Wobbly – for wireless touch-interface controlled live synthesis and sample processing

by Peter Lucas Hulen

Born of the endeavor to develop wireless controllers for a laptop ensemble, this multilayered, improvisatory piece for laptop soloist uses an OSC-Touch interface developed for the iPad. Data are transmitted to control live synthesis parameters, sample playback, and spatialization by the axial motion of the iPad, and the touching of its screen interface to wirelessly control a Max patch on the laptop. The patch includes routines controlling parameters of various subtractive synthesis processes, audio signals, and the playback of a speech sample. The composer will perform the piece from the stage, providing his own iPad, wireless router, laptop, and audio interface. Technical requirements include power mains for laptop and audio interface, a local wireless system that will NOT automatically disable an unknown transmitter introduced into the environment (or, the venue's local wireless network might be used, if relatively free from interference and slowing from other devices). Also needed are a small table for laptop and interface, and two (2) line-level connections from the outputs of the composer's audio interface (2 - ¼" TSF) to the house mixer.