

Hunter Uses Water Drops and Tape Recorder

To most people the sound of dripping water is not exactly musical, but Donald L. Hunter has other ideas. He has composed a musical concert out of water drops.

Hunter, head of the University library audio-visual department, with the aid of tape recorders made music using water drops as the basic sound for a composition presented during a contemporary music concert last spring term at the University.

Hunter's modern electronic music composing is an outgrowth of his hobby of finding new means of expression through the tape recorder.

Uses Three Recorders

To make a modern electronic musical composition, Hunter uses three tape recorders and a signal generator. There is no rule on the number of tape recorders that can be used. More tape recorders offer more possibilities. He can take any sound and make music.

The tape recorder can manipulate concrete, or natural, sounds.

The sound can be accelerated or slowed down, patterns repeated by loops or echoed.

Hunter then applies electrically produced sounds to add greater variety and dimension to the music and then edits and splices the tapes to make music.

Homer Keller, associate professor of music theory and composition, and Hunter have collaborated in the development of modern electronic music on the campus. They teach a seminar in electronic music composition.

The University Graduate School has awarded a grant of \$1,590 to Hunter and Keller for an analysis of electronic equipment as a medium for contemporary composition, and to acquire basic equipment for an electronic lab for the University.

Toured Labs

Early in September Hunter and Keller toured electronic music labs of the Columbia-Princeton center in New York, University of Toronto, and the University of Illinois to gather ideas to help

develop an electronic music lab at the University.

The Columbia-Princeton electronic lab is the site of the development of the first "music synthesizer" built by RCA, which can imitate any sound known to man. The machine is much like an electronic computer, but instead of dealing with numbers it deals with sounds.

Today, the music synthesizer is considered the ultimate in modern electronic music composing. It can imitate anything from a Tchaikovsky piano concerto to "Louie, Louie."

Of all sounds, the human voice is one of the most difficult to imitate. But as the machine is improved, the human voice will sound as natural as in real life.

New Sounds Sought

Neither Hunter nor Keller think the music synthesizer will replace the human performer. The imitation quality is not quite on a par with some musical instruments. It is not likely that people will go to a concert with

only a tape recorder to watch.

The music synthesizer is being used to find new musical sounds. The more practical use of the synthesizer is to provide background music for the stage and the movies. But, most important, the machine will allow the musical composer to experiment with a composition.

Hunter has more conventional ways of using the tape recorder than just composing modern electronic music. Recordings of the sounds of the wagons for the "Wagons of America in Miniature" exhibit was Hunter's work.

For the wagon show Hunter recorded the wagon sounds at the National Carriage Association Convention in Sheboygan, Wisc. (about 50 miles north of Milwaukee) last July.

Hunter also has developed the use of slides combined with sound. By using two projectors he can bring in one image slowly and take the other off without having a blank screen. The combination

of slides and sounds enables Hunter to capture the realism of life and to rediscover sounds that are taken for granted.

Slides, Sounds Used

For example, Hunter took a picture of the coast on a foggy day. But it is the deep, soft sound of the foghorn and its reverberating echoes drifting far out to sea, answered by a ship hidden by the fog with response from a tugboat seconds later, that makes the picture more satisfying for the viewer.

Hunter came to the University in 1946 to help establish the audio-visual department. He has been the head of the department since then. He took a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Nebraska in 1945.

Hunter and Keller will present a program on electronic music and the music synthesizer using, both slides and tape recordings, November 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the SU.

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

tally, or at least partially, inept at fire fighting. But a hose in the hand is worth two firemen at the fire house.

Since the fire department so pettically stated that the men of Bean "really flooded the place out" we would suggest that prior to the beginning of each school year, the dormitories be given a three week cram course in proper methods of putting out dormitory fires.

This is most necessary since the Eugene Fire Department answers calls to fires only after the fire has been contained and thus it is necessary to put out the fire properly so as not to be criticized for an obvious amateur performance.

