

# Dr. Thomas Ciufu

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## Education

### **Ph.D. in Computer Music and New Media**

Brown University (2004) Ph.D. Dissertation: *Computer-Mediated Improvisation*  
Committee members: Todd Winkler (advisor) Wendy Chun and Joel Chadabe (readers)

### **Masters of Arts in Computer Music and Multimedia Composition**

Brown University (2002)  
Masters Thesis: *Three Meditations: Discussion of a Recent Work*

### **Bachelors of Music in Composition**

University of Northern Colorado (1988)

## Selected Professional Appointments

### **Assistant Professor (2011-present)**

Music Department  
Towson University, Towson, MD

### **Lecturer (2010-2011)**

Department of Visual Arts  
College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

### **Faculty Advisor (2009-2010)**

Bachelor of Arts Program in Individualized Studies  
Goddard College, Plainfield, VT

### **Sherman Fairchild Artist-in-Residence / Assistant Professor (2006-2009)**

Arts and Technology  
Smith College, Northampton, MA

### **Postdoctoral Research Associate (2005-2006)**

Arts, Media, and Engineering Program  
Herberger College of Fine Arts, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

### **Lecturer / Technical Manager / Researcher (2000-2005)**

Computer Music and Multimedia Program  
Music Department, Brown University, Providence, RI

### **Audio Production Manager / Music Technology Consultant (1997-1999)**

School of Music, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI

### **Audio Engineer / Digital Media Producer (1994-1997)**

The Studio, Portland, ME

### **Recording Engineer / Location Producer (1994-1997)**

Portland Symphony Orchestra, Portland, ME

### **Arts Technology Consultant (1990-1994)**

Performing and Visual Arts, University of Northern CO, Greeley, CO

## **University Teaching**

### **Music Technology in American Society**

Towson University (2011)

### **Audio Recording Techniques 1**

Towson University (2011)

### **Acoustic Ecology and Sound Art**

College of the Holy Cross (2011)

### **Digital Art Studio 1**

College of the Holy Cross (2010-2011)

### **New Media**

College of the Holy Cross (2010)

### **Introduction to Interaction Design and Physical Computing**

Maine College of Art - Workshop (2009)

### **Sonic Art: Theory and Practice**

Smith College (2009)

### **Introduction to Computing and the Arts (co-taught)**

Smith College (2008)

### **Introduction to Media Arts and Technology**

Smith College (2006-2008)

### **Electronic Music Composition Seminar**

Brown University (2002-2004)

### **Directed Research in Computer Music and Multimedia**

Brown University (2002-2005)

### **Computers and Music**

Brown University (2001)

### **Introduction to Audio Recording and Sound Technology**

Central Michigan University (1997)

### **Audio Recording and Production**

University of Northern CO, Rocky Mountain Recording Workshop (1997-2004)

### **Classical Recording Seminar**

Bowdoin College, Recording Workshop (1996)

University of Wyoming, Recording Workshop (1995)

### **Introduction to Music Technology**

University of Northern Colorado (1993-1994)

### **Audio Recording and Sound Technology for Composers**

Naropa University (1993)

## **Teaching / Research Interests**

Interdisciplinary digital arts history / research / practice  
Sonic art / computer music and acoustic ecology  
Computer-mediated improvisation / experimental performance  
Interactive systems, electronics, and physical computing  
New media composition and digital / multimedia installation

## Research / Writing / Invited Talks

### ***Improvising with Computers - Conceptual Approaches and Practical Strategies***

Presented at the Concordia Live and Interactive Electroacoustic Colloquium, Montreal (2011)  
Presented at the Two Thousand + Ten Symposium, Sonic Arts Research Center, Belfast (2010)

### ***Deep Listening Anthology: Scores from the Community of Deep Listeners*** (contributor)

Edited by Marc Jensen, Published by Deep Listening Institute, Kingston, NY (2009)

