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

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.