The firemen contained the fire at 4:37 a.m. if and only if you assume that any fire which is contained in the Eugene area is contained by the fire department. Since this is their major duty and reason for existing, it is a fair assumption.

We can see why the caption under the picture accompanying the article reads "in their attempt to contain a smoke fire" since by the time the firemen arrived there was nothing left of the fire except smoke. The picture shows three figures in the lobby of Moore Hall.

Two of them are obviously distinguished members of the Eugene Fire Department since they are wearing the traditional ceremonial garb. The third figure is more difficult to identify. Who is he? What is he doing there? Is he only a hanger-on who likes to watch fires and be almost overcome by smoke? Is he the person who started the fire since we know that the criminal returns to the scene of his crime?

He is none of these. He is a man from Parsons. Strangely enough he is holding a fire hose (not donated by the Eugene Fire Department) which is being used to, of all things, put out the fire which subsequently became a "smoke fire."

Since we obviously usurped the authority vested in the Eugene Fire Department, we would like to thank and most humbly appreciate the fact that no disciplinary action was taken against Parsons Hall or East Bean for tampering with two fire hoses, one fire extinguisher and one or two fire alarms.

This could come to a total of \$250 in fines. We are also appreciative of the city government for not taking any action against a volunteer fire brigade for being so pretentious as to think that the illustrious Eugene Fire Department would not come to the aid of a stricken living organization.

Daniel Langmeyer
Graduate in
Psychology

'Slanted Fire Story'

Emerald Editor:
In regard to your article about the Moore Hall lounge

fire in the Nov. 6th edition of the Emerald, I think there has been some "slanted" information given to you.

First of all, from the time I heard the fire alarm to the time the firemen arrived, there lapsed a time of at least ten minutes. Secondly, when the men in red did arrive it looked to me as if the fire was already under control and near extinction.

As for the actions of the Parsons Hall men, of which I was not a part but merely an on-looker, I can say that they did what anyone else would do under those circumstances. We all stood and watched the fire for about five to seven minutes thinking that the firemen would arrive.

At the end of this time, the big windows started to crack and it was evident that the fire was going to get worse; still the redcoats were not present. The men from Parsons then broke the cracked window and doused the fire.

One last note: We would not have had to "flood the place out" had we not been doing other peoples jobs for them. After all, we were not experienced fire fighters then.

Steve Baker,
Social Chairman
Parson Hall

Words for Pearson

Emerald Editor:

The remarks of State Senator Pearson this past week by their banal character and superficiality point up several things about the man and about the type of criticism that he and his sympathizers direct against the University of Oregon. His remarks show both a lack of accurate information about the University and a conception of the role of a state university which is greatly different than that which the administration of this University holds and, I am sure, the majority of the faculty and the students.

His ideal of a "good" university seems to be a glorified trade school where the faculty works for subsistence wages because they are "devoted" to teaching, where there is no research and no extracurricular intellectual activity, and where the students study ten or twelve hours a day so they can "get out" in record time and get jobs.

He seems to feel that being a student is something to be ashamed of because they are "wasting their time" when they could be working in some "productive occupation." He sees no need for research at a university, apparently, and no need for teachers to have Ph.D.s or who are actively engaged in the cultivation of ideas.

He talks about the need for an investigation of the "rumors of social life" at the University where students have time for dates and even time to go to parties (How horrible!) because

their instructors aren't giving them enough assignments.

I don't know how his university got the reputation as a "party school" but it is my impression that it is far from the truth. I think that Pearson should take a walk through the university library some night and see for himself the lines of students waiting to get books out of the inadequate Reserve Book Room and the numbers of students studying in the halls because there just aren't enough tables or space for them.

A top-rate university is expensive, that is for sure, and research is expensive, but on the latter count Mr. Pearson has no right to scream. The money for research at the University does not come from state funds, but from grants and awards which are supported mostly by private business, by the large foundations, and by the federal government.

