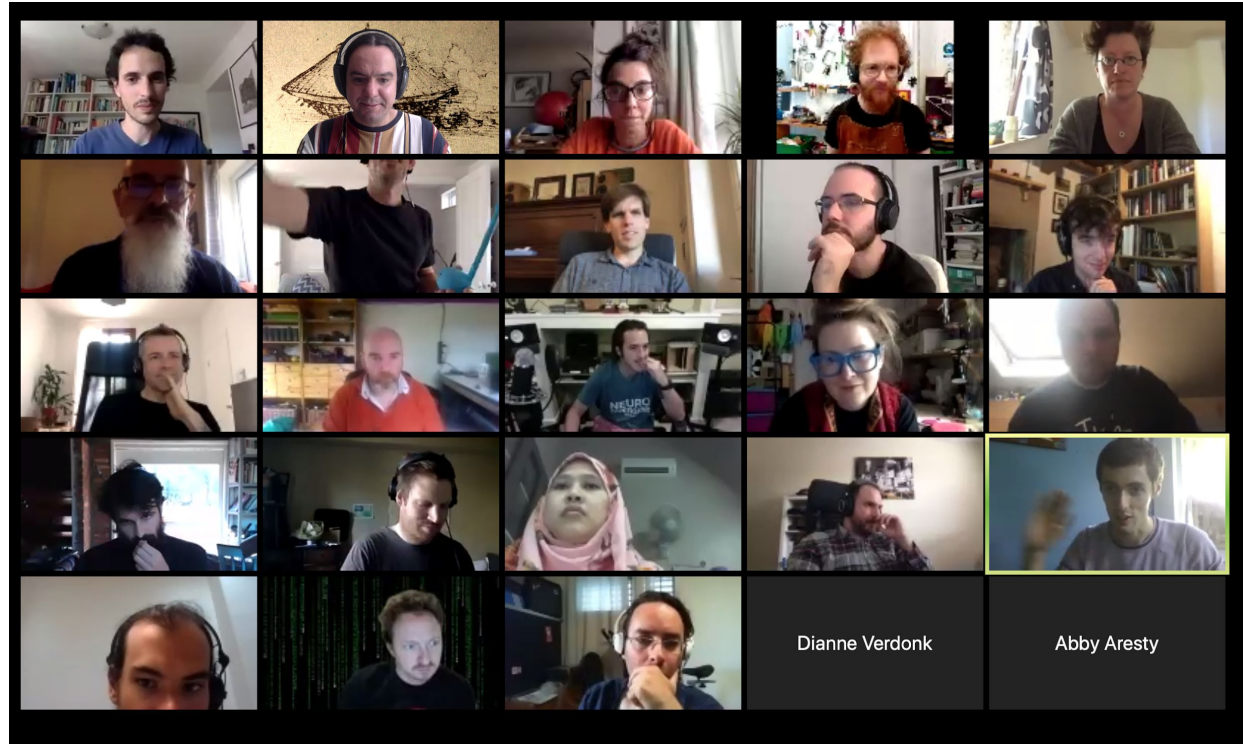
10,000 instruments squared

This instrument analyses zoom calls and uses advanced deep learning to synthesise the sounds that would be made by any absurd musical instruments mentioned.



10,000 instruments
squared, to the second
power

This instrument analyses zoom
calls and uses advanced deep
learning to synthesise the
sounds that would be made by
any absurd musical
instruments mentioned. again.



10,000 instruments
squared, to the 0th
power

This instrument analyses zoom
calls and uses advanced deep
learning to synthesise the
sounds that would be made by
any absurd musical
instruments mentioned. Again.
Ah screw it, just use an
Otamatone.



Eating zoom people

Eating zoom people and then
sleeping



The Imaginariphone

Plays only sounds that can be imagined.



The Imaginariphone

Plays only sounds that can be imagined.

Radio cloud drifting away...



The Imaginariphone

Plays only sounds that can be imagined.

Variable inputs and outputs



The Unimaginariphone

Plays only sounds that **can't**
be imagined.

??!



UN Imaginariophone

A fictional musical instrument, designed to liberate music from capitalism.

confine

within

£0

pledged of £10 goal

0

backers

30

days to go

Back this project



Remind me



All or nothing. This project will only be funded if it reaches its goal by the campaign deadline.



