

# MUSIC CURRENT 2019

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## Participate in Music Current 2019

Dublin Sound Lab invites composers to submit works for performance by the Swiss new music trio [RETRO DISCO](#) at MUSIC CURRENT FESTIVAL, Dublin, 10-13 April 2019.

As many as eight composers will be selected and invited to attend all festival concerts at Smock Alley Theatre, Dublin, and to take part in workshops, round-table discussions, masterclasses and open rehearsals with the renowned American composer [Steven Kazuo Takasugi](#), at the [Contemporary Music Centre](#), Dublin.

Composers of any age or nationality, with experience or interest in electronic composition and performance may apply. Submissions can include new or existing works for any combination of horn, cello, synthesizer and electronics (fixed-media, computer or live electronics). Submissions that include three instruments plus an electronic or computer part, and which are less than ten minutes in duration, will be favoured.

All selected active participant composers will have their submitted works rehearsed and recorded by RETRO DISCO. Selected works will also be considered for inclusion in the closing festival concert, 13 April 2019, and one of the participating composers will be offered a commission of €2,500 to develop a new work in collaboration with Dublin Sound Lab to be premiered at Music Current 2020.

Composers can also apply as an 'auditor composer' and attend festival presentations, discussions, rehearsals, workshops and concerts in a non-participating role. Auditor composers do not need to submit compositions, or present their works, and will not be considered for a commission.

## How to Apply

To apply to take part in Music Current 2019 as a Participant Composer, please complete this online form: ['Participant Composer' Application Form](#) by 14 December 2018 at the latest. You will be asked to supply contact details, biographic information, an expression of interest, and details of the work you propose to present at Music Current 2019.

To attend as an Auditor Composer, please complete this online form: ['Auditor Composer' Application Form](#). Places for auditor composers will be limited in number and offer on a first come first served basis.

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## Selection

The selection panel – Steven Kazuo Takasugi (composer), RETRO DISCO (ensemble), and Fergal Dowling (Dublin Sound Lab) – will select composers and works based on suitability of submissions, and the assessed ability of composers to benefit from, and contribute to, the festival programme. The selection panel will endeavour to select works that will make for a coherent and contrasting concert programme. The commission is not awarded as a prize on a competitive basis, but will be offered according to flexible criteria, including: consideration of whom Dublin Sound Lab directors assess will benefit and contribute most through extended collaboration with the group. Selected composers will be notified by **11 January 2019**.

## Cost

Application is free, but places will be strictly limited. Composers selected to participate will be asked to pay a participation fee of €100 by electronic transfer before **1 February 2019**. Auditor Composers will pay a reduced fee of €75. Members of the Association of Irish Composers may apply to have their participation fee paid by an **AIC Music Current Bursary**. If you wish to apply for this, please mention so in your application. Composers based in Ireland who are selected to participate in Music Current Festival can apply for a **Contemporary Music Centre** for a bursary to cover travel costs within the island of Ireland.

Participants must pay registration fees in full by 1 February 2019. Music Current Festival does not offer any scholarships, travel bursaries, accommodation, or assistance with travel arrangements. Participants whose works are selected will be expected to perform the relevant electronic part of their own work in rehearsals and, if necessary, in concert. Participant composers and auditor composers will attend all scheduled events (see below)

## Important Dates

Application Deadline: 14 December 2018  
Notification of acceptance: 11 January 2019  
Participation fee deadline: 1 February 2019

## Contacts

For more information and a full festival programme, please visit: [www.musiccurrent.ie](http://www.musiccurrent.ie). For more information on Dublin Sound Lab please see: [www.dublinsoundlab.ie](http://www.dublinsoundlab.ie). If you have any questions regarding the programme or the submission process, please contact [info@dublinsoundlab.ie](mailto:info@dublinsoundlab.ie)

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# Participation Schedule

## Wednesday 10 April

4–5pm, REGISTRATION (CMC Library)

Participant Composers will meet and register at the Contemporary Music Centre. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

5–6pm FESTIVAL RECEPTION (CMC Library)

Festival launch with invited guests, festival composer, participant composers, festival performers, and composers and technicians, Dublin Sound Lab and staff of Contemporary Music Centre.

7pm CONCERT (Smock Alley Theatre)  
Frank Corcoran – Sweeney Lives!

8pm CONCERT (Smock Alley Theatre)  
Stock11 – X-Play

## Thursday 11 April

2–3pm, COMMISSION PRESENTATION (CMC Library)

Commissioned composer, PATRICIA MARTINEZ, presents on her Music Current commission from 2018, which will be performed by RETRO DISCO at this year's festival.

3–5pm, TECHNICAL REVIEW (CMC Library)

Sound engineer, ALEXIS NEALON, discusses practical sound engineering issues concerning computer-based mixed music, focusing on participant composers' works, referencing: scalable performance, studio audition versus concert reproduction, distribution and portability, understanding sound levels and engineering terminology. Participating composers will discuss the technical requirements for their works in open forum.

8pm CONCERT (Smock Alley Theatre)  
Ensemble Tzara – Steven Kazuo Takasugi's SIDESHOW

## Friday 12 April

10am–1pm, ROUNDTABLE PRESENTATIONS (CMC Library)

Participating composers present on their work in round-table discussions moderated by STEVEN KAZUO TAKASUGI, and discuss technical and performance-related issues relevant to the selected works in a friendly discursive session involving all participant composers, with special reference to Takasugi's 'Sideshow', performed by Ensemble TZARA on 10 April.

2–3pm, PRESENTATION (CMC Library)

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Guest composer, STEVEN KAZUO TAKASUGI, presents on his recent work, with special reference to 'Sideshow'.

3-5pm, MASTERCLASSES (CMC Library)

STEVEN KAZUO TAKASUGI will be available to meet individual participant composers in one-on-one sessions.

6-7.30pm, PUBLIC PANEL DISCUSSION (CMC Library)

'Whose Music?' Invited guest panellists, participant composers and public share thoughts on current composition trends, performance practice, critical perspectives, and new directions, featuring invited festival composers and performers. This year invited panellists assess the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on music composition and how future developments impinge on aesthetic considerations and audience reception. Moderated by Evonne Ferguson, Director of CMC.

8pm CONCERT (Smock Alley Theatre)  
Retro Disco - New Music from Switzerland

## **Saturday 13 April**

10am-1pm, PARTICIPANT REHEARSALS (Smock Alley Theatre)

Rehearsal of works by participant composers for today's CURRENTS concert. Open to all participating composers.

2pm-5pm, PARTICIPANT RECORDING SESSION (Smock Alley Theatre)

Recording and documentation of works by participant composers for today's CURRENTS concert. Open to all participating composers.

2pm-5pm, MASTERCLASSES with STEVEN KAZUO TAKASUGI continue in parallel - times to be arranged with individual composers

8pm CONCERT (Smock Alley Theatre)  
Retro Disco - Currents (participant composers concert)