

# MELO

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## education

### Künstiniversität Graz und Zürich University of the Arts (ZHdK)

*Doktor der Künste – Dr. artium*

2021 – Present

Resident Doctoral Candidate at the ZHdK Immersive Arts Space

Dissertation Research: “Developing a Visual Framework for Musical Improvisation Machines: Investigating Impacts on Human-Machine Interaction, Posthuman Identity, and Performance Narrative”

### Zürich University of the Arts (ZHdK)

2018 – 2021

*Master of Arts in Transdisciplinary Studies*

Thesis: “*black box fading*: Exploring Human-Machine Relationships and Impacts on Improvised Music Performance Practice Through Creating a Musical Improvisation Machine”

Distinction: mit Auszeichnung

2016 – 2018

*Master of Arts in Music Performance – Flute*

Studio: Prof. Matthias Ziegler

Thesis/Concentration: Research and Development of the Sensor Augmented Flute (Chaosflöte) at the Institute for Computer Music and Sound Technology

Minor: Electroacoustic Music Composition

Distinctions: Fulbright and Swiss Government Excellence Scholar, mit Auszeichnung

### University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

*Bachelor of Arts in Music Technology*

2012 – 2016

*Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance*

2012 – 2016

Studio: Dr. Jonathan Keeble

Distinctions: Chancellor’s Scholar, President’s Honor Scholar, Bronze Tablet Scholar, Summa cum laude

## selected work experience

**Zürich University of the Arts** | [zhdk.ch](http://zhdk.ch)

April 2022 – Present

*Wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiter (project-basis), Immersive Arts Space*

**Transdisciplinary Artist** | <https://www.chua.ch/>

Sep. 2012 – Present

Background in flute performance, with a specialization in creating multimedia performance and installation works with interactive electronics; researching human-machine interactions in improvisation settings.

**elea Foundation for Ethics in Globalization** | <https://www.elea.org/>

Oct. 2018 – Present

*Senior Systems Engineer (Jan. 2025 – Present)*

*Information Technology Analyst*

elea fights absolute poverty by supporting social enterprises in the Global South through entrepreneurial philanthropy.

**STUDIO ZYKLOS** | <https://www.zyklos.studio/>

Jul. 2021 – Present

*Co-Founder, Performing Artist*

Ensemble and lab dedicated to the development of human-improvisation machine performances.

**Null-state**

Jan. 2017 – Dec. 2020

*Co-Founder, Performing Artist*

Live electronics ensemble, giving workshops on electroacoustic music composition and performance practice

**University of the Arts Bern** | [hkb-soundarts.ch/](http://hkb-soundarts.ch/)

Sep. 2021 – Jun. 2023

*Teaching Faculty, Sound Arts (Courses: Klangwerkstatt, Game Performances, History of Sound Arts; Individual Mentoring)*

**FluteXpansions Sonic Immersion** | <http://www.flutexpansions.com/sonicimmersion>

Jun. 2021 – Jul. 2022

*Faculty Artist*

Flute and creativity intensives in contemporary music, improvisation, and live electronics.

## selected projects

**World premiere, panic//void | Filmwinter Festival of Expanded Media | Stuttgart (DE)**

Jan. 2025

STUDIO ZYKLOS: *Immersive multimedia performance “panic//void,” as performer and media artist*

**World premiere, multimedia dance performance | Congress Basel (CH)**

Nov. 2024

“SHIFT” for dancer and visual projections; Animation, technical lead, sound design  
Opening performance of the CLTR2024 Conference “AI and Creative Industries” organized by the Swiss Federal Institute for Intellectual Property. Collaboration with Jaira Peyer.