### ***Computer-Mediated Performance and Extended Instrument Design***

Artist talk presented at the ACM SIGGRAPH Conference, New Orleans, LA (2009)

### ***Computer-Mediated Improvisation: Implications, Ideas, and Strategies***

Presented at the International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Denver, CO (2008)

### ***Composer-Improviser: Merging Roles through Computer-Mediated Performance***

Presented at the McGill-Suoni per il Popolo Improvisation Colloquium: Text, Media, and Improvisation, Montreal (2008)

### ***Rethinking Virtuosity: Computer-Mediated Performance & Extended Instruments***

Presented at the Extensible Electric Guitar Festival; Instruments of the Post-Prohibitive Age  
Clark University, Worcester, MA (2008)

### ***Arts and Technology: Pedagogy and Curriculum Design***

Chair, panel discussion, Eleventh Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology  
New London, CT (2008)

### ***Computer-Mediated / Interactive Performance: Moving Boundary Problem - Case Study***

(w/ David Birchfield) Presented at the Enaction in Arts Symposium, Grenoble, France (2007)  
Published in the Enaction in Arts Symposium proceedings (2007)

### ***Citizen Artist Beyond Boundaries***

Panel discussion, Education Department, Museum of Art, Smith College  
Northampton, MA (2007)

### ***Arts and Technology***

Panel discussion, organized by the Student Liaisons of the Department of Art  
Smith College, Northampton, MA (2006)

### ***Sound and Interaction for K-12 Mediated Education*** (w/ Birchfield et al.)

Presented at the International Computer Music Conference, New Orleans, LA (2006)  
Published in the International Computer Music Conference proceedings (2006)

### ***SMALLab: a Mediated Platform for Education*** (w/ Birchfield and Minyard)

Presented at the SIGGRAPH Conference, Boston, MA (2006)  
Published in the SIGGRAPH Conference proceedings (2006)

### ***Moving Boundary Problem: An Interactive Performance Project*** (w/ David Birchfield)

Presented at the Tenth Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology New London, CT (2006)  
Published in the Tenth Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology proceedings (2006)

### ***Beginner's Mind: An Environment for Sonic Improvisation***

Presented at the International Computer Music Conference, Barcelona, Spain (2005)  
Published in the International Computer Music Conference proceedings (2005)

### ***Computer-Mediated Performance: Human-Machine Interaction***

Presented at the Performance Studies International Conference  
Brown University, Providence, RI (2005)

***Improvising with Computers: Ideas and Approaches***

Chair, panel discussion, Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States National Conference, Ball State University (2005)

***Computer-Mediated Improvisation***

Ph.D. Dissertation, Brown University, Providence, RI (2004)

***Design Concepts and Control Strategies for Interactive Improvisational Music Systems***

Presented at the MAXIS International Festival / Symposium of Sound and Experimental Music Festival, Leeds, UK and published in the MAXIS proceedings (2003)

***Real-Time Sound / Image Manipulation and Mapping in a Performance Setting***

Presented at the Digital Arts and Culture Conference, Providence, RI (2001)  
MAXIS Festival of Sound and Experimental Music, Sheffield, UK (2002)  
Published in the MAXIS proceedings (2002)

**Digital Media Installations and Gallery Pieces**

***Motion Study #5*** an interactive digital video painting

Interactive Expressions Art Exhibit, Center for Advanced Visual Studies  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA (2001)

***Resonance*** an interactive sound installation

Scraping Skies, New Music Concert, Brown University, Providence, RI (2000)

***Channels*** a real-time, interactive TV/sound installation

Archaeology of Multimedia Conference, Brown University, Providence, RI (2000)

**Selected Performances / Compositions (All performances by Thomas Ciufu)**

***Point / Line / Shape*** for computer extended electric guitar

Concordia Live and Interactive Electroacoustic Colloquium, Montreal (2011)  
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Ann Arbor, MI (2010)

