

Dr. Thomas Ciufu

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Education

Ph.D. in Computer Music and New Media

Brown University (2004) Ph.D. Dissertation: *Computer-Mediated Improvisation*
Committee members: Todd Winkler (advisor) Wendy Chun and Joel Chadabe (readers)
Pauline Oliveros (guest reader / mentor)

Masters of Arts in Computer Music and Multimedia Composition

Brown University (2002)
Masters Thesis: *Three Meditations: Discussion of a Recent Work*

Bachelors of Music in Composition

University of Northern Colorado (1988)

Selected Professional Appointments

Assistant Professor (2011-present)

Music Technology and Recording Arts
Department of Music, Towson University, Towson, MD

Lecturer (2010-2011)

Digital Art / New Media / Sound Art
Department of Visual Arts, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

Faculty Advisor (2009-2010)

Bachelor of Arts Program in Individualized Studies
Goddard College, Plainfield, VT

Assistant Professor / Sherman Fairchild Artist-in-Residence (2006-2009)

Arts and Technology
Smith College, Northampton, MA

Postdoctoral Research Associate (2005-2006)

Arts, Media, and Engineering Program
Herberger College of Fine Arts, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

Lecturer / Technical Manager / Researcher (2000-2005)

Computer Music and Multimedia Program
Music Department, Brown University, Providence, RI

Music Technology Consultant / Audio Production Manager (1997-1999)

School of Music, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI

Audio Engineer / Digital Media Producer (1994-1997)

The Studio, Portland, ME

Recording Engineer / Location Producer (1994-1997)

Portland Symphony Orchestra, Portland, ME

Arts Technology Consultant (1990-1994)

Performing and Visual Arts, University of Northern CO, Greeley, CO

University Teaching

Audio Recording Techniques 1 and 2

Towson University (2011-2016)

Acoustic Ecology and Sound Art - Honors Seminar

Towson University (2012-2016)

Private Lessons, Music Technology & Jazz / Commercial Composition

Towson University (2012-2016)

Exploring Music Technology - Graduate Course

Towson University (summer 2013)

Music Technology Master Class Series

Towson University (2012-2013)

Creative Music Instrument and System Programming

Towson University (2012)

Music Technology in American Society

Towson University (2011)

Acoustic Ecology and Sound Art

College of the Holy Cross (2011)

Digital Art Studio 1 and New Media

College of the Holy Cross (2010-2011)

Introduction to Interaction Design and Physical Computing

Maine College of Art - Workshop (2009)

Sonic Art: Theory and Practice

Smith College (2009)

Introduction to Computing and the Arts (co-taught)

Smith College (2008)

Introduction to Media Arts and Technology

Smith College (2006-2008)

Electronic Music / Sound Composition Seminar

Brown University (2002-2004)

Directed Research in Computer Music and Multimedia

Brown University (2002-2005)

Computers and Music

Brown University (2001)

Introduction to Audio Recording and Sound Technology

Central Michigan University (1997)

Audio Recording and Production

University of Northern CO, Rocky Mountain Recording Workshop (1997-2004)

Introduction to Music Technology

University of Northern Colorado (1993-1994)

Teaching / Research Interests

Music technology, audio engineering, and computer music
Computer-mediated performance, Interactive systems, and physical computing
Sonic art, acoustic ecology and sound studies
Collaborative / interdisciplinary approaches to creative arts
New approaches to pedagogy and experiential learning

Research / Writing / Invited Talks

Contemplative and Student-Centered Pedagogy: A Sound Approach

Contemplative Practices for the 21st Century University Conference, Blacksburg, VA (2016)

Computer-Mediated Improvisation, Extended Instrument Design and Collaborative Performance

Artist / Research presentation; Artist Residency, University of Colorado, CO Springs, CO (2015)

AUMI Research Site Report (as part of the AUMI research collaborative)

Improvisation and Community Health Colloquium, Montreal (2015)

Teaching Acoustic Ecology and Sound Art: Dialogues Across Disciplines

Ecomusics and Ecomusicologies 2014: Dialogues, Asheville, NC (2014)

Inclusion and Engagement: Approaching Creativity through Acoustic Ecology and Sound Art

New Directions in Music Education, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI (2014)

Teaching Acoustic Ecology and Sound Art as Contemplative Practice

Deep Listening: Art / Science International Conference, EMPAC, Troy, NY (2013)

Improvising with Computers - Will We Be Assimilated?

