

# Preface

Networked music performance is often intended as a practice of remote performance, with musicians displaced far away at distant locations. Networking, however, does not only have the potential of getting remote performers closer, but also allows local performers to get farther, explore larger spaces, move to outdoor venues, yet feel as close as they need to perform well. Furthermore in computer music and electroacoustic practice, live electronics can be digitally interconnected in unprecedented ways, thanks to networking. The laptop performance paradigm already exploits networking for control data exchange. However, with the steady switch from analog links to digital connections, possible due to improvements and adoption of digital audio networking technologies, creative possibilities for performers are open to explore and the exploitation of wireless links is the necessary step to really make this possibilities of convenient adoption.

A comprehensive state of the art in networked music performance (NMP) and a historical survey of computer music networking is reported to later introduce current technical trends in NMP and technical issues are yet to address. Wireless communication protocols are listed and compared to the requirements of NMP. Two chapters are, then, dedicated to works related to wireless NMP, especially those from the authors, who have devoted their last 3 years on wireless music networking research. The current outcomes of the WeMUST project are reported with practical results and application reports.

The last chapter closes the book, with future issue to investigate. Lastly, an appendix providing a short addendum on wired Audio over IP standards is given.

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