

Composed :

Dimitri Voudouris

Composition:

Lexicophony.1

Annum :

2003-2004

Duration:

35 min 57 sec

Preamble

Lexicophony means [Greek - lexico – dictionary, phony – sound]

When a sound leaves its source it is exposed to the laws of physics that will govern its behaviour in the state of diffusion. This behaviour is ever changing and depends entirely on the physical morphology as well as the acoustic and climatic state of the environment that the sound engages with at a particular point in time. The hearing experience will differ in various environments [when one is having a conversation with a friend in a rush hour in the city we have organic noise and mechanical/artificial noise that is generated, walking through an open space with a strong wind blowing through bamboo reeds or in doors] this is because sounds, surfaces and climatic factors in the environment interact with each other resulting in an additive or subtractive contribution to the total sound, altering the pure acoustic morphology of the sound you are trying to listen to. The sound becomes impure. The same applies when we are listening to Von Karajan conducting the Berlin Philharmonic orchestra that is performing Beethoven's works the difference between the live concert environment and that of the recording is very different and somewhat disappointing, this is because the microphone has limitations, what the microphone fails to do is to capture the environment in a similar way as the ear would, this would result in a recording that could over emphasize the sounds creating an artificial result that has been engineered to --sell. We need to take into account the hearing capabilities of people which physiologically differ considerably from person to person as well as listening [understanding] of what they encounter, this in itself can be altered by the state of mind of an individual, health factors that can have a psychosomatic impact, medication that alter the way we perceive. We also need to realise that no single micro moment in nature repeats itself in exactly the same way again although it might seem to be so on a superficial observation. Our experience is also governed by the same law even if we think that we are in control of a moment when listening to a song from a CD played over and over again our experience on the micro moment will differ this is governed by a number of factors that are beyond our control e.g. physiological factors, chemical reactions occurring in the body as well as a continuous change in the surrounding environment e.g. noises entering the space etc, these conditions will affect the way that we experience and emotionally perceive the moment. When I compose I take all these possibilities into account. My intention is to create an artificial environment and have the sounds interact in such a way so as to challenge the way that we listen.

About Kinetics

Kinetics comes from the Greek meaning motion .Applying the kinetic theory of traffic in Lexicophony.1 allowed for observations that directly dissect motion as an action who's direct relationship is related to velocity,time, and individual decision making to occur.

Factors influencing this behavior interfere directly in the decision we will be making as we attempt to identify pathways of motion.

Traffic kinetic theory might sound very far removed to some but it is very relevant in every day life from the highest animals in the eco-system to the lowest and most simple micro organic behavior as well as to mechanical motion.

Factors that obstruct or interfere with motion are obstacles that one might identify as slowing down in velocity and increasing the amount of time needed for a particular decision and action to take place these factors are for example uneven surfaces we walk on ,objects obstructing flow of motion a broken vehicle in the middle of the road, climatic conditions rain ,wind,visual obstruction as well as the physical state of health and age have all got a direct influence on the velocity / time factor and as a result in many cases can lead to areas of congestion in traffic this can occur at peak hour traffic with people it can occur in cues at the local supermarket and on a molecular level liquids are directly affected by viscosity that will affect the flow rate and similarly with gases.

Lexicophony .1 is a computer music composition that is purely electronic generated by artificial means so as to create an artificial organic environment and attempts to illustrate a situation were a multitude of actions and decision making all occurs at the same time but when listened to carefully would sound as if all is happening in unison. each action is directly related to Newtonian principles of motion and has been mathematically calculated to address velocity of sound in relationship to time.

The composition has what I would call continuous lock and key associations. In a human body there are specific reactions taking place due to a molecular reactions occurring on receptors that are present on cell surface, this engagement which is an interlocking action can only occur in a lock and key situation and the engagement will not take place if incorrect decoding takes place.

Guidelines for dancer

The dancer needs to spend time in various environments so as to begin to understand the mechanisms of the various sound environments through visual observations , auditory observations [blind folding whilst walking through environments] and finally physical observations of touch , taste , smell always remembering that our nervous system are sensory mechanisms and pathways of communication that extend both in organic and artificial environments. Our sensory mechanism reaches out to these various surroundings as it attempts to give meaning to these various associations that make us survive or not survive in every day life. This is an exercise that makes us become more aware of the millions of separate entities that are taking place all at the same time and removal of one or more of such events can result in an imbalance.

Dance performance guidelines

Such engagements that were discussed earlier are necessary to occur with the dancers were physical and emotional engagement results in various possibilities. For the dancer to experience density, velocity and time in relationship to environmental space that he is interacting with so as to build an associated relationship that would engage with every day life were the symbolic nature of gesture becomes a vehicle of communication between the inner self and the surrounding space.

The End