

The Gift of the Algorithm: Beyond Autonomy and Control

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The Gift of the Algorithm: Beyond Autonomy and Control

- **Statement of the relevance of the work to the conference theme and/or topics**

This piece brings together, participation, algorithmic composition and augmentation (as a mechanism by which people can work together to *augment* and support a composer's workflow). The performance is about understanding the ways in which composition and performance can be understood, socially, aesthetically and scientifically. This performance becomes a piece of research and design in its own right, a more experimental manifestation of HCI, but it also demonstrates and disrupts conventional production and performance by making the multiple layers of practice and provenance obvious. *See *Program notes* for a fuller description of the piece for public consumption. We also aim to discuss this further and demo at the Performance workshop that we have submitted.

This is part the on going research of the FAST project and aims to engage the wider interdisciplinary Audio Mostly community.

- **Program notes**

This piece expands upon Chamberlain's work into compositional practices that explore autonomy and control, and builds upon the Numbers into Notes system as developed by De Roure. The piece (*which is an evolving work*) uses the symbolism of *the gift* to frame parts of the interactions that have occurred in the development of the piece. Individuals are given the chance to create an algorithm. This is made into a physical entity (*containing a sequence*), which is then gifted to the composer; these together are combined and used to compose a piece. The piece is then performed and

given back to the audience (*live*), of which some members have created the original algorithms. The performance creates a gift, a souvenir, a memento of the experience which some of the audience members can take away. The performance also acts as a way in which we can also understand the interplay between algorithms, art, performance, provenance and participation.

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A link to the work performed on the night can be found here, with details of those who took part in the project:

https://soundcloud.com/alain_du_norde/the-gift-the-algorithm-beyond-autonomy-and-control

More of the MRLs work can be found referenced below

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