

PEDRO REBELO

Addressing the Network: Performative Strategies for Playing APART

The presentation will refer to research conducted in the context of the Comedia EU Culture 2007 project at the Sonic Arts Research Centre. Notions of network dramaturgy are explored with a view to develop an understanding of the types of performative engagement in the network. This paper addresses challenges and opportunities posed by the design and production of network performance from the point of view of collaborative creative work. It does so by examining strategies that, while referring to the network as a new medium for performance, make use of concepts from dramaturgy to better understand the relationships between artists, audiences and media. The author characterises three distinct models for dramaturgy, particularly from the point of view of collaboration, authorship, presence and environment. Pedro will draw on examples from the performances of Disparate Bodies and Netrooms in order to illustrate current practice that addresses network dramaturgy.

Pedro Rebelo is a composer/digital artist working in electroacoustic music, digital media and installation. His approach to music making is informed by the use of improvisation and interdisciplinary structures. He has been involved in several collaborative projects with visual artists and has created a large body of work exploring the relationships between architecture and music in creating interactive performance and installation environments. This includes a series of commissioned pieces for soloists and live-electronics which take as a basis the interpretation of specific acoustic spaces.

In the duo laut with saxophonist Franziska Schroeder he investigates the extension of interfaces and control in interactive performance practices. His electroacoustic music is featured in various CD sets (Sonic Circuits IV, Discontact III, Exploratory Music from Portugal, ARiADA). His work as an improvisor has been released by Creative Source Recordings. Pedro conducts research in the field of digital media, interactive sound and composition.

His writings reflect his approach to design and composition by articulating creative practice in a wider understanding of cultural theory. Pedro was Visiting Professor at Stanford University (2007) and the Music Chair for the 2008 International Computer Music Conference. He has been Director of Research at the Sonic Arts Research Centre and is now Director of Education at the School of Music and Sonic Arts, Queen's University Belfast.