Collaborative Interpretation:

Fit into the crowd, path to new aesthetic using live video

We are proposing the piece Fit into the Crowd as a result of collaborative research between the mixed music composer Julien-Robert Legault Salvail and clarinetist Krista Martynes. Our approach focuses on using interactive video to give a visual representation of the music; meaning, illustrating the music with the image. Using audio real-time processing extends the musician, and is used as a primary part of the creative process, which essentially allows the coordination of the visual/musical relationship.

The physical integration of the musician with the video is an important part of our research because it reinforces the link between both the music and the image. This is why we project on a transparent screen (tulle), with the musician playing in the behind the screen. She is seen through the video with creating a shadow on the screen as to appear as a live aspect of the video.

The second important aspect of our research is the interaction between the musician and the video. Using an infrared camera to the silhouette on the stage is the source of the real-time video. The musician is given the advantage to control directly the video with their movements. The video is also controlled by the sound by programming different sound parameters to force a reaction in the image. This allows the musician to “paint” the live video over the fixed images using movement and sound. *Fit into the Crowd* is the first result based on our research. It is still a “work-in-progress”.

Program notes:

Discovering a musical juxtaposition between creating security and finding one’s place, *Fit into the Crowd* is based on the visual image of one’s character musically risking to create a place while being aware of their urban identity. The sounds of different phrases commonly said for the sake of security like: I shouldn’t step to far out of place; It’s better to not take risks; Art Beware, everything has been done....