

SCIENCES OF MUSIC

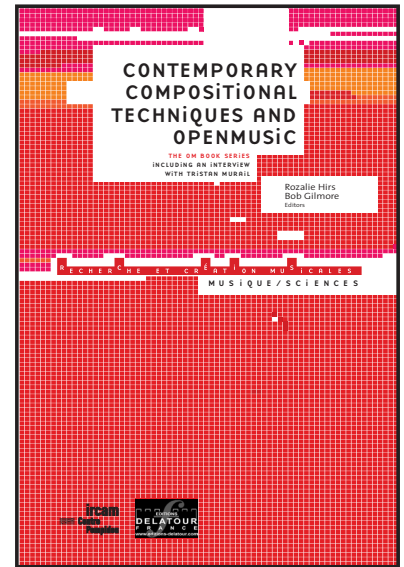


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Contemporary compositional techniques and Openmusic

Bob Gilmore & Rozalie Hirs

ABOUT THE BOOK :

The first part of this book contains an interview with Tristan Murail and three essays on musical works of Claude Vivier (*Lonely child*, 1980), Gérard Grisey (*Quatre chants pour franchir le seuil*, 1997–98), and Tristan Murail (*Le Lac*, 2001) by Bob Gilmore, Jean-Luc Hervé, and Rozalie Hirs. The authors provide detailed analyses of these works, focusing on the frequency-based techniques and compositional processes employed by the composers.

The second part of the book originated in 'OpenMusic and Contemporary Compositional Techniques', a series of lectures and workshops given by Rozalie Hirs and guest professors Tristan Murail, Mikhail Malt, Benjamin Thigpen, Marco Stroppa, and Niels Bogaards at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam during the 2005/06 academic year. The series was initiated by the Nieuw Ensemble and its artistic director, Joël Bons, as part of the annual Componistenpracticum, which pairs theory and practice in a way not found anywhere else in the world. The Nieuw Ensemble and conductor Lucas Vis rehearsed and performed new pieces written by an international group of composition students from the Conservatorium van Amsterdam and the Royal Conservatoire in the Netherlands. In turn, the students documented their creative process in the seven essays included in this volume. An extensive essay on Tristan Murail's compositional ideas and frequency-based techniques originated in the lecture series given by Rozalie Hirs. It provides the most detailed discussion of Murail's work available in English today.

ABOUT THE AUTORS :

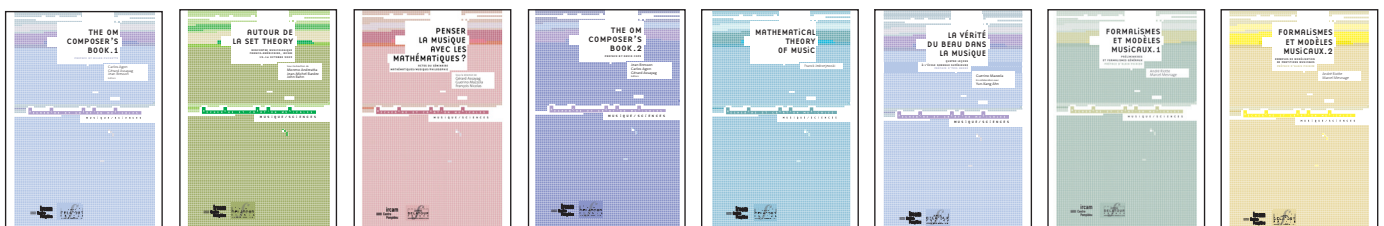


Bob Gilmore is a musicologist and keyboard player born in Northern Ireland and presently living in Amsterdam. He is the author of many books and articles on new music, specifically on microtonal and spectral repertoires, including the award-winning *Harry Partch: a biography* (Yale, 1998), a study of the American composer, theorist and instrument builder. He edited *Maximum Clarity: selected writings on music by the American microtonalist Ben Johnston* (University of Illinois Press, 2006). He is presently completing a biography of the French-Canadian composer Claude Vivier. He teaches at Brunel University in London and is the director of Trio Scordatura, an Amsterdam-based ensemble specialising in microtonal music.



Rozalie Hirs is a composer and poet. After completing her chemical engineering degree at Twente University (MSc, 1990) she studied composition with Louis Andriessen at the Royal Conservatoire in the Netherlands. As a Fulbright fellow she pursued further composition studies with Tristan Murail at Columbia University (DMA, 2007). Her recent composition *Roseherite* (2008) for large orchestra and electro-acoustic sounds was premiered by the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra and selected for the Toonzetters prize in 2009. Her electro-acoustic composition *Pulsars* (2007), commissioned by the Dutch Radio, received the designation Recommended Work at the IREM in Lisbon in 2007.

TO DISCOVER ...



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