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Interaction of music and painting*

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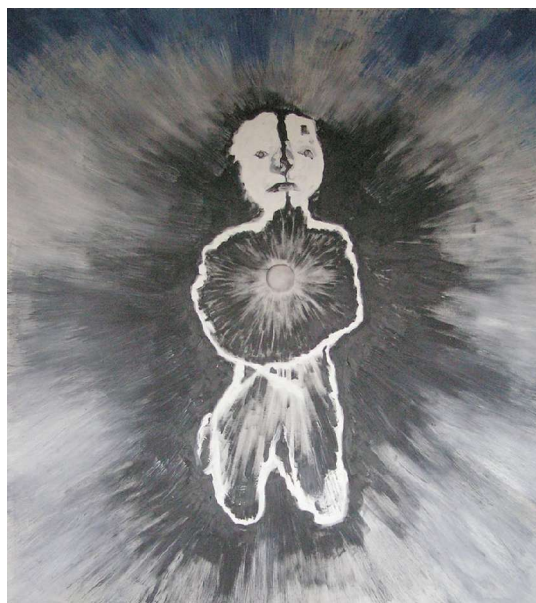
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ABSTRACT

The aim of this paper is to explore interaction of music and painting. During a longitudinal project (2004/2005) a coherently compound duple-work titled “The analytical Artist” was synthesized (including the electronic sound 13:02 by Gerhard Lock; and oil on canvas 3.20x2.70 m by Rait Rosin). Collaboration of authors has been realized per the idea of symbiosis. Interaction appeared to total synthesis which caused an analytical approach to perception.

The method of study is combined to apply for description the interaction of expressive qualities of music and painting: two kinds of conditions were built: (i) listening to electronic sound by headphones, (ii) observing simultaneously of the sound and the canvas. Observers (27) have been (1) realized clicking-test, (2) verbal description was asked. Two-dimensional scaling of results shows (a) expressive qualities of the electronic sound on time-axis, and (b) accumulation of segmental points (responses of observers) on vertical axis. Sonic design (after Cogan & Escot 1976, Cogan 1984) and sonogram (AudioSculpt, IRCAM, 2003) have been used.

This material clearly shows interactivity between oppositional fields of arts as music and painting. However, the questions remain: Does the temporal dimension (of music) regularly influence onto human perception of fine arts? To what extent is substantial the maturity (origin, background, intent) for perception both the music and painting? Do the expressive qualities (pitch, timbre, volume) function as impulses for interaction or is it an independent quality?



* Paper presented at 5th Conference “Understanding and Creating Music”. Dipartimento di Matematica. (S.U.N.) Caserta-Italia, November 2005, 27-30. Valk-Falk, M., Lock, G. & Rosin, R. Experimental study: interaction of music and painting. In (eds. G. Di Maio, P. Di Lorenzo etc.) Proceedings of 5th Conference “Understanding and Creating Music”. Dipartimento di Matematica. (S.U.N.) Caserta, November 2005, 27-30, CD-ROM.