But no university is "worth its salt" if there is not equal emphasis on teaching and research and no university is going to get good professors who have ideas and who are creative unless it is willing to pay the salaries to attract them from other states. Those are just the realities of the situation. We are in competition with California for quality personnel, and we do want a university that is not just a factory turning out people with B.A. degrees.

A university cannot be judged in terms of efficiency and productivity in the same manner that we judge a commercial corporation. It makes me ill when I hear Pearson, and even people in our own little "university family," talk about the per capita costs in dollars and cents for "turning out" finished students as if they were "think machines" coming off an assembly line, and when they talk about "cutting costs" per unit of production by having courses over television or working three shifts at the University.

Oregon students are neither lazy nor are they "party" boys and girls. They work hard for their grades and for the money that is needed to go to school. They deserve the best—the best teachers, the best research facilities, the best presentation of ideas—and no two-bit provincial, nineteenth century reactionary should be allowed to stand in the way of making this a great university, a university that is not a "factory" and it not a second-rate, run-down teachers' college, which is what the University of Oregon could well turn into if Senator Pearson and others have their way in this state.

Bill Devall
Graduate Student,
Sociology

TODAY'S STAFF

Desk Editor: Chuck Beggs.
Reporter: Linda Pasley.
Proofreader: Carolyn Pasley.

Rating Form Meeting Yields Two Queries

ASUO Academic and Culture committee had only two questions raised in its open discussion of a proposed faculty rating form Wednesday.

The meeting was called after a request for further study of the form in last Thursday's Senate meeting.

Questioned Administration

Merritt Fink, ASUO Senator-at-Large who is not a member of the committee, asked who would administer the forms, since their failure in the past has been attributed to faulty handling after having been filled out.

The consensus of the committee was that that body should make a recommendation to the Senate as to the group to handle the

forms. The final decision, however, would rest with the Senate.

The committee also decided to recommend that the evaluating program remain the responsibility of the Academic and Cultural committee.

Students Request Forms

Barrie Wight, Senator-at-Large, warned who had requested the use of the forms, and whether this was a reflection of how much they would be used by instructors.

John Luvaas, committee chairman, explained that students had asked for the forms, and that teachers contacted on the matter had reacted favorably to it.

Fink also questioned the section which asks teachers' students to comment on the amount of time teachers are available for consultation. The senator said that he felt this question was more subjective than the others in the form.

The forms will be submitted to the Senate again at the regular meeting next Thursday. If passed at that time they will be referred to the Faculty Advisory Council.

Faculty Musician Will Give Recital

Selection from Chopin, Beethoven and Schubert will be performed by pianist Gabriel Chodos in a public recital at 8 p.m. today in the music school auditorium.

Chodos is an instructor in piano at the University and has performed as a soloist with the Pasadena Orchestra, The Doctor's Orchestra of Los Angeles and the UCLA Symphony Orchestra.

Publishes in Journal

Glenn Starlin, professor of speech has published "Problems in Finding Qualified Employees" in the winter 1962-63 issue of the Journal of Broadcasting, and "The Broadcasting Employee" in the summer, 1963, issue of the same journal.

Two Poems Published

James B. Hall, professor of English, has a poem, "Spoor: a Poem in Three Voices," in the current issue of Poetry Northwest, and had a poem, "Memorial Day: 1959," in the Oct. 12 issue of the Portland Reporter.

Professor Publishes

An article entitled "Commodity Agreements and Aid to Developing Countries" by Raymond Mikesell, W. E. Miner, professor of economics, has just been published in Law and Contemporary Problems, quarterly of the Duke University School of Law.

Want to really get results?—
Use Emerald Classified Ads—
Phone 342-1411, Ext. 1818.



CAMPUS COPY

CAN SERVE YOU BETTER!

... with a brand new and complete stock of ART & ENGINEERING supplies —plus the "know-how" to help you choose ... plus the 10% DISCOUNT at time of purchase!

831 EAST 13TH