

***Silent Movies:* an improvisational sound / image performance**

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Biographical information

Thomas Ciufu is an improviser, sound / media artist, and researcher working primarily in the areas of electroacoustic improvisational performance and hybrid instrument / interactive systems design, and is currently serving as artist-in-residence in Arts and Technology at Smith College. Recent and ongoing sound works include, *three meditations*, for prepared piano and computer, the series, *sonic improvisations #N*, and *eighth nerve*, an improvisational piece for prepared electric guitar and computer. Recent performances include off-ICMC in Barcelona, Visione Sonoras in Mexico City, the SPARK festival in Minneapolis, the International Society for Improvised Music conference in Ann Arbor, and the Enaction in Arts conference in Grenoble.

Description of Piece

Silent Movies: an improvisational sound / image performance

Silent Movies is an attempt to explore and confront some of the possible relationships / interdependencies between visual and sonic perception. In collaboration with a variety of moving image artists, this performance piece complicates visual engagement through performed / improvised sound. In a sense, *Silent Movies* plays with the live soundtrack idea, but from a somewhat different vantage point. Or maybe it is an inversion; a visual accompaniment to an improvised sonic landscape? For this performance, I will use a hybrid extended electric guitar / computer performance system, which allows me to explore extended playing techniques and sonic transformations provided by sensor controlled interactive digital signal processing. For tonight's performance, the moving image composition is by Mark Domino (fieldform.com).

For more information, please refer to online documentation:

Guitar performance system :

http://ciufu.org/eighth_nerve_guitar.html

Performance documentation:

http://ciufu.org/silent_movies.html

