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Conlon Nancarrow, sitting, and Trimpin, standing, during their preparations for a performance, Telluride CO., (1989) (IM.CA.CC.1989a.002.002)01/19/2024 at 9:21:27



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Identifier

IM.CA.CC.1989a.002.002

Object Type

Still image

Description

Colon Nancarrow, sitting in a front seat of the Sheridan Opera House and looking up at Trimpin, who is standing on the stage working on one of his computer control interfaces. This photo was taken during their appearance at the 1989 Composer-to-Composer Festival in Telluride CO, for which Trimpin designed a computer controller interface to enable one of Conlon Nancarrow's studies for player piano to be performed by mallets striking an arrangement of Dutch wooden shoes. The shoes can be seen hanging from the edge of the balcony. Trimpin is a sculptor and composer who builds his own electronically controlled acoustic instruments, often using materials recycled from junkyards. Trimpin is one of the most stimulating one-man forces in contemporary music. A specialist in interfacing computers with traditional acoustic instruments, he has developed a myriad of methods for playing trombones, cymbals, pianos, and other instruments from a computer. He has collaborated frequently with Conlon Nancarrow, realizing that composer's piano roll compositions through various media. Born in Germany, Trimpin now resides in Seattle where numerous instruments that defy description adorn his amazing studio. In describing his work, Trimpin sums it up as "extending the traditional boundaries of instruments and the sounds they're capable of producing by mechanically operating them. Although they're computer-driven, they're still real instruments making real sounds, but with another dimension added, that of spatial distribution. What I'm trying to do is go beyond human physical limitations to play instruments in such a way that no matter

how complex the composition of the timing, it can be pushed over the limits."

People

Fago, John (created by)

Nancarrow, Conlon, 1912-1997 (depicts)

Trimpin, 1951- (depicts)

Telluride Institute (depicts)

Composer-to-Composer Festival (depicts)

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