Presented at the 13th Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology, New London, CT (2012)

Presented at the International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Wayne, NJ (2012)

Improvising with Computers - Conceptual Approaches and Practical Strategies

Presented at the Concordia Live and Interactive Electroacoustic Colloquium, Montreal (2011)

Presented at the Two Thousand + Ten Symposium, Sonic Arts Research Center, Belfast (2010)

Deep Listening Anthology: Scores from the Community of Deep Listeners (contributor)

Edited by Marc Jensen, Published by Deep Listening Institute, Kingston, NY (2009)

Computer-Mediated Performance and Extended Instrument Design

presented at the ACM SIGGRAPH Conference, New Orleans, LA (2009)

Computer-Mediated Improvisation: Implications, Ideas, and Strategies

Presented at the International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Denver, CO (2008)

Composer-Improviser: Merging Roles through Computer-Mediated Performance

Presented at the McGill-Suoni per il Popolo Improvisation Colloquium: Text, Media, and Improvisation, Montreal (2008)

Rethinking Virtuosity: Computer-Mediated Performance & Extended Instruments

Presented at the Extensible Electric Guitar Festival; Instruments of the Post-Prohibitive Age Clark University, Worcester, MA (2008)

Arts and Technology: Pedagogy and Curriculum Design

Chair, panel discussion, Eleventh Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology
New London, CT (2008)

Computer-Mediated / Interactive Performance: Moving Boundary Problem - Case Study

(w/ David Birchfield) Presented at the Enaction in Arts Symposium, Grenoble, France (2007)

Published in the Enaction in Arts Symposium proceedings (2007)

Citizen Artist Beyond Boundaries

Panel discussion, Education Department, Museum of Art, Smith College
Northampton, MA (2007)

Arts and Technology

Panel discussion, organized by the Student Liaisons of the Department of Art
Smith College, Northampton, MA (2006)

Sound and Interaction for K-12 Mediated Education (w/ Birchfield et al.)

Presented at the International Computer Music Conference, New Orleans, LA (2006)
Published in the International Computer Music Conference proceedings (2006)

SMALLab: a Mediated Platform for Education (w/ Birchfield and Minyard)

Presented at the SIGGRAPH Conference, Boston, MA (2006)
Published in the SIGGRAPH Conference proceedings (2006)

Moving Boundary Problem: An Interactive Performance Project (w/ David Birchfield)

Presented at the Tenth Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology New London, CT (2006)
Published in the Tenth Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology proceedings (2006)

Beginner's Mind: An Environment for Sonic Improvisation

Presented at the International Computer Music Conference, Barcelona, Spain (2005)
Published in the International Computer Music Conference proceedings (2005)

Computer-Mediated Performance: Human-Machine Interaction

Presented at the Performance Studies International Conference
Brown University, Providence, RI (2005)

Improvising with Computers: Ideas and Approaches

Chair, panel discussion, Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States
National Conference, Ball State University (2005)

Computer-Mediated Improvisation

Ph.D. Dissertation, Brown University, Providence, RI (2004)

Design Concepts and Control Strategies for Interactive Improvisational Music Systems

Presented at the MAXIS Festival of Experimental Music, Leeds, UK (2003)
Published in the MAXIS proceedings (2003)

Real-Time Sound / Image Manipulation and Mapping in a Performance Setting

Presented at the Digital Arts and Culture Conference, Providence, RI (2001)
MAXIS Festival of Sound and Experimental Music, Sheffield, UK (2002)
Published in the MAXIS proceedings (2002)

Digital Media Installations and Gallery Pieces

Motion Study #5 an interactive digital video painting

Interactive Expressions Art Exhibit, Center for Advanced Visual Studies
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA (2001)

Resonance an interactive sound installation

Scraping Skies, New Music Concert, Brown University, Providence, RI (2000)

Channels a real-time, interactive TV/sound installation

Archaeology of Multimedia Conference, Brown University, Providence, RI (2000)

Selected Performances / Compositions (All performances by Thomas Ciufu)

Sonic Constructions CD w/ collaborator Curtis Bahn and special guests Steve Gorn
and Jane Rigler - released on the pfMENTUM label (2016)

Illajawab evening length concert w/collaborators Curtis Bahn and Steve Gorn, special guest Jane Rigler. Peak Frequency - Air to Air: Building a Global Community Live Concert Artist Residency, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, CO (2015)

Sonic Constructions w/ collaborator Curtis Bahn
International Computer Music Conference, Denton, TX (2015)
Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States Conference, Blacksburg, VA (2015)
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, NYC (2014)
14th Biennial Symposium for Arts and Technology, New London, CT (2014)

Ujjayi for flute and computer w/ collaborator Jane Rigler
International Computer Music Conference, Denton, TX (2015)
Third Practice Electroacoustic Music Festival, Richmond, VA (2014)

Illajawab / Sonic Constructions w/ collaborators Curtis Bahn and Steve Gorn
First Festival, A Festival of Premiere Performances, EMPAC Center, Troy, NY (2014)

Lake Beds - studio composition with collaborator Eric Moon
Presented as part of *Cistern Dreams, An Overnight Concert for Deep Listeners*
First Festival, A Festival of Premiere Performances, EMPAC Center, Troy, NY (2014)