Music

Towards a pedagogy of absurd musical instruments

How can we teach to imagine
build and play absurd musical
instruments?

After Orff.. Morff? Brorff?



Towards a pedagogy of absurd musical instruments

How can we teach to imagine
build and play absurd musical
instruments?

After Orff.. Morff? Brorff?



Towards a pedagogy of absurd musical instruments

The familiar or everyday is generally accepted automatically. Defamiliarization aims to make the everyday stranger, more difficult and ultimately slower to comprehend, thus encouraging us to see things as they are perceived rather than as they are known or anticipated in advanced.



Towards a pedagogy of absurd musical instruments

*The Fantastic - Magic Realism

*The Weird & The Eerie - Mark Fisher



Towards a pedagogy of absurd musical instruments

"The technique of art is to make objects 'unfamiliar,' to make forms difficult, to increase the difficulty and length of perception because the process of perception is an aesthetic end in itself and must be prolonged." Viktor Shklovsky in Art as Technique



Disassemble until Absurd

Disassemble any existing instrument until it becomes absurd. Stop disassembling at the exact moment that the instrument transitions from non-absurd to absurd.



Absurd through obstruction

Obstruction.

Lack.

Disruption.

Direction.

Teach how to do things in the
very most difficult ways.

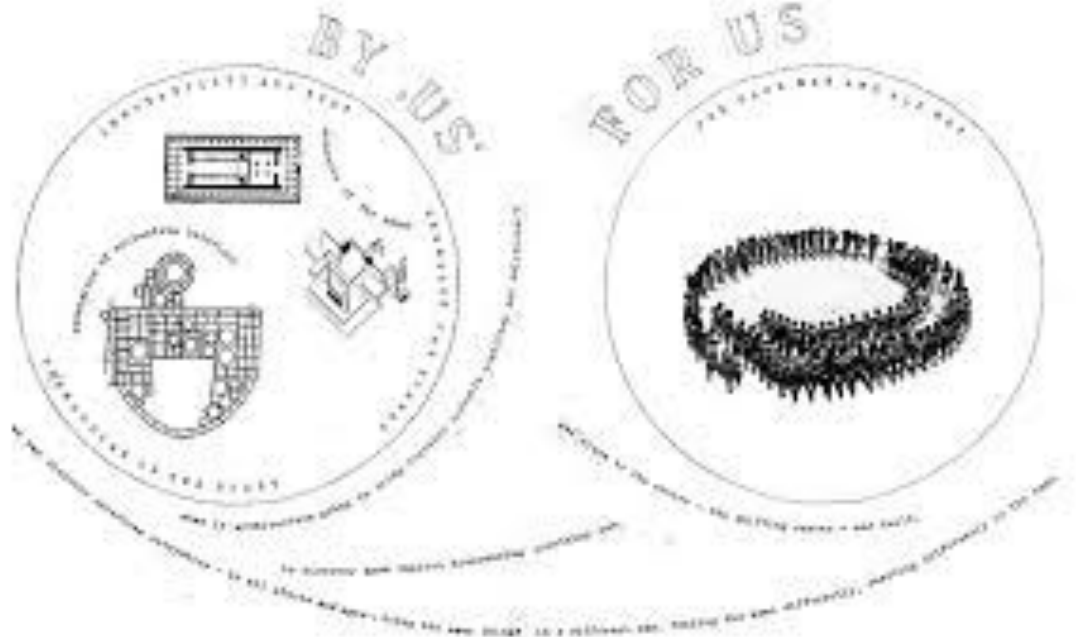


Absurd through saying yes

Who gets to build this thing.

Say yes to different things

Abandone power



The Feet

'The problem in too much academic music of the 90s and 00s was precisely a loss of trust in feet and ears'



Feet vs. Meters

Allow the metric system to
take over...

