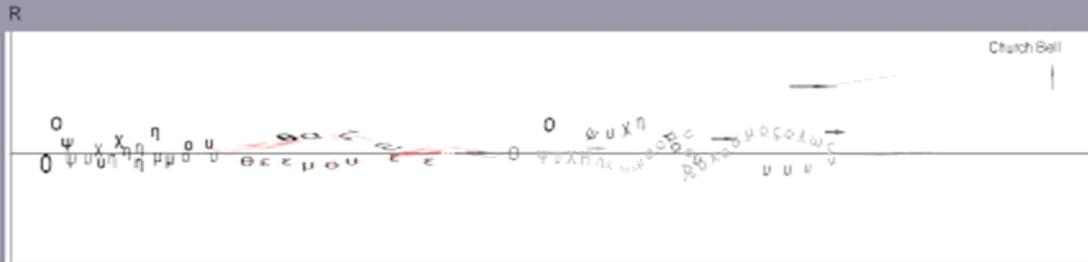Dimitri
Voudouris
[1961-]
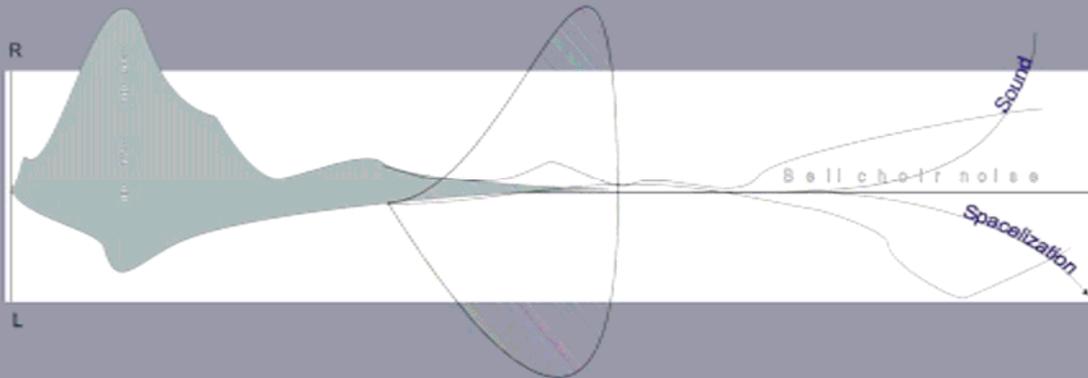
ωραΞης
[2003-2004]

Greek Orthodox Christian Liturgy [Magnetic Tape] and Computer assisted processing

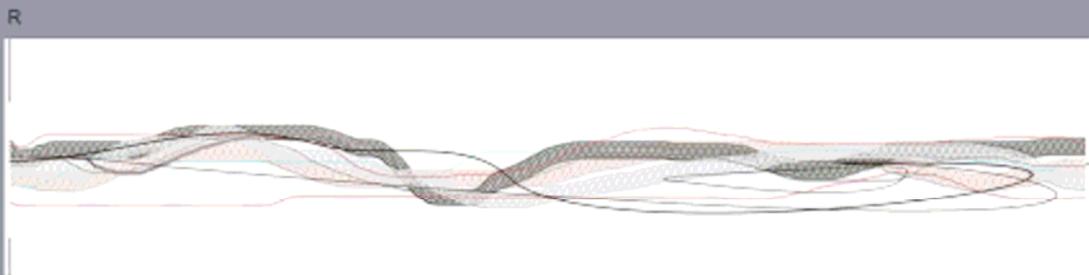Praxis : Vector construction 0 min - 1 min