***Wind and Water*** for computer-mediated improviser and field recordings

Ear to the Earth / International Computer Music Conference, NYC (2010)  
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Denver, CO (2008)

***Duo improvisation*** Eighth Nerve and TaurEx - extended guitars and computers  
(with Kevin Patton) ArtSpace, Hartford, CT (2010)

***Wire, Bamboo, Water, Metal*** four fixed media miniatures

60 x 60 / International Computer Music Conference, NYC (2010)  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL (2010)  
Axiom Center for New and Experimental Media, Boston, MA (2010)  
New Media New Music New England - online (ongoing)

***Solo*** for extended electric guitar and computer

International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Denver, CO (2008)

***Second Dialogue*** for two computer-mediated improvisers (w/ Curtis Bahn)

Smith College Arts and Technology Performance Festival, Hallie Flanagan Theatre  
Northampton, MA (2008)

***Silent Movies*** for computer-mediated performer and video (video by Mark Domino)

International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Genoa, Italy (2008)  
Extensible Electric Guitar Festival, Clark University, Worcester, MA (2008)  
New West Electronic Arts and Music Organization Festival, Boulder, CO (2007)  
New Works Performance Series, Hallie Flanagan Theatre, Northampton, MA (2007)

***Moving Boundary Problem*** for extended percussion and computer (w/ David Birchfield)  
Enaction in Arts Symposium, Grenoble, France (2007)  
International Computer Music Conference, New Orleans, LA (2006)  
The Tenth Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology, New London, CT (2006)  
Spark Festival of Electronic Music and Art, Minneapolis, MN (2006)  
Visiones Sonoras International Festival, Mexico City (2005)

***Just Intoning*** for two improvisers (w/ Pauline Oliveros)  
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Ann Arbor, MI (2006)  
AMP Ensemble Concert with guest artist Pauline Oliveros, Phoenix, AZ (2005)

***Sonic Improvisation #N: Beginner's Mind*** for sounding objects and computer  
New Works Performance Series, Hallie Flanagan Theatre, Northampton, MA (2007)  
International Computer Music Conference, Off-ICMC, Barcelona (2005)  
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Vancouver (2005)

***Improvisation*** (with the AMP Ensemble)  
New World Electroacoustic Music Organization Festival, San Diego, CA (2005)

***Eighth Nerve meets Needles*** computer-mediated performance (w/ Shawn Greenlee)  
Performance Studies International Conference, Providence, RI (2005)

***First Dialogue*** for prepared electric guitar and sensor bass (w/ Curtis Bahn)  
Sonus, Sayles Hall, Providence, RI (2004)

***Three Meditations*** for prepared piano and computer  
Sonus, Sayles Hall, Brown University, Providence, RI (2004)  
Florida Electroacoustic Music Festival, Gainesville, FL (2002)  
Digital Polyphony Festival, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA (2001)

***Inviting the Bell to Sound*** for Tibetan singing bowl and computer  
Smith College Arts and Technology Performance Festival, Hallie Flanagan Theatre  
Northampton, MA (2008)  
Sonus, Sayles Hall, Providence, RI (2004)  
MAXIS International Festival / Symposium of Sound and Experimental Music, UK (2003)  
3 is 3 but 5 is 5 (a Concert by the Students of Alvin Lucier) Providence, RI (2003)

***Eighth Nerve*** for prepared electric guitar and computer  
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Montreal (2003)  
MAXIS International Festival / Symposium of Sound and Experimental Music, UK (2003)

***Sonic Improvisation #N*** for sound objects and computer  
MAXIS Festival of Sound and Experimental Music, UK (2002)  
MacColl.Sit, Brown University, Providence, RI (2002)

***Sound / Space Study*** for sound makers and computer (w/ Jason McGill)  
The Book Mill Performance Series, Montague, MA (2001)  
Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Providence, RI (2000)

***Incantation #2*** for Native American flute, computer, and real-time video  
Electroacoustic Concert, Grant Auditorium, Brown University, Providence, RI (1999)