Bye feet



The Wings

'The problem in too much human music of the 90s and 00s was precisely a loss of trust in wings'



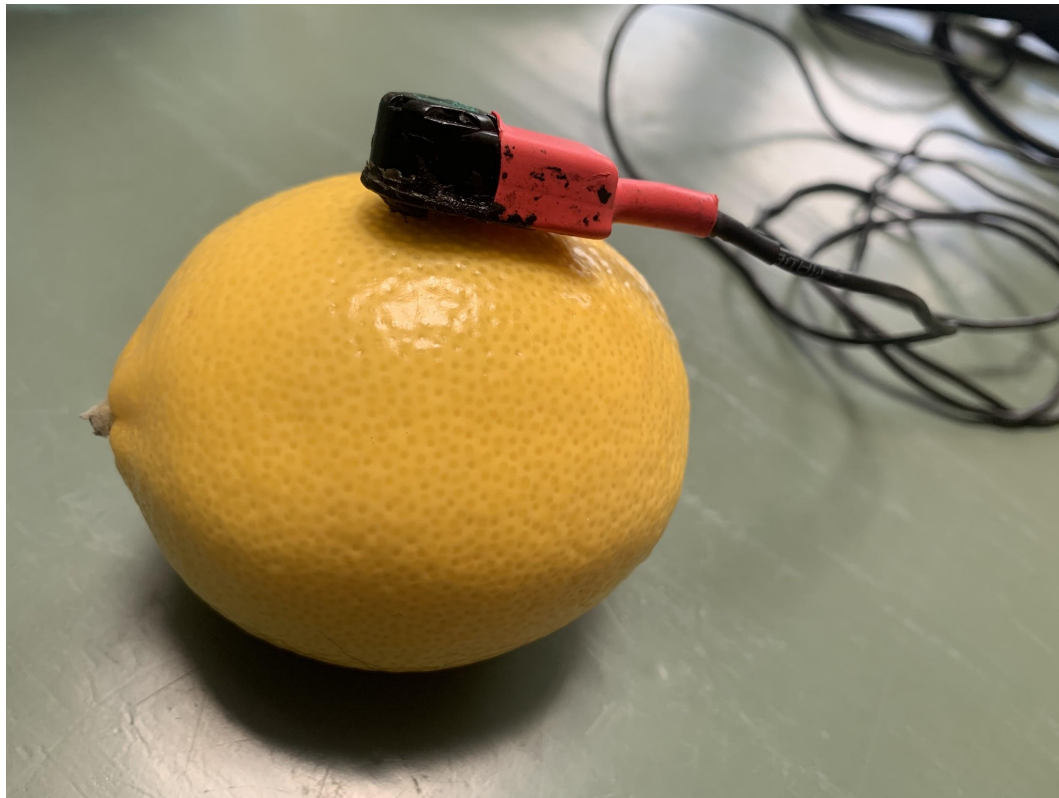
The Banana

'The problem in too much human music of the 90s and 00s was precisely a loss of trust in the banana'



The Weird Banana

'The problem in too much human music of the 90s and 00s was precisely a loss of trust in the banana'



The Eerie Banana

'The problem in too much human music of the 90s and 00s was precisely a loss of trust in the banana'



The Eerie Banana v2

'The problem in too many
NIMES of the 00s and 10s was
precisely a loss of trust in
the banana' -Mark Fisher



Ideas Storage



A Chorus Pedal

With real Greek Chorus.



Sound Catcher

Chase beautiful sounds that
are passing by, places it with
NWA



Sound Disposal System

Used with the wheelie bin.

Must be used by qualified sound satcher operatives, for safe capture and disposal of unwanted noises.



