



Curatorial > VARIATIONS

'Variation' is the formal term for a musical composition based on a previous musical work, and many of those traditional methods (changing the key, meter, rhythm, harmonies or tempi of a piece) are used in much the same manner today by sampling musicians. But the practice of sampling is more than a simple modernization or expansion of the number of options available to those who seek their inspiration in the refinement of previous composition. The history of this music traces nearly as far back as the advent of recording, and its emergence and development mirrors the increasingly self-conscious relationship of society to its experience of music. Starting with the precedents achieved by Charles Ives and John Cage, VARIATIONS presents an overview of the major landmarks in Sampling Music, following examples in twentieth century composition, folk art and commercial media through to the meeting of all those threads in the present day.

Curated by Jon Leidecker.

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Jon Leidecker has been engaged with the medium of electronic music since the mid 1980's, with an emphasis on live performance and collaboration. Early works utilized sonic collage & musical appropriation, improvising with recorded sounds to produce music which inherently resists the act of being recorded. Recent work investigates the history and musical aesthetics implied by the physics of acoustic and electrical feedback, research into the technology and creative workflow required for immersive sound diffusion (including five years of work as a member of the engineering team for Dolby's 3D sound format Atmos), and the use of mobile devices and their built-in microphones as cybernetic improvising partners. Live and studio collaborations include work with Negativland, Dieter Moebius & Tim Story, Matmos, People Like Us, Thomas Dimuzio, Zeena Parkins, Laetitia Sonami, Fred Frith, Thurston Moore, David Toop, Tania Chen, Carl Stone, John Oswald, The Freddy McGuire Show and Sagan. In 2015 he inherited Negativland's long-running Over The Edge radio collage program, which continues to be broadcast twice a month on Berkeley's KPFA FM.

# VARIATIONS #8

## The Relationship

When music can be confused for an object, a recording replacing the action it describes, we are simultaneously promised total control while confronted with music that challenges the idea of the individual author (or the pleasure of music as a thing that can be owned). Despite, or due to this tension, as illegal art of collage goes mainstream, we find ownership of all personal expression more concentrated and removed from those who produce it than ever before. The convergence of mainstream and social media platforms sidelines traditional record labels and sparks new sub-genres from mashups to vaporwave, but also reinforces the perception of music as consumable entertainment. How are we being retrained to our new environment by an aesthetic that has become so pervasive as to turn itself nearly invisible? Never conclude a historical narrative in present time.

## 01. Playlist

- 01 Ekkehard Ehlers, "Plays John Cassavettes: Untitled A", 2001 (under narration)
- 02 Ekkehard Ehlers, "Plays John Cassavettes: Untitled B", 2001 (under narration)
- 03 The Caretaker, "The Great Hidden Sea of the Unconscious", 2011 (under narration)
- 04 Osymyso, "Intro-Introspection", 2001 (under narration)
- 05 Christina Aguilera, "Genie in a Bottle", 1999
- 06 Freelance Hellraiser, "A Stroke of Genie-us", 2001
- 07 2manydjs (Soulwax), "Push It No Fun (Stooges / Salt'N'Pepa)", 2001
- 08 Girls On Top (Richard X), "We Don't Give a Damn About Our Friends", 2001
- 09 Kool Hand Luke, "Getting Freaky in Black (MC/DC)", 2002
- 10 ?, "Come on Noise (Dexy's Midnight Runners + Public Enemy)", 2001
- 11 Girls On Top (Richard X), "I Wanna Dance With Numbers", 2001 (under narration)
- 12 VVM, "The Lady In Red (Is Dancing With Meat)", 2000
- 13 Club House, "Do It Again Medley with Billie Jean", 1983 (under narration)
- 14 Osymyso, "Intro-Introspection", 2001
- 15 Freelance Hairdresser, "Marshall's Been Snookered", 2002
- 16 Dsico, "I Want Boys", 2002 (under narration)
- 17 Go Home Productions, "Shannon Stone", 2003 (under narration)
- 18 Kid606, "Attitude", 2000
- 19 Bran Flakes, "Go Go Up", 1998 (fragment)
- 20 Bran Flakes, "No More Free Will", 2002
- 21 Cassetteboy, "Fly Me To New York", 2002
- 22 Atom(tm) feat. Tea Time, "Muchacha", 2000 (under narration)
- 23 Erik Satin (Atom Heart), "Hypnotique (I'm Going Out Of My Head)", 1999
- 24 Radio Boy (Matthew Herbert), "The Mechanics of Destruction: McDonalds", 2001
- 25 Matmos, "Lipostudio... and So On", 2001
- 26 DJ /rupture, "Gold Teeth Thief (Dahlana + Non Phixion + Djivan Gasparyan + Wu-Tang Clan / Funkstörung)", 2001
- 27 The Avalanches, "Radio", 2001
- 28 Prefuse 73, "Suite for the Ways Things Change", 2003 (under narration)
- 29 Prefuse 73, "The Color of Tempo", 2003
- 30 Akufen, "Deck the House", 2002
- 31 Donna Summer, "Stepping the Fuck Out", 2002 (under narration)
- 32 Jason Forrest, "Spectacle to Refute All Judgements", 2004
- 33 2manydjs (Soulwax), "Dreadlock Woman", 2002 (under narration)
- 34 Kid606, "Never Underestimate the Value of a Holler (Vipee-pee Mix)", 2003
- 35 Danger Mouse, "Dirt Off Your Shoulder", 2004
- 36 The Books, "Be Good to Them Always", 2005



