

WOMEN IN MUSIC TECHNOLOGY: TRADITIONS OF REVOLUTION



WHAT WOULD IT MEAN TO TELL THE HISTORY OF ELECTRONIC MUSIC THROUGH WOMEN? THIS NIGHT OF CUTTING-EDGE MUSIC TECHNOLOGY DEMOS WILL BEGIN WITH A TALK BY MUSIC/MEDIA SCHOLAR AMY SKJERSETH, WHO WILL SHOW HOW CRUCIAL TV DEMOS-SPECIFICALLY BY 20TH-CENTURY WOMEN-HAVE BEEN TO ELECTRONIC MUSIC'S SUCCESS.

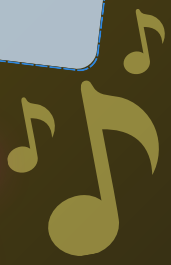


FROM VIOLINIST CLARA ROCKMORE'S THEREMIN CONCERTS AND DELIA DERBYSHIRE'S WORK ON THE DOCTOR WHO THEME TO WENDY CARLOS'S BBC DEMONSTRATIONS WITH SWITCHED ON BACH AND SUZANNE CIANI'S SYNTHESIZER DEBUT ON DAVID LETTERMAN, THESE WOMEN DEMONSTRATED UNFAMILIAR MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND MADE THEIR SOUNDS INDISPENSABLE TO SCIENCE FICTION SOUNDTRACKS, COMMERCIAL JINGLES, AND ENTIRE NEW GENRES THAT DOMINATE MUSIC TODAY, SUCH AS EDM.

THEN, MARI KIMURA, VIOLINIST/COMPOSER/ENTREPRENEUR, WILL DISCUSS MUGIC, A MOTION SENSOR SYSTEM SHE DEVELOPED, IN ORDER TO BUILD A LASTING TOOL FOR HUMAN EXPRESSION RATHER THAN CREATING FLEETING TECHNOLOGY FOR THE SAKE OF NOVELTY. SHE WILL SHOW THE EVER-EXPANDING USE OF MUGIC, NOT ONLY IN MUSIC AND ART, BUT INTO ARTS AND THERAPY.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 27TH 5:30PM - INTS 1128



AMY SKJERSETH IS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN POPULAR MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE. HER SCHOLARSHIP FOCUSES ON INTERSECTIONS OF MUSIC, MEDIA, MATERIAL CULTURE, AND TECHNOLOGY. SKJERSETH'S FIRST BOOK, PREPROGRAMMED: HOW ELECTRONIC PRESETS CHANGED MUSIC AND MEDIA (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS, SEPTEMBER 2026), EXPLORES HOW PREDETERMINED SETTINGS ON 1930S CAR RADIO UP TO TODAY'S AUTO-TUNE AND DEEPAKES HAVE INFLUENCED NOT ONLY MUSIC AND MEDIA BUT ALSO THE CULTURAL AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS WE OFTEN TAKE FOR GRANTED. IN 2026, SHE ALSO WILL PUBLISH THE COEDITED ROUTLEDGE COMPANION TO VOICE AND IDENTITY. SKJERSETH IS CURRENTLY PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR OF "DEFYING DEFAULTS IN TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE," A UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA HUMANITIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE MULTICAMPUS WORKING GROUP.



MARI KIMURA IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF VIOLINISTS WHO ARE EXTENDING THE TECHNICAL AND EXPRESSIVE CAPABILITIES OF THE INSTRUMENT. AS A PERFORMER, COMPOSER, RESEARCHER, AND ENTREPRENEUR, SHE HAS OPENED UP NEW SONIC WORLDS AND NEW MUSICAL POSSIBILITIES FOR THE VIOLIN. NOTABLY, SHE HAS MASTERED THE PRODUCTION OF PITCHES THAT SOUND UP TO AN OCTAVE BELOW THE VIOLIN'S LOWEST STRING WITHOUT RE-TUNING. THIS TECHNIQUE, WHICH SHE CALLS SUBHARMONICS, HAS EARNED MARI CONSIDERABLE RENOWN IN THE CONCERT MUSIC WORLD AND BEYOND. SHE IS ALSO A PIONEER IN THE FIELD OF INTERACTIVE COMPUTER MUSIC. AT THE SAME TIME, SHE HAS EARNED INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM AS A SOLOIST AND RECITALIST IN BOTH STANDARD AND CONTEMPORARY REPERTOIRE. HER MOST RECENT EFFORTS INVOLVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP, BRINGING HER PROTOTYPE MOTION SENSOR MUGIC®, (PRONOUNCED "MU" AS IN MUSIC + "GIC" AS IN MAGIC) TO THE MARKET.