Bug Catcher

Catch pesky bugs that won't
leave you alone

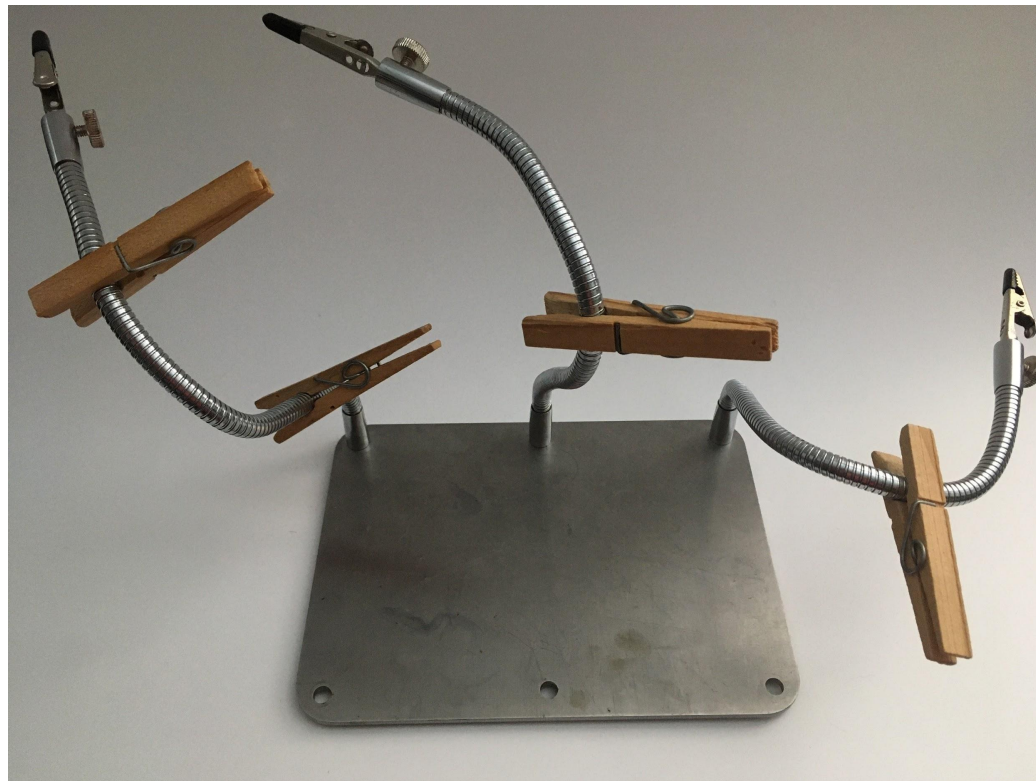


Gummy Worm Handler

Pick up your gummy worms and shove them into your mouth during times of existential crisis



Polyphonic Bendable
Discrete Instrument



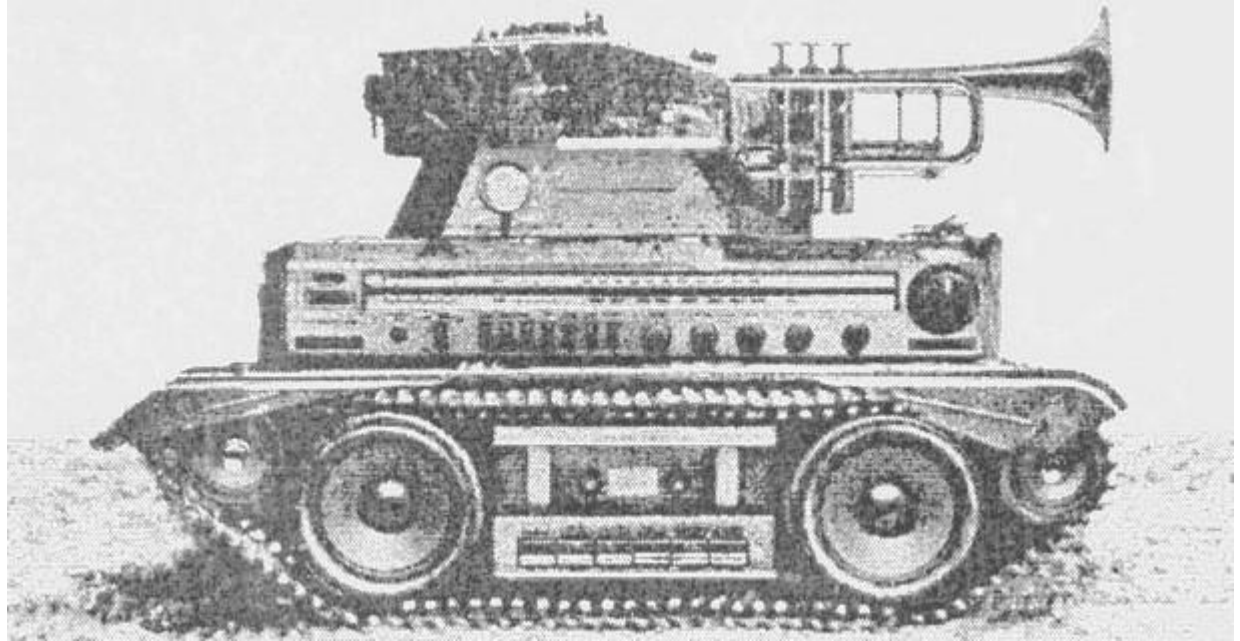
The Fuzz Box

With real police.



Trumpet Tank

It's a very small tank that goes around and plays funny trumpet music



Guaraná bottle

