

Week 10 play and nature

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Folio object: https://youtu.be/loQMB9_SakM

Context:

The theme of this week has puzzled me for a long time. I live in Beijing, a bustling city. Nature is far away from me, and the nearest nature is the sky when I look up. I wanted to feel natural, so I started looking at pictures from my previous trips. I think my definition of nature in my mind is brilliant colors. Nature is the color I don't often see, however the color in the city is always gray. The sound in cities are usually made of cars and people, while in nature the sounds are varied. I can't imagine sound while looking at photos, so this week, I want to explore how nature can be transformed into sound. I will sort the colors in the picture into color palette and play the sound by defining the sound of the color.

George Crumb heard whales' sound and created "Vox Balaenae," he specified that the work would be performed under blue lights, with performers wearing black masks to symbolize the "relentless power of nature". His work inspired me by expressing nature in music, it makes me moved and inspired me of this idea. I want to use the natural scenery in the picture to make us have different feelings about the picture of nature, or to explore whether the colors in the picture are played in accordance with the feeling when seeing the picture.

Method:

I will organize the colors into color palette in "Adobe color", and regard the RGB16-digit number of each color classified as ABCDEFG in the chord, and because the hexadecimal letter only reaches F, so when a color code has no letters we use G instead as its sound. When there are multiple letters in a color code, we play the first letter. When the letters repeat, we play with higher scales. We pick 5 colors from a photo, and each picture constitutes 5 notes.

Response:

I spent a lot of time thinking about how to transform color to sound. Actually the result is based on how I formulate the rules for the color conversion sound. I want to use hexadecimal letters and the commonalities of major letters. I think this is probably the closest connection of color and sound. The outcome presented is quite strange, but the experience is very interesting and made me play for a long time while recalling the scenery.

Reflection:

I find that the key of B makes the combination of 5 notes ethereal, lonely and even scary. This may be the magical effect of music brings to us. The feeling of seeing nature is very different from the feeling of listening to "its music". On the basis of me with no musical

knowledge, this conversion of colors into musical symbols is completely random. Compared to Crumb, my rules help me achieve the purpose of creating music, but also limit me to represent the output of my feelings.

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