**STUDIO ZYKLOS Tour | Berlin, Zürich, Bremen, Stuttgart**

Jun. 2024

*Multimedia design and noise music performances with AIYA and Aiii improvisation machines and Chi Him Chik. Venues: trXtr Berlin, Kulturhaus Helferei, Radio Angrezi, Kultur Keller*

**Exhibition: Plankton Imaginary // Experimental Ecology | Arts x Science team**

Apr.–Nov. 2024

**Riikka Tauriainen and Meike Vogt | Kunstmuseum St. Gallen (CH)**

*Lead interaction, sound, and visual designer*

**Exhibition and Performances: LiberAiya | Zürich (CH), Konstanz (DE), Winterthur (CH)**

Mar–May 2024

*Concept, installation design, multimedia programming, and performance; concept and performance collaboration with Max Petersen*

**World premiere, multimedia composition: *insistence machine* for midi keyboards and AIYA improvisation machine | Collegium Helveticum | Zürich (CH)**

Oct. 2023

*Multimedia design and composition; performed by pianist Maryam Mehraban*

**World premiere, multimedia concert: *afterdust//afterglow* | Performances at the Artikulationen Festival Graz, Baby Angel, Immersive Arts Space | Zürich (CH)**

Sep.–Oct. 2023

*STUDIO ZYKLOS (Melody Chua, Chi Him Chik): multimedia design, composition, performance*

**Exhibition: Plankton Imaginary // Experimental Ecology | Arts x Science team Riikka Tauriainen and Meike Vogt | Kulturstiftung Basel H. Geiger (CH)**

Aug. – Oct. 2023

<i>Lead interaction, sound, and visual designer</i>	
<b>Multimedia concert: <i>when we walk</i>   Stäfa (CH)</b>	Jun. 2023
<i>Multimedia design, composition, performance; collaboration with dancer and visual designer Jaira Peyer</i>	
<b><u>Exhibition: Echos I-III by Tina Omayemi Reden   Kunstmuseum Appenzell (CH)</u></b>	Mar. – Jun. 2023
<i>Lead interaction and sound designer   Recipient of the Vordemberge-Gildewart Award</i>	
<b><u>Exhibition: touching reverberations by Tina Omayemi Reden   Stiftung Binz39   Zürich (CH)</u></b>	Dec. 2023
<i>Lead interaction and sound designer</i>	
<b><u>Exhibition: River Oracle   Shedhalle   Zürich (CH)</u></b>	Jun. – July 2022
<i>Lead interaction and sound designer</i>	
<b><u>Exhibition: River Oracle at RADIUS Center for Contemporary Art and Ecology   The Hague (NL)</u></b>	Nov. 2021 – Jul. 2022
<i>Lead interaction and sound designer</i>	
<b><u>LiberA by Max Petersen</u></b>	Sep. 2021-Feb. 2022
<i>Video Artist for album tracks “No SM” and “Get Out of Me”</i>	
<b><u>Group exhibition: Queering Games   Kein Museum   Zürich (CH)</u></b>	
<i>Interactive, mixed-media work “The Catch (’22)”</i>	
<b><u>black box fading   Immersive Arts Space   Zürich (CH)</u></b>	Nov. 2020 – May 2021
<i>Full author/composer of work</i>	
<b><u>Solo exhibition: aiya meets self   Kein Museum   Zürich (CH)</u></b>	Oct. – Nov. 2020
<i>interactive audiovisual installation using Posenet skeleton detection</i>	
<b><u>Mirror Mirr0r (“Happy Robots”)   Immersive Arts Space   Zürich (CH)</u></b>	Mar. – Sep. 2018
<i>audiovisual dance performance using motion capture and reactive electronics</i>	
<i>Lead developer for interactive sound</i>	
<b><u>Immersive Lab, Institute for Computer Music and Sound Technology   Zürich (CH)</u></b>	Jul. 2017
<i>Guest Resident Artist</i>	
<i>Interactive audiovisual installation <i>Half a Horizon</i> for 360-degree touchscreen</i>	