[2manydjs]



[Kid 606]

- 37 J Dilla, "Workinonit", 2006
- 38 J Dilla, "Bye", 2006 (fragment)
- 39 Strictly Kev, "Raiding the 20th Century (Words and Music Expansion)", 2005
- 40 Brindle Spork, "Spinal Tox", 2002 (under narration)
- 41 Girl Talk, "All Eyes On Me", 2003 (fragment)
- 42 Girl Talk, "Pump It Up", 2003 (under narration)
- 43 Girl Talk, "Bounce That", 2006
- 44 Girl Talk, "Warm It Up", 2006 (under narration)
- 45 Kutiman, "Thru-you: Mother of All Funk Chords", 2009
- 46 Soft Pink Truth, "Party Pills", 2008
- 47 Cory Arcangel, "Drei Klavierstück", 2009
- 48 Jonathan Nelson / Some Assembly Required, "Steinski Interview (via Strictly Kev's Raiding the 20th Century)", 2005
- 49 Escape Mechanism, "Cycles", 2008
- 50 Leif Inge, "9 Beet Stretch", 2004
- 51 Shamantis, "J Biebz 800x Smile", 2010
- 52 Martin Arnold, "Alone, Life Wastes Andy Hardy", 1998 (under narration)
- 53 U2 / Kevin Godley, "ZOO TV Outside Broadcast", 1993 (fragment)
- 54 Daft Punk, "Robot Rock / Oh Yeah", 2007 (under narration)
- 55 Blectum From Blechdom, "Hotrodderdam", 2000 (under narration)
- 56 Kendrick Lamar, "King Kunta", 2015 (under narration)
- 57 Kanye West, "Power", 2010 (fragment)
- 58 Tod Machover, "Brain Opera", 2000
- 59 William Basinski, "Disintegration Loops dlp 4", 2003
- 60 Noah Creshevsky, "Canto di Malavita", 2002
- 61 The Mae Shi, "Mae Shi Mixtape Track 31", 2004 (under narration)
- 62 The Mae Shi, "Mae Shi Mixtape Track 44", 2004
- 63 Thomas Dimuzio, "Nevaeh Ot Yawriats", 2006
- 64 R. Luke DuBois, "Timelapse II (June, 1970 to April, 1980)", 2006
- 65 Marko Ciciliani, "Pop Wall Alphabet – J (Michael Jackson/Thriller/1982)", 2015
- 66 Porest "Composition of Sheep", 2001 (under narration)
- 67 Porest, "Meat Supply", 2006
- 68 Joseph Hammer, "Dynasty Suites (1)", 2003 (under narration)
- 69 Joseph Hammer, "Roadless Travel – Soda Lake", 2013
- 70 The Caretaker, "The Sublime Is Disappointingly Elusive", 2011
- 71 Chuck Person, (Daniel Lopatin) "Eccojam B4", 2010
- 72 Chuck Person, (Daniel Lopatin) "Eccojam A6", 2010 (under narration)
- 73 Macintosh Plus (Ramona Xavier), "ブート (Booting)", 2011
- 74 Macintosh Plus (Ramona Xavier), "リサフランク420 / 現代のコンピュー (Lisa Frank 420 / Modern Computing)", 2011 (under narration)
- 75 New Dreams Ltd. (Ramona Xavier), "Midnight Luvr (Introduction, Pt. 2), 2011 (fragment)
- 76 Vektroid (Ramona Xavier), "Hydrofauna Nights", 2017 (under narration)
- 77 New Dreams Ltd. (Ramona Xavier), "Timecop", 2011
- 78 Computer Dreams, "Low Tide", 2011
- 79 G H O S T I N G, "Brought to You By", 2015
- 80 Blank Banshee, "B:/ Start Up", 2012
- 81 Wasted Nights, "Girl (1986)", 2013
- 82 Death's Dynamic Shroud.wmv, "CD Player Pt III", 2015
- 83 猫シ Corp. (Cat System Corporation), "Hesburger 映画館 [Hampurilainen]", 2016
- 84 nmesh, "The Unconscious Connection", 2014 (fragment)
- 85 nmesh, "If I Tell You That I'm Happy", 2014
- 86 Fuzzybunny, "Outro", 2010
- 87 Alvo Noto, "Transform – Module 4", 2001
- 88 Destiny's Child, "Bug A Boo", 1999 (under narration)
- 89 Jerry Galleries, "80's Remix: Linkin Park – Numb", 2017 (under narration)
- 90 John Coltrane / user GiantStepsInC, "Giant Steps In C", 2014 (under narration)
- 91 Oleg Berg, "Be Worry, Don't Happy", 2013 (fragment)
- 92 Marvin Gaye, "Got To Give It Up", 1977 (under narration)
- 93 Robin Thicke featuring T.I. and Pharrell, "Blurred Lines", 2013 (under narration)
- 94 The Iatmul of Papua Niugini, "Music of Oceania: Ulawala", 1982 (under narration)



