



Breath as musical regulator in composition and performance

Frederico Pozzer¹

Category: Conference

'Breath as Musical Regulator in Composition and Performance' is a PhD project that aims to use performers' breathing to foster the emergence of unpredictable and indeterminate musical situations. In my first compositional attempts written for instruments that do not necessarily need breathing to produce sounds breathing was conceived either as a tool to determine the duration of the notes or as segment of time in which players had to play one or sets of sounds. Since the beginning of this work, my practice has been tied to composers and musicians that work with breathing in unconventional ways, including Pauline Oliveros, Kathryn Williams, Charlie Sdraulig, and Adam Overton. The compositional strategies I am currently experimenting do not involve a virtuosic approach, but rather they employ constraints on breathing that push players to act and interact in unfamiliar ways, shaping decision-making, engagement within the ensemble, with the score, and with the audience.

Keywords: Breath. Regulator. Unpredictability. Experimental.

Requirements: No technical equipment is required. However, in order to give the workshop, a number of people that may vary from 10 to 20 is needed. Participants should be able to move and walk freely throughout the space where the workshop will occur; if there is the possibility to give the workshop on a stage, where participants can freely move, it would be the best solution.

¹ Federico Pozzer (1991) is a composer, pianist and researcher at the University of Leeds (UK). His current compositional practice focuses on ways to use constraints on players' breathing to foster the emergence of unpredictable and indeterminate musical situations. In May 2019, his CD *Breaths* has been released by the label Another Timbre, and in October 2019 his series of text-scores *Breathing Instructions* has been published in the 2nd issue of IM-OS Journal. Visit: www.fredericopozzer.com. E-mail: Frederico.pozzer@gmail.com.