Mathematics Department Presentation Series



Spring 2014

Dr. Tomas Henriquez,
SUNY BS Music Department
"The World as Will and Sonification: Looking out through the auditory stethoscope"

Ketchum Hall 219 Thursday, March 13, 2014 12:20pm

Seen at first as a scientific curiosity, the field of data sonification was grown immensily, both in scope, pertinence and the clear usefulness of its applications. For over two decades now, the goal of researchers working in this area has remained clear: to turn the world that surrounds us, fueled by complex and massive data sets, into meaningful sonic representations. A world where our auditory system tunes in, to harvest and sift through often elusive information, where sound becomes the new window to understand and convey its phenomena.

This talk will focus on using data sonification as an attempt to peer into, to monitor and to predict the behavior of complex systems.

Henriques' creative work and research activities are wide-ranging both in their scope and diversity. His compositional output includes pieces for acoustic instruments, both large and small formations, as well as music for electronic and mixed media. His works are regularly commissioned and have been played in music festivals such as the Musica Viva Festival, the Festival Synthèse, the Logos Festival, the North American New Music Festival, the June in Buffalo Contemporary Music Festival, the 3rd Practice Electronic Music Festival, the Art Series Now Festival, etc, as well as in concerts in USA, Portugal, England, France, Italy, Spain, and Hungary. Examples of his music can be heard on the Numerica and MisoRecords labels. Parallel to his creative work, Henriques maintains an active agenda in the areas of music theory, musicology, and aesthetics, regularly presenting papers on these subjects. From 2005 onwards he has focused his research on using sensor technologies to create innovative electronic instruments for music performance and composition. These new digital music controllers are performed by the composer and currently presented in conferences and concert venues both in North America and in Europe.