[VVM]



[Douglas Quin]

- 95 Two Indian Boys recorded by Pierre Gaisseau, "Pan Pipes of the Puinabe", late fifties" (under narration)
- 96 Tahitian Choir, "Oparo E Oparo E", 1992 (under narration)
- 97 United Sacred Harp Musical Convention, Fyffe, Alabama, "Notes Almost Divine", 1959 (under narration)
- 98 Tarquinio Merula (performed by Jordi Savall / Hesperion XXI), "Ciaccona", recorded 2001 (under narration)
- 99 François Muduga, "Chant Avec Cithare", 1968 (under narration)
- 100 Wolfgang Mozart (performed by Maurizio Pollini & Wiener Philharmoniker), "Concerto for Piano and Orchestra no. 23 in A major, K.488, 2. Adagio", recorded 1976 (under narration)
- 101 Klaus Roeder, "Potpourri", 1985 (under narration)
- 102 William S. Burroughs, "Inching – 'Is This Machine Recording?'"', 1965 (fragment)
- 103 William S. Burroughs, "Handkerchief Masks – News Cut-Up", early sixties
- 104 Scoop Nisker, "White Lightning", 1970
- 105 Syntonic Research Inc. (Irv Teibel), "Environments 2: Tinnabulation (Contemplative Sound)", 1970 (under narration)
- 106 Irv Teibel, "The Altered Nixon Speech", 1973
- 107 Douglas Kahn, "Reagan Speaks For Himself", 1980
- 108 Cliff Roth, "The Reagans Speak Out On Drugs", 1988
- 109 Chris Morris, "Bushwacked II", 2003
- 110 Lenka Clayton, "Qaeda Quality Question Quickly Quickly Quiet – George W. Bush's State of The Union Address 2002 (In Alphabetical Order)", 2004
- 111 Autotune The News, "Obama Flashback", 2009 (under narration)
- 112 Omer Fast, "CNN Concatenated", 2002
- 113 Negativland, "Live / Chabot Science Center, January 13, 1983", 1983 (under narration)
- 114 KWUN 1480 AM / Richard Lyons, "Summertime Radio Contest", mid-seventies
- 115 Radio Morocco, "The Color of Frequency", 2004 (under narration)
- 116 Radio Palestine, "How Are You, Mr. Criminal?", 2004 (fragment)
- 117 Radio Morocco, "The Color Of Frequency", 2004 (under narration)
- 118 Radio Java, "Radio Bandung – Stereo Collage / Misc. Dialogue", 2003 (fragment)
- 119 Radio Java, "Radio Republik Indonesi – Radio ID's / Commercials / Drama", 2003
- 120 Bach (Glenn Gould, piano), "Aria variata alla maniera Italiana in A Minor BWV 989"
- 121 Dunya Yunis, "Abu Zeluf (Beirut, Lebanon)", 1972
- 122 Douglas Quin, "At The Sea Ice Edge", 1998 (under narration)
- 123 Andrew Skeoch & Sarah Koschak, "Ormiston Gorge Full Moon 3am (with Pied Butcherbird)", 1999 (under narration)
- 124 Carl Stone, "Attari", 2006

