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Music and the Machine: Contemporary Music Production

Guest Editors:

Mr. Kirk McNally

Assistant Professor of Music
Technology, School of Music,
Faculty of Fine Arts, University of
Victoria, Victoria, BC V8T 3X7,
Canada

kmcnally@uvic.ca

Dr. Brecht De Man

Founder, Semantic Audio Labs,
iCentrum, Holt Street,
Birmingham B7 4BP, UK

brecht@semanticaudio.com

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Formulas, systems, and methods are not new to music production. The Brill Building songwriters, Motown, The Spice Girls and Boy Band equivalents, and more recently, K-Pop have all used carefully constructed systems to churn out their hits. However, until recently, taking the human actors out of these systems and handing creative control over to computers—for either music creation or music production—was unthinkable. Today, that idea is very real with more and more music being made by, and with assistance from, algorithmic and learning systems. This Special Issue invites contributions from authors working in the complementary fields of automatic music creation and automatic music production, in order to develop a broader understanding of these disciplines, what the future holds and how this is changing our relationship with the making of music.

Mr. Kirk McNally
Dr. Brecht De Man
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