

WIKI Interview

1. Why did you decide to create a piece that can be created by any internet user?

- to display the range of interaction of multiple users
- To display online community processes
- To create a link between the internet and the real world
- To establish post-internet art
- To examine online characteristics in an analogue setting
- To see an artwork develop from scratch and watch it develop
- To be surprised, to learn

2. As you said in one of the recordings on your YouTube channel, while creating a wiki piano you wanted to study people's behavior on the internet. Were there any elements on the site that have shocked you exceptionally?

- no, not really shocked, rather surprised
- I had not anticipated for it to be such a clear mirror of internet / blog / social media behavior
- The language, symbols, memes, humor, iteration were all heavily internet-based
- I think I first had thought it would be a slightly „clearer“ art piece

3. Do you have your favorite wiki-piano „section“?

- I always like the things best I did not anticipate
- I like how
 - some things got picked up and continued to evolve
 - Some users created really sophisticated videos
 - People used it as a message board

4. How do you work with a pianist, do you give him instructions or do you leave it to him to interpret?

- I do not work with the pianist as a composer of the piece
- I give advice based on my rehearsal practice and my experience as a composer regarding timing, interpretation, development
- But it is rather like I am working on someone-else's piece (like I do when we are doing a concert with decoder ensemble for example)
- I try to give support to make the elements / sections as precise / condense and strong as possible
- But there are always a lot of different ways to do that.
- If I am involved in the process it normally works like this: The pianist prepares a version, plays a run-through for me, and I give feedback
- I love that sometimes pianist do it very different than I would have done it and very often I am positively surprised and convinced!
- To make something out of the piece is a challenge...

5. Are further wiki-piano presentations planned? (e.g. in Poland?)

- yes, everywhere :)

6. Do you think any pianist could be a performer of wiki-piano?

- general I encourage everybody to do it. The access should be as low-level as possible. Everybody can and should play it wherever they want.
- But there are a few very helpful characteristics that can help:
 - The wish to perform / act / play a role
 - Comfortable to use the voice (and sing)
 - Content to use body / gesture on stage
 - And mostly: The wish to shape a piece and develop a dramaturgy. You can't simply play from top to bottom: You need to bring in your interpretation / personal way to make it work - you need to want that - and ideally have experience with that too.

7. Sometimes, some internet users' tips on how to prepare the piano sound like those created by Fluxus. Do you have similar associations?

- the piece has a strong background in fluxus and conceptual art from the second half of the 20th century
- I see two main differences:
 - The fact that it is done by a global community
 - And that it displays the dynamics of the internet
- The open format and participation is much more historical.

8. What kind of live reception does "wiki-piano" meet with?

What are the audience's reactions?

- people tend to enjoy it
- There is always a lot of laughter
- Some people are confused by the lack of traditional structure