Improvised Set with Mike Cerri / Ben Zurier
Out of your Head Improvised and Experimental Music Collective
The Windup Space, Baltimore, MD (2013)

Sonic Constructions evening length concert w/ collaborator Curtis Bahn
Towson University New Music Series, Towson, MD (2013)

Fragments for prepared piano and computer
New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival, NYC (2013)
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Ann Arbor, MI (2012)

Silent Movies for computer-mediated performer and video (video by Mark Domino)
Electroacoustic Barn Dance, University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA (2013)
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Genoa, Italy (2008)
Extensible Electric Guitar Festival, Clark University, Worcester, MA (2008)
New West Electronic Arts and Music Organization Festival, Boulder, CO (2007)
New Works Performance Series, Northampton, MA (2007)

Ciufo / Ballou Duo computer extended improvisational duo with Dave Ballou
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Wayne, NJ (2012)

Point / Line / Shape for computer extended electric guitar
13th Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology, New London, CT (2012)
Concordia Live and Interactive Electroacoustic Colloquium, Montreal (2011)
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Ann Arbor, MI (2010)

Wind and Water for computer-mediated improviser and field recordings
Ear to the Earth / International Computer Music Conference, NYC (2010)
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Denver, CO (2008)

Duo improvisation Eighth Nerve and TaurEx - extended guitars and computers
(with Kevin Patton) ArtSpace, Hartford, CT (2010)

Wire, Bamboo, Water, Metal four fixed media miniatures
60 x 60 / International Computer Music Conference, NYC (2010)
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL (2010)
Axiom Center for New and Experimental Media, Boston, MA (2010)

Solo for extended electric guitar and computer
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Denver, CO (2008)

Second Dialogue for two computer-mediated improvisers (w/ Curtis Bahn)
Smith College Arts and Technology Performance Festival, Northampton, MA (2008)

Moving Boundary Problem for extended percussion and computer (w/ David Birchfield)
Enaction in Arts Symposium, Grenoble, France (2007)
International Computer Music Conference, New Orleans, LA (2006)
The Tenth Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology, New London, CT (2006)
Spark Festival of Electronic Music and Art, Minneapolis, MN (2006)
Visiones Sonoras International Festival, Mexico City (2005)

Just Intoning for two improvisers (w/ Pauline Oliveros)
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Ann Arbor, MI (2006)
AMP Ensemble Concert with guest artist Pauline Oliveros, Phoenix, AZ (2005)

Sonic Improvisation #N: Beginner's Mind for sounding objects and computer
New Works Performance Series, Hallie Flanagan Theatre, Northampton, MA (2007)
International Computer Music Conference, Off-ICMC, Barcelona (2005)
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Vancouver (2005)

Improvisation (with the AMP Ensemble)
New World Electroacoustic Music Organization Festival, San Diego, CA (2005)

Eighth Nerve meets Needles computer-mediated performance (w/ Shawn Greenlee)
Performance Studies International Conference, Providence, RI (2005)

First Dialogue for prepared electric guitar and sensor bass (w/ Curtis Bahn)
Sonus, Sayles Hall, Providence, RI (2004)

Three Meditations for prepared piano and computer
Sonus, Sayles Hall, Brown University, Providence, RI (2004)
Florida Electroacoustic Music Festival, Gainesville, FL (2002)
Digital Polyphony Festival, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA (2001)

Inviting the Bell to Sound for Tibetan singing bowl and computer
Smith College Arts and Technology Performance Festival, Northampton, MA (2008)
Sonus, Sayles Hall, Providence, RI (2004)
MAXIS International Festival / Symposium of Sound and Experimental Music, UK (2003)
3 is 3 but 5 is 5 (a Concert by the Students of Alvin Lucier) Providence, RI (2003)

Eighth Nerve for prepared electric guitar and computer
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Montreal (2003)
MAXIS International Festival / Symposium of Sound and Experimental Music, UK (2003)

Sonic Improvisation #N for sound objects and computer
MAXIS Festival of Sound and Experimental Music, UK (2002)
MacColl.Sit, Brown University, Providence, RI (2002)

Sound / Space Study for sound makers and computer (w/ Jason McGill)
The Book Mill Performance Series, Montague, MA (2001)
Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Providence, RI (2000)

Incantation #2 for Native American flute, computer, and real-time video
Electroacoustic Concert, Grant Auditorium, Brown University, Providence, RI (1999)

Incantation #1 for Native American flute and tape
Central Michigan University New Music Series, Mount Pleasant, MI (1999)

Harvest for eight channel tape (collaboration with the group Cerberus Shoal)
Central Michigan University New Music Series, Mount Pleasant, MI (1999)

Sun at Midnight self-produced CD project (1995) with airplay on *Music from the Hearts of Space*, (National Public Radio) and *The New Edge*, Cambridge, MA

