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Scientific Delirium Madness 6.0: Gallery

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A LITTLE BIT OF NOISE

Patricia Alessandrini

The following collaborative projects were realized with fellow artists at the Scientific Delirium Madness Residency, Djerassi Resident Artists Program, 2019.

Using Korg littleBits Synth Kits and sensor elements, Weidong Yang and I constructed a hands-on installation titled *a little bit of noise*. Composed of bark and moss from the surrounding forests, it produced electronic sound modified by its own swinging movement as well as by users' input.

We started using the littleBits as a modular environment for physically prototyping mappings between sensors and synthesis, including a system for sonifying Electromyography (EMG) signals for choreographer Daiane Lopes da Silva's multimedia production *AI Sensorium*, produced by Kinetech Arts. I then translated this system into a digital signal processing environment for use in live performance. Another Djerassi resident, Vidhu Aggarwal, provided a recorded text for *AI Sensorium*, which I then used AI processes to transform.

At the SDM Open House event, the reactions to the installation varied greatly among audience members. Some enjoyed swinging and spinning it or moving in relation to it in order to change the sound; others engaged in more detail with the dials of the circuits to create their own preferred sounds, beats and sequences, while using the sensors for added expressivity.

The Open House also featured a self-generating feedback system for the piano. This installation featured a Bluetooth-controlled vibrator encased in a heart sculpture made by artist Kathy High for the occasion, such that the slow pulsations exciting the strings of the piano emanated from the heart.

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a little bit of noise poster image, 2019. (© Weidong Yang)



Kathy High's *Blue Heart*, 2019. (© Kathy High)

AI SENSORIUM

*Daiane Lopes da Silva
and Weidong Yang*

AI Sensorium is a dance performance by Daiane Lopes da Silva that reflects on the advance of machine learning and artificial intelligence and how these technologies influence our perception of reality. As with all major technology advances in history, the potential of drastically improving human lives comes with unexpected side effects. Digital footprints are left behind with every single movement we make. Tracked over a long period of time, these digital imprints are pooled into big data, processed by machine learning and stitched together, revealing fragmented information about our selves. For commercial entities, those insights fuel the recommendation system that perfects the selling of merchandise. In the hands of special interest groups, it creates powerful weapons to deepen our bias and influence our views. Through dance and digital art, Daiane investigates how AI and machine learning are impacting society.

The creation of *AI Sensorium* involves the contribution of poet Vidhu Aggarwal, sound processing by Patricia Alessandrini and video documentation by Kathy High.

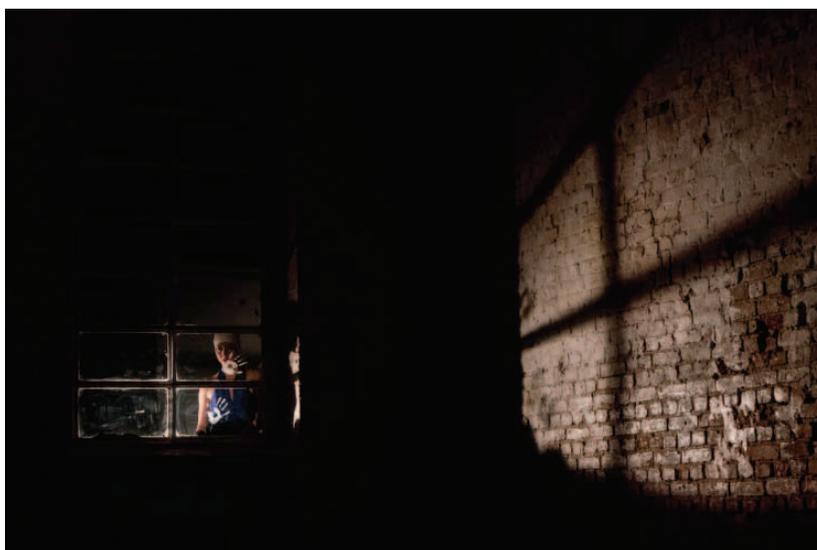
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AI Sensorium by Kinetic Arts. (© Weidong Yang)