## selected festivals, conferences, symposiums

<b>ARTikulationen Festival for Artistic Research   Graz (AT)</b>	Oct. 2024
<i>Recipient of Best Practice Award for outstanding research presentation</i>	
<b>SONify! Festival   Graz (AT)</b>	May 2024
<i>World premiere, multimedia composition: ...in these liminal spaces... for midi keyboards and AIYA improvisation machine</i>	
<i>Multimedia design and composition; performed by pianist Maryam Mehraban</i>	
<b>Artikulationen Festival of Artistic Research   Graz (AT)</b>	Oct. 2023
<i>Austrian premiere of composition/multimedia performance <i>afterdust//afterglow</i> for Chaosflöte, sensor-augmented saxophone, AIYA improvisation machine, Aiii improvisation machine</i>	
<b>CAMPground Festival   Tampa, Florida (USA)</b>	Mar. 2023
<i>U.S. premiere of new composition for Chaosflöte and AIYA improvisation machine; performed by flutist Julianna Eidle</i>	
<b>Transdisciplinary Artistic PhD Symposium, ZHdK   Zürich (CH)</b>	Nov. 2022
<i>Presentation of artistic research with AIYA improvisation machine</i>	
<b>Constellations Symposium   Zürich (CH)</b>	Nov. 2022
<i>Premiere of work for AIYA and Aiii improvisation machines and two human performers</i>	
<b>University of the Arts Bern   Bern (CH)</b>	Sep. 2022

Concert of works for flute and electronics; premiere of new work “Dragonfly” for Chaosflöte and improvisation machine	
<b>CHIME Festival   Chicago, Illinois (USA)</b>	Jun. 2022
Premiere of new solo works for flute and electronics	
<b>Festival Kleintheatre Luzern   Luzern (USA)</b>	Apr. 2022
360° film screening of <i>black box fading</i>	
<b>New Interfaces for Music Expression (NIME)   Auckland (NZ)</b>	Mar. 2022
Panel adjudicator for art installation submissions	
<b>Performing Music Festival   South Bend, USA</b>	Feb. 2022
Featured artist (Null-state): Live-coding and Chaosflöte performance	
<b>REFRESH Conference, Swiss Digital Days   Zürich (CH)</b>	Nov. 2021
360°/VR film exhibition of <i>black box fading</i>	
<b>White Pulse Marathon 3000   Zürich (CH)</b>	Oct. 2021
Organization team (lead technical manager), sound mixing, and performance	
<b>Academia Engelberg: Engelberger Dialogue   Engelberg (CH)</b>	Oct. 2021
Guest performance, Chaosflöte, interactive electronics, and live visuals	
<b>La Côte Flute Festival   Gland (CH)</b>	Oct. 2021
Full concert of works for Chaosflöte, interactive electronics, and live visuals	
<b>My Behavioral Surplus Festival – “Freedom of Speech in the Age of Surveillance Capitalism”   Stuttgart (DE)</b>	Jul. 2021
Performance of AIYA and Aiii improvisation machines, Chaosflöte, and saxophone	
<b>New Interfaces for Music Expression (NIME)   Shanghai (CN)</b>	Jun. 2021
Installation of <i>black box fading</i> (full) (360°/VR film)	
<b>University of South Florida New Music Consortium   Online</b>	Apr. 2021
Showing of <i>black box fading</i> (pt. 1) (360°/VR film)	
<b>Performing Media Festival   Online</b>	Feb. 2021
Featured artist; Showing of <i>black box fading</i> (pt. 1) (360°/VR film)	
<b>International PAM! Festival   Uster (CH)</b>	Sep. 2020
Solo concert: <i>diaphragma</i> for Chaosflöte, AIYA improvisation machine, and live sound/live visuals	
<b>Network Music Festival   Online</b>	Jul. 2020
Live-coding performance <i>meditation.dystopia</i> (Null-state)	
<b>Accidental Music Festival   Online</b>	May 2020
Intercontinental live-coding performance <i>meditation.dystopia</i> (Null-state)	
<b>REFRESH Conference at Digital Festival   Zürich (CH)</b>	Sep. 2019
World premiere of <i>next step</i> for dancer, pressure-sensitive shoes, and live visuals	
<b>Swiss Digital Day   Zürich (CH)</b>	Sep. 2019
Chaosflöte multimedia performance, Hauptbahnhof main stage	
<b>Zürich Design Biennale   Zürich (CH)</b>	Sep. 2019
World premiere of <i>BAD DECISIONS</i> for Chaosflöte and improvisation machine (AIYA) at the Museum für Gestaltung Zürich	
<b>La Côte Flute Festival   Gland (CH)</b>	Oct. 2018
Full recital of works for Chaosflöte	
<b>ZHdK Highlights Festival   Zürich (CH)</b>	Sep. 2018; Sep. 2017
Chaosflöte recital	
<b>USF International New Music Festival   Tampa, Florida (USA)</b>	April 2018
Selected as a performer, composer, and scholar, presenting and performing works for the Chaosflöte	
<b>Immerse Festival / Creative City   Orlando, Florida (USA)</b>	Oct. 2017