Grants and Funding Awards (lead or co-author on all proposals and requests)

*amounts are approximate

Student Technology Fees, \$3,200 for acoustic divider panels, recording studio (2016)
Student Technology Fees, \$16,000 for hardware and software updates, recording studio (2016)
School of Emerging Technologies Seed Fund, \$3,100 for Guitar-like Object project (2015)
Plant funds, \$40,000 for new Avid S6 recording console, recording studio (2015)
Student Technology Fees, \$6,500 for LCD monitors and video system, recording studio (2014)
Dean's Equipment Fund, \$2,600 for hardware / software updates, recording studio (2013)
Student Technology Fees, \$15,000 for new Avid hardware and software, recording studio (2013)
Student Technology Fees, \$6,000 for new computer and hard drives, recording studio (2013)
Dean's Equipment Fund, \$4,500 for software updates, computer lab (2013)

Additional Activities and Service

Vice-Chair; Information and Instructional Technology Committee (2016 - present)
Co-Chair; COFAC Technology Advisory Council (2014 - present)
COFAC Representative, Office of Academic Innovation Steering Committee (2014 - present)
Chair, LOI committee, Music Technology Curricular Initiative (2016 - present)
Extensive curriculum development work in the area of music technology (ongoing)
Chair; Towson University Recording Studio Oversight Committee (2012 - present)
Pedagogical Director / Technical Manager; Towson University Recording Studio (2011 - present)
Oversee 'Free Fridays' recording studio sessions (2014 - present)
Audio production and engineering for Dance on Bones theater project (2016)
Present recording demo / workshop for Piano Days event (2014 - present)
Sunshine Committee - organizing faculty and staff events and get-togethers (2015-present)
Assist composition area with student review and admissions (2012 - present)
Completed major renovations to the Department of Music Recording Studio - installed new mixing console and audio hardware (2015)
Music Education Faculty Search Committee, Towson University (2014 - 2015)
Audio and Music Production, COFAC Program Exploratory Committee Member (2012 - 2015)
Curriculum Committee; Music Department, Towson University (2012 - 2013)
Scholarship / Competition Committee; Music Department, Towson University (2011-2012)
MFA Committee Member; Matthew McCormack, Sculpture / Mixed Media (2012 - 2015)
MM Thesis Committee Member; Jaimie Branch, Towson University (2013 - 2014)
MM Thesis Committee Member; Valencio Jackson, Towson University (2011-2012)
Technical outreach - working with various departments and OTS (ongoing)

Professional Memberships and Service

Researcher / Coordinator of Technology, Adaptive Use Musical Instruments Consortium
Member, International Society for Improvised Music (ISIM)
Member, International Computer Music Association (ICMA)
Member, Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States (SEAMUS)
Member, Electronic Music Foundation (EMF)
Member, College Music Society (CMS)

Selected Professional Development

Contemplative Practices for the 21st Century University Conference, Blacksburg, VA (2016)
International Computer Music Conference (2005, 06, 10, 15)
Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States Conference, Blacksburg, VT (2015)
Ecomusics and Ecomusicologies 2014: Dialogues, Asheville, NC (2014)
Third Practice Electroacoustic Music Festival, Richmond, VA (2014)
New Directions in Music Education, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI (2014)
Deep Listening: Art / Science International Conference, EMPAC, Troy, NY (2013, 2014)
International Society for Improvised Music Conference (2006, 08, 10, 12, 14)
10th, 11th, 13th and 14th Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology (2006, 08, 12, 14)
New York City Electronic Music Festival, NYC (2013)
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression (2002, 03, 05, 07, 08, 12)
Workshop on Gesture Recognition and Machine Learning for Musical Interaction (2012)
National Conference, Association for Technology in Music Education, Richmond, VA (2011)
National Conference, College Music Society, Richmond, VA (2011)
Concordia Live and Interactive Electroacoustic Colloquium, Montreal (2011)
Two Thousand + Ten Symposium, Sonic Arts Research Center, Belfast (2010)
ACM SIGGRAPH Conference, New Orleans, LA (2009)
McGill-Suoni Improvisation Colloquium: Text, Media, and Improvisation, Montreal (2008)
Extensible Electric Guitar Festival, Clark University, Worcester, MA (2008)
International Conference on Enactive Interfaces / Enaction in Arts, Grenoble (2007)
New West Electronic Arts and Music Organization Festival, Boulder, CO (2007)
Spark Festival of Electronic Music and Art, Minneapolis, MN (2006)
Visiones Sonoras International Festival, Mexico City (2005)
New World Electroacoustic Music Organization Festival, San Diego, CA (2005)
International Convention on Technologies for Music IRCAM, Paris (2002, 2004)
MAXIS Festival / Symposium of Sound and Experimental Music, UK (2002, 2003)