

Huddersfield Experimental Laptop Orchestra

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Sonic Arts Forum
Leeds June 2009

Introduction

- Established September 2008
- Part of Popular Music Directed Ensemble Module
- Made up of 2nd and 3rd Year Students
- Heterogeneous Hardware and Software environment

Practical Requirements

- User Laptop and Chosen Software
- Limit of two 13A mains plugs
- Single Guitar Amplifier per player
- Default Curved Arch

HELO and Edges 2009



Scott Hewitt 2009

Rehearsal Strategies

- 1 Hour Weekly Rehearsal
 - 15 min setup
 - 15 min exercise based on improving listening
 - 30 min directed to compositions
- Individual player rehearsal

Performances

- HCMF Revolutionaries (Nov 2008)
- GEM days Laptop Music (Jan 2009)
- HELO and Edges Ensemble (May 2009)

Recordings available online @
www.ablelemon.co.uk/helo

Outcome Player Development

- Improved Player Skill
- Competency on software
- Development of ensemble playing skills
- Compositional approaches

Outcome Ensemble Exposure

- Increased awareness
- Opportunities for wider participation

Outcome Rehearsal Approaches

- Methods of Direction
- Rehearsal Exercises

Outcome Composition Strategies

- Text Score
- Online Text score
- Graphical Score (limited success)
- Directed Improvisation
- Application / Code Score

Ongoing Experiments

- Live Coding Direction
- Live Instrument Collaboration
- Compositional Techniques

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