***Incantation #1*** for Native American flute and tape  
Central Michigan University New Music Series, Mount Pleasant, MI (1999)

***Harvest*** for eight channel tape (collaboration with the group Cerberus Shoal)  
Central Michigan University New Music Series, Mount Pleasant, MI (1999)

***Sun at Midnight*** self-produced CD project (1995) with airplay on *Music from the Hearts of Space*, (National Public Radio) and *The New Edge*, Cambridge, MA

## **Additional Activities / Leadership / Professional Memberships**

Pedagogical Director / Technical Manager; Towson University Recording Studio (2011- present)  
Scholarship/Competition Committee; Towson University (2011-present)  
MM Thesis Committee Member; Valencio Jackson, Towson University (2011-2012)  
Media Lab Consultant; Art Department, College of the Holy Cross (2010-2011)  
Chair; Arts and Technology Working Group, Smith College (2006-2009)  
Producer; Arts and Technology Guest Artist Series, Smith College (2006-2009)  
Producer; Arts and Technology Performance Festival, Smith College (2008)  
Faculty Fellow; The Aesthetics of Data Visualization, Kahn Liberal Arts Institute (2008)  
Faculty Mentor; STRIDE Program, Smith College (2007-2009)  
MFA Thesis Committee Member; Maura Donohue, Smith College (2007-2008)  
Organizing Fellow; Open Labs / Open Studios, Kahn Liberal Arts Institute, Smith College (2007)  
Consultant to Hiring Committee; Computer Science Department, Smith College (2006-2007)  
Consultant to Hiring Committee; Art Department, Smith College (2006-2007)  
Grant consultant; Center for Design and Fabrication, Smith College (2007)  
Co-produced guest artist series, Arts, Media, and Engineering Program, ASU (2005-2006)  
Paper Review Committee, International Computer Music Conference (2005)  
Mentor for the MET School, Big Picture Company Inc. Providence, RI (2000-2004)  
Co-produced guest artist series for the MacColl Studios, Brown University (2001-2003)  
Member, College Music Society  
Member, International Society for Improvised Music (ISIM)  
Member, International Computer Music Association (ICMA)  
Member, Electronic Music Foundation (EMF)

## **Selected Professional Development**

National Conference of the Association for Technology in Music Education (2011)  
National Conference of the College Music Society, Richmond, VA (2011)  
Concordia Live and Interactive Electroacoustic Colloquium, Montreal (2011)  
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Ann Arbor, MI (2010)  
Two Thousand + Ten Symposium, Sonic Arts Research Center, Belfast (2010)  
International Computer Music Conference, NYC (2010)  
ACM SIGGRAPH Conference, New Orleans, LA (2009)  
International Society for Improvised Music Conference, Denver, CO (2008)  
McGill-Suoni Improvisation Colloquium: Text, Media, and Improvisation, Montreal (2008)  
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Genoa (2008)  
Extensible Electric Guitar Festival, Clark University, Worcester, MA (2008)  
Eleventh Biennial Symposium on Arts and Technology, New London, CT (2008)  
International Conference on Enactive Interfaces / Enaction in Arts, Grenoble (2007)  
New West Electronic Arts and Music Organization Festival, Boulder, CO (2007)  
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, NYC (2007)  
International Society for Improvised Music, Ann Arbor, MI (2006)  
International Computer Music Conference, New Orleans, LA (2006)  
Spark Festival of Electronic Music and Art, Minneapolis, MN (2006)  
International Computer Music Conference, Barcelona (2005)  
Visiones Sonoras International Festival, Mexico City (2005)  
New World Electroacoustic Music Organization Festival, San Diego, CA (2005)  
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Vancouver (2005)  
International Convention on Technologies for Music IRCAM, Paris (2002, 2004)  
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Montreal (2003)  
MAXIS Festival / Symposium of Sound and Experimental Music, UK (2002, 2003)  
International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression, Dublin (2002)