

EARS Presentation at the Watkins Society Event
April 15, 2009

Introduction (video on)

I would like to introduce you to an exciting project called EARS –Experimental Acoustic Research Studio (EARS). It is a new facility for music technology, digital arts and multimedia at the University of California Riverside (UCR). The project will benefit teaching, research and artistic creation in the field of digital arts and new media. It has strong implications for both a local and national impact. EARS will ensure UCR an important place on the map of contemporary artistic creation and provide national and international models for research and pedagogy in new media and digital music.

EARS Website – “About” show graphics

EARS is a studio complex for production and performance with an emphasis on surround sound, electroacoustic music and multimedia arts. Consisting of 3000 square feet, the studio complex is located 3 miles from the UCR campus at 1935 Chicago Avenue, Chicago Gateway, Riverside. The facility offers three studios, including a large studio that can host concerts, hold installations, and present audiovisual works and multimedia performances.

EARS Website – “Projects”

One of our current projects is called **Audiovisual Composition and Performance**. We intent to commission two new multimedia works and to bring together visual artists and composers to produce and performance their pieces in the EARS facility.

The convergence of sound and image is a significant aspect of artistic creation in our society shaped by digital technology. New fields of creativity are emerging through this connection, and artists need to develop a better understanding of both sound and image in order to explore the resources these new developments offer.

The project aims to have a beneficial cultural impact on the Inland Empire. Our evolving vision for new media includes educating young composers and artists, as well as promoting cutting-edge research.

Germ-sell website

A similar project is the one I will present next month, on May 29 in Beijing, China. It is a multimedia event of the new National Center for Performing Arts in Beijing. A young Chinese virtuoso will perform a cello piece of mine and the music will generate a video composition that will be projected in a large screen of approximately 400 feet.

EARS website (“Work”)

At the EARS website you can also hear samples of our most recent work. For example a piece of electronic music called (**scroll to Pulsing Knots; click Etude 01**). In a couple of days we will have also video works.

Live-Performance:

Now I would like to present you a live music performance by the string quartet. They will play an excerpt of my multimedia piece “Flesh Body and Spirit”, which was performed last year in an international festival in Brazil.

Financial Support

At the moment, our major challenge is to equip EARS. We need financial support to develop the infrastructure and purchase and install studio, audio, and visual equipment. We are looking for partners: individuals, foundations and corporations that can help us in building a state-of-the-art facility that meets the highest professional expectations for production and performance.

Through EARS we will promote cutting-edge research and pedagogy, educating young musicians, composers and digital artists. We also intend to build bridges to the Southern California entertainment and film industry with our evolving vision for new media.

Currently we are seeking for money for equipping EARS starting with 50,000 dollars. Also we are seeking for funds for providing graduate students and post-doctoral researchers with fellowships.

I would like to thank the people that contribute to this presentation.

Jason Heath, Associate Director of EARS. He is a composer and Ph.D. student in Composition at the Music Department. Jason is intensively involved in the development of EARS; he designed the website.

James Lin, Technical Director of EARS; he is the Chief Technology Officer of CHASS.

And finally the musicians that performed here today. They will also play at the chancellor’s residence:

Joel Pargman: violin

Sam Fischer: violin

Alma Fernandez: viola

Tina Soule: violoncello

If you have any questions, I will be very happy to answer.

Thank you very much for your attention