

Name of host:

[Department of Digital Arts and Experimental Media \(DXARTS\)](#)

University of Washington
Seattle, WA

Name of event:

Field Effect — SEAMUS@DXARTS

What is the date and time of your event(s)?

Thursday, February 22, 2024 – 7:30pm

When will the rehearsals take place?

February 21 & 22 – time: TBD

Must a programmed composer attend?

NO. While composers whose work is selected for inclusion in this event are not required to attend, we do strongly encourage attendance — in particular as this performance offers the unique opportunity to hear vivid, well aligned soundfield synthesis over a large area.

Max length: N/A

Documentation of event:

Printed programs of the event will be produced and distributed. (Composers may request a PDF.) Announcement and notice will be published and archived on the [DXARTS News & Events page](#).

CONCEPT, and PHYSICAL SPACE:

Please describe your event in as much technical and aesthetic detail as appropriate

Narrative

The [Department of Digital Arts and Experimental Media \(DXARTS\)](#) at the University of Washington invites artists and composers to submit electro-acoustic works for Ambisonic or multi-channel fixed media for our upcoming

immersive event *Field Effect*, to be presented at [Meany Hall—Katharyn Alvord Gerlich Theater](#) on **Thursday, February 22, 2024**.

Works will be staged via DXARTS Higher Order Ambisonic (HOA) concert system configured as a 15.6 hemisphere and powered by the [Ambisonic Toolkit](#). This well aligned system is capable of rendering holophonic soundfields, including the near-field effect; forwarding your work for consideration offers an opportunity to hear it performed in a 1200 seat theater.

We are particularly interested in reviewing works that explore and exploit *soundfield imaging* techniques and effects as an integral part of a spatial compositional language; for instance, works that move beyond simple panning and build expression upon:

- focused sources vs diffuse fields
- near-field vs far-field
- soundfield warping and imaging
- soundfield decomposition and reconstruction

The free and open source [Ambisonic Toolkit](#) (ATK) includes tools and algorithms to these ends; if you're not familiar with the ATK, we encourage you to do so.

Composers are requested to submit:

1. the source Ambisonic or multi-channel fixed media work as an interleaved file
2. a stereo mix down of the work

For the source mix, please include format information as follows:

- Ambisonic:
 - Ambisonic order, channel ordering, encoding normalization, etc., e.g.:
 - 3rd order acn-sn3d (aka Ambix3)
 - 5th order acn-n3d radius 1.5m (aka ATK-HOA5)
- Multi-channel:
 - Description and channel function / plot, e.g.:
 - Horizontal: 6.2 (6 horizontal satellites + 2 subs), along with channel spatial map
 - Hemisphere: 12 (8 horizon, 4 elevated), along with channel spatial map

Further discussion of Ambisonic encoding may be found here:

- <https://depts.washington.edu/dxscdoc/Help/Tutorials/ABCs-of-the-ATK.html#Ambisonic%20formats>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ambisonic_data_exchange_formats

Up to two audio only works may be submitted for review.

How many speakers will be available? What is the configuration?

DXARTS' 3rd order HOA concert system configured as a 15.6 hemisphere and powered by the [Ambisonic Toolkit](#). (Multi-channel works will be soundfield matrixed to this array for performance.)

How many channels?

15 satellite + 6 subwoofers = 21

What are the performance space approximate dimensions?

Technical documents for the [Katharyn Alvord Gerlich Theater](#) may be found on this page: <https://meanycenter.org/visit/technical-information>

How many people can the space accommodate?

[Meany Hall—Katharyn Alvord Gerlich Theater](#) is a 1200 seat theater.

An image may be found on [this page](#).

Direct image link:

https://meanycenter.org/sites/default/files/styles/full_node/public/images/meanyt.jpg?itok=QSVtyMT9

ATTENDANCE PRAGMATICS:

The University of Washington in Seattle features a campus renowned for its beauty in the midst of a vibrant, multicultural city, and is easily accessible to visitors from afar, and locally.

- **By air:** [Sea-Tac International Airport](#) serves Seattle and is about 30 minutes from campus by car (during heavy traffic, this may take up to an hour or longer) or about 45 minutes by light rail.
- **By Link light rail:** [Sound Transit Link light rail](#) has two stops serving the University: [University of Washington Station](#) and [U District Station](#). The first is an approximate 45-minute ride from Sea-Tac International Airport. Walk time from the two stations to Meany Hall are 15 and 10 minutes, respectively.
- **By bus:** There are more than 60 [bus routes](#) that serve the University District, including many with stops right on campus.

Visitor parking information can be found on [this page](#). Further travel information may be found on [this page](#). The UW welcome guide and campus map can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

University District lodging includes:

[Graduate Seattle](#)

4507 Brooklyn Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 634-2000

[Residence Inn Seattle University District](#)

4501 12th Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 322-8887

[Silver Cloud Hotel Seattle – University District](#)

5036 25th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 526-5200

[Watertown Hotel](#)

4242 Roosevelt Way NE
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 826-4242

To learn more about Seattle activities, lodging, restaurants and other attractions see [Visit Seattle](#).