R

Church Bell

L

Church
Bell

340Hz-44Hz

R

Sound

Bell choir noise

Spacelization
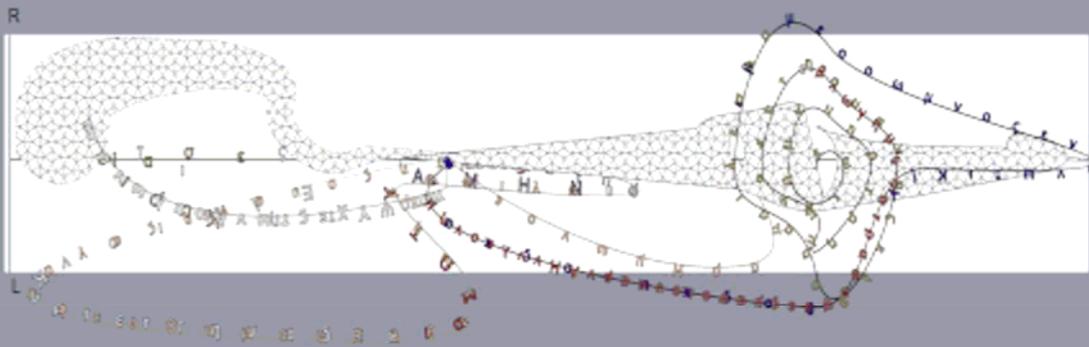
L

Praxis : Vector construction 1min10 sec - 2min52sec

Diagram 1

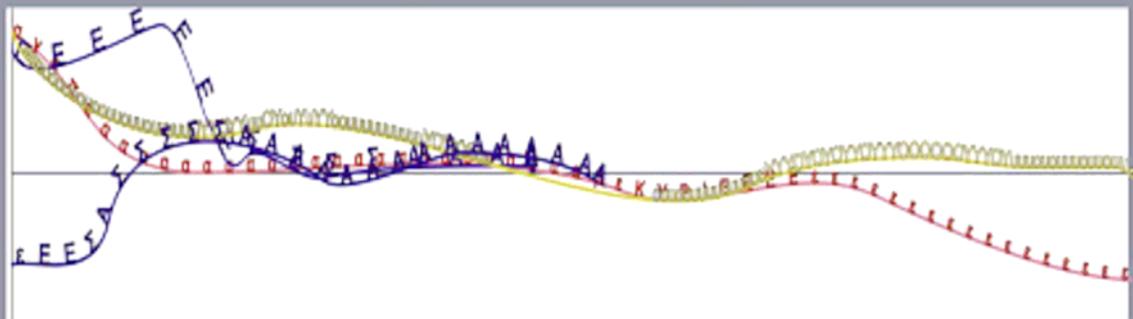Praxis : Vectror construction [collision of words] 2min53sec - 3min50sec

R

L

R

L

Praxis : Vector construction [deconstruction of words] 4min - 6min10sec

Diagram 2

Praxis : Vector construction 10min53sec - 13min 10 sec [three groups of colliding voice patterns with two emerging voice patterns]
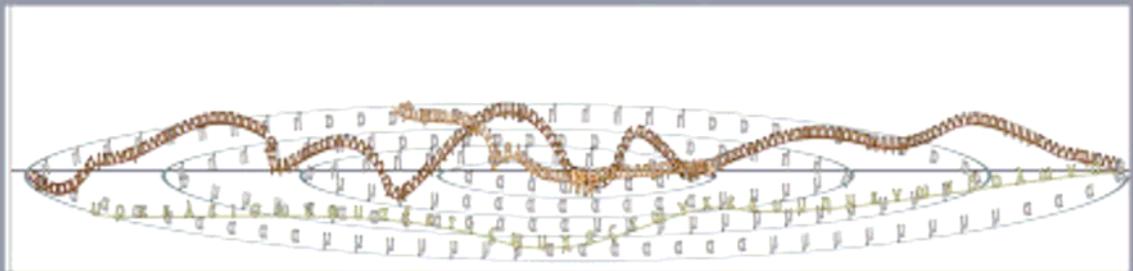
R

L

Praxis : Vector construction 13min 20sec - 14min 20sec [four dispersed voice patterns - in circular motion]

R

L

Diagram 3

PRAXIS- (2004**) Duration: 14min30sec**

Christian Orthodox Greek male choir /magnetic tape and Computer assisted processing. - [four channel tape]
PRAXIS [Greek - actions] is a protest against the ongoing victimization of Orthodox Christians in Croatia.

In his letter "Why a Holocaust of 50 Million Victims of the Orthodox Christian Church?" Rev Archimandrite: Nektarios Serfes states- Boise, Idaho U.S.A. October 1999

> *The wars in former Yugoslavia have been disastrous for the Orthodox. The Croatian government has liquidated the Orthodox Church in its territory, beginning with the dynamiting of the residency and library of the Orthodox Metropolitan of Zagreb on 11 April 1992. Following the Croatian offensive of fall 1995 resulted in the departure of over 200,000 Orthodox Serbs in Diocese in Krajina, (which brought a total of over 800,000 displaced Orthodox Christians), four dioceses of the Serbian Orthodox Church ceased to exist. In Croat controlled territory in Bosnia, the Orthodox Bishop of Mostar was driven out, and most of the Orthodox population was expelled. Estimates are that over 154 Orthodox churches in the territory of Bosnia and Croatia were deliberately destroyed.*

In September 1999 the church of Agion Anargiron in Sofiatown Johannesburg held a special memorial service for the victims of the Croatian genocide that occurred in the early to mid 90's and the ongoing victimization of Orthodox Christians. I never realized until three years later that the service had been recorded. Much to the disappointment of the person who had made the two hour long recording for he had not realized at the time that the tape had been damaged. In analyzing the recording I found unique moments in the original material such as the sound of the church bell the acoustics of the space, the distorted voice of the priest and the choir created the foundation for this work. I created symbols for each sound, the church bell represents the distorted and the unbalanced circumstances that surround the Orthodox Christian in Croatia, the distorted voice of the priest symbolizes the way that circumstances would distort the truth for self gain this reminds me of the similar situation in the Christian Bible were the truth was twisted resulting in the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, the choir represent voices of victims, the ghostly truth that has stained the Croatian landscape.
566 sound compartments were created for Praxis that ranged from 10 to 40 seconds in time duration. Although various degrees in similarity prevailed in the sound compartments, each sound compartment was constructed and manipulated individually, this is because there is a better control in maintaining individuality in the sound structures i.e. each sound compartment may be processed at different rates of velocity resulting in a unique body of density and information The computer further allowed for the individual micro-rearrangement of pitches in each sound compartment that lead to the notion of continuous macro-timbre The methods I use allow for greater control in spacial differentiation of each sound. The distorted nature of the sound source was not eliminated but was build into the composition. It has been a challenge and a huge undertaking to restore the sound quality of the tape. Clarity and depth was achieved by the use of high quality compression, equalization and reverb