


EMPAC



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ROB HAMILTON

**THE MACHINE
IS THE
MESSAGE:**
How Technology
Will Fundamentally
Change Music



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The Machine is the Message: How Technology Will Fundamentally Change Music

Computers are amazing tools for the generation and manipulation of massive amounts of data in real-time—tools that allow artists, musicians, and researchers to procedurally explore new paradigms of audio and visual interaction, co-opting bits and bytes “on-the-fly” into stunning digital canvases for our enjoyment and contemplation.

Modern computing technology has empowered a generation of creatives to engage their audiences directly as interactive partners rather than passive consumers. The creative and commercial successes of immersive game experiences predict an adventurous future, and have already acclimated audiences to nonlinear forms of storytelling while feeding our growing need to take an active role in our own entertainment. The room is prepped, so to speak, for a new age of procedurally generated, media-rich art and music, which eschews linearity and embraces the dynamism inherent in our tools.

Researcher and composer **Rob Hamilton** explores the converging spaces between sound, music, and interaction. His creative practice includes mixed-reality performance works built within fully rendered, networked game environments, procedural music engines and mobile musical ecosystems. His research focuses on the cognitive implications of sonified musical gesture and motion and the role of perceived space in the creation and enjoyment of sound and music. Dr. Hamilton received his PhD from Stanford University’s Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA) and has joined the Rensselaer community this semester, serving as Assistant Professor of Music and Media in Rensselaer’s Department of Arts.



STAFF

Geoff Abbas / Director for Stage Technologies
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Kimberly Gardner / Manager, Administrative Operations
Johannes Goebel / Director
Ian Hamelin / Project Manager
Katie Hammon / Administrative Specialist
Ryan Jenkins / Senior Event Technician
Shannon Johnson / Design Director
Carl Lewandowski / Production Technician
Eric Chi-Yeh Lin / Lead Stage Technician
Stephen McLaughlin / Senior Event Technician
Josh Potter / Marketing and Communications Manager
Alena Samoray / Event Technician
Candice Sherman / Business Coordinator
Avery Stempel / Front of House Manager
Kim Strosahl / Production Coordinator
Jeffrey Svatek / Audio Engineer
Dan Swalec / Master Electrician
Todd Vos / Lead Audio Engineer
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