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[Lenka Clayton]



[Porest]

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### 03. Selected links

Mashup (music)  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mashup\\_\(music\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mashup_(music))

Some Assembly Required  
[www.some-assembly-required.net/](http://www.some-assembly-required.net/)

Illegal Art Records  
[illegalart.net/home/](http://illegalart.net/home/)

Why Hasn't The Record Industry Sued Girl Talk? | Music 2010 | SXSW  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJdFYgdb0vU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJdFYgdb0vU)

Leif Inge – 9 Beet Stretch  
[www.xn--lyf-yla.com/](http://www.xn--lyf-yla.com/)

Shamantis – J. BIEBZ – U SMILE 800% SLOWER repost  
[soundcloud.com/ags-phoenix/j-biebz-u-smile-800-slower](https://soundcloud.com/ags-phoenix/j-biebz-u-smile-800-slower)

Martin Arnold – Alone Life Wastes Andy Hardy (1998)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgqH3PK6-3Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgqH3PK6-3Q)

Omer Fast – CNN Concatenated (2002)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCD31xCZpsM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCD31xCZpsM)



[Negativland]

People Like Us – A Selection Of Works  
[vimeo.com/38917609](https://vimeo.com/38917609)

Cory Arcangel – Drei Klavierstück  
[www.coryarcangel.com/things-i-made/2009-003-dreiklavierstucke-op-11](http://www.coryarcangel.com/things-i-made/2009-003-dreiklavierstucke-op-11)

Christian Marclay – The Clock  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=xp4EUryS6ac](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xp4EUryS6ac)

YouTube Doubler  
[youtubedoubler.com/](http://youtubedoubler.com/)

Simple Guide To Vaporwave Music – May 11 2014  
[imgur.com/gallery/oYiw1](http://imgur.com/gallery/oYiw1)

Index of /music/vaporwave/list/  
[files.sq10.net/music/vaporwave/list/](http://files.sq10.net/music/vaporwave/list/)

Simpsonwave – SUNDAYSCHOOL  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTfa-9aCTYg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTfa-9aCTYg)

FrankJavCee – HOW TO MAKE VAPORTRAP  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVtQBhVEMOA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVtQBhVEMOA)

YouTube Poop (Wiki page created 2013)  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/YouTube\\_Poop](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/YouTube_Poop)

Bandcamp 'Plunderphonics' Tag  
[bandcamp.com/tag/plunderphonics](http://bandcamp.com/tag/plunderphonics)

Irv Teibel – The Altered Nixon Speech  
[www.irvteibel.com/discography/the-altered-nixon-speech/](http://www.irvteibel.com/discography/the-altered-nixon-speech/)

Sublime Frequencies  
[www.sublimefrequencies.com/](http://www.sublimefrequencies.com/)



[The Mae Shi]

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## 04. Acknowledgments

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In memory of Don Joyce, for opening the airwaves.

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