

David Eagle

SoundPlay2

(2005)

for Violin & Computer

Programme note – *Soundplay2* for Violin and Computer (2005) David Eagle

Soundplay is a series of works conceived as both musical / soundscape compositions and as sound games. The material consists of overlapping soundfiles, melodic and spoken fragments, solo and ensemble movements, and extensive live processing and sound spatialization. This material can be combined in different ways, similar to the way in which games have defined players and rules but the exact outcome and more importantly how the game develops is not known. Currently there are four pieces in the series. The first, *Soundplay1* for computer (2004), is an interactive soundscape work that surrounds the listeners with sounds in motion or ‘kinetic music’.

Soundplay2 for violin and computer (2005) further integrates aspects of aleatory and play within a musical structure. Through live processing on the computer, the violinist creates and transforms the surrounding electroacoustic soundscape. The violin line is processed in various ways (delays, filters, transposition, harmonization, rhythmic processes, recording and loops) and its gestures trigger the different soundfiles, with each performance having a unique outcome. The composer is at the computer and participates in the performance by shaping the response of the program to the live input.

Technical setup:

- 1) microphone (or violin pickup)
- 2) optional stage monitor for violinist
- 3) stereo sound system to hall (quadraphonic also possible)
- 4) mixer, located at an ideal listening position in middle or back of hall
- 5) laptop computer & digital audio interface (composer will provide), located at mixer

Audio routing:

- 1) microphone signal to audio interface via mixer
- 2) stereo return from audio interface to mixer and loudspeakers

Biography – David Eagle

David Eagle composes chamber, orchestral and electroacoustic music, and in recent years, has explored computer applications in composition, improvisation, multimedia and sound spatialization. On faculty at the University of Calgary, he is Director of the Electroacoustic Music Studio and the New Music Ensemble.

Performances in Canada and abroad include Sound Travels, New Music Concerts & Arraymusic (Toronto), New Works Calgary, Calgary Philharmonic, Vancouver New Music, Tuning of the World (Banff), Calgary International Organ Festival, International Computer Music Conferences 95 & 96, World Saxophone Congress 2000, Mexico-Canada Music Festival in Mexico City, CanTai Festival in Taipei, Taiwan, Musica Scienza 2001 at the Centro Ricerche Musicali, Rome and the Open Ears Festival 2003 in Kitchener-Waterloo. In November 2004 he was visiting composer at the Wuhan Conservatory of Music in China where he premiered his kinetic music composition *Soundplay1*. Recent premières include *Resound* for solo saxophone, *Soundplay2* for violin and *Crossing Currents* for orchestra (Banff Summer Festival), *Soundplay3* for soprano, ensemble and computer (Ensemble Resonance, New Works Calgary) and *Soundplay4* for bass clarinet duo (Bass Impact, World Bass Clarinet Congress, Rotterdam).

Eagle's work can be heard on New Concert Discs, Clef, UNICAL, isidorart and ARKTOS recording labels. Webpage: www.ucalgary.ca/~eagle