Intercontinental live-coding performance (Null-state) <b>Digital Festival   Zürich (CH)</b>	Sep. 2017
European premiere of <i>Prelude to an Avenoir</i> for Chaosflöte and live sound/live visuals <b>Accidental Music Festival   Orlando, Florida (USA)</b>	Sep. 2017
As resident artist giving performances, masterclasses, and workshops on electroacoustic composition and Chaosflöte <b>ZKM Next Generation Festival   Karlsruhe (DE)</b>	Jun. 2017
Live-electronics laptop performance "Art's Birthday"   Freiburg, DE	Jan. 2017
Premiere of <i>Hcaos Ver. 2</i> for Chaosflöte and live sound/visuals <b>Atlantic Music Festival   Waterville, Maine (USA)</b>	Jul. 2016
<i>Future Music Lab Fellowship</i> World premiere of <i>Selective Memory</i> for Chaosflöte, 4-channel live sound and live visuals	
<b>Montreal Contemporary Music Lab   Montreal (CA)</b>	May – June 2016
World premiere of compositions by Keiko Devaux ( <i>Falling's Just Like Flying</i> ) and Neil Quigley ( <i>Elephant in a Dark Room</i> )	
<b>Grolloo International Flute Festival   Grolloo (NL)</b> <i>Selected Participant/Performer</i>	Aug. – Sep. 2015

## selected lectures, presentations, publications

<b>Magic and Design Festival at the Hochschule der Künste Bern (MA Design)</b>	Oct. 2023
Lecture with Paloma Ayala: "River Oracle – Water Bodies as Guiding Beings"	
<b>PLATEAU Publication: "The machine is your mirror, but do you recognize yourself?"</b>	Jul. 2023 Feb. 2023
Article contribution on learnings from the development of the sensor-augmented flute (Chaosflöte) and improvisation machine.	
<b>CHO – Centre Chorégraphique, Urgent Paradise—Workshop   Lausanne (CH)</b>	Sep. 2022
An oracle-making and sound workshop: This performative process addresses the concepts of liquid bodies and hydrofeminisms, emphasizing touch as a horizon.	Jun. 2022
<b>University of the Arts Bern Symposium: 20 Years of Sound Arts   Bern (CH)</b>	Dec. 2021
Workshop: "Techniques for applying motion gesture recognition and mapping as an expressive medium"	
<b>University of Chicago—Guest Lecture   Chicago, Illinois (USA)</b>	
Lecture: "(Dis)embodiment with an Immersive Improvisation Machine"	
<b>ZHdK Immersive Arts Space—Public Lecture Series   Zürich (CH)</b>	
Lecture: "(Dis)embodiment with an Immersive Improvisation Machine"	
<b>My Behavioral Surplus Festival – "Freedom of Speech in the Age of Surveillance Capitalism"   Stuttgart (DE)</b>	Jul. 2021
Guest artist presentation, <i>black box fading</i>	
<b>Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst   Stuttgart (DE)</b>	Jul. 2021
Guest lecture and workshop on machine improvisation	
<b>Kein Museum   Zürich (CH)</b>	Jun. 2021
Workshop presentation on the queer use of digital games as part of the artistic research project "Queering Games"	
<b>University of South Florida, School of Music   Tampa (USA)</b>	Nov. 2019; Jan. 2017
Guest lecture in composition for real-time electronics + guest artist presentation; guest lecture "Aesthetic and Practical Considerations in Electronic Music"	

<b>Zürcher Kantonalbank (Freiraum – Für Kreativität, Co-Kreation, und Innovation)   Zürich (CH)</b> Chaosflöte presentation	Nov. 2019
<b>Geneva International Film Festival (Swiss Interactive Sessions)   Geneva (CH)</b> Chaosflöte presentation	Nov. 2019
<b>Kein Kino (Zürich University of the Arts)   Zürich (CH)</b> Lecture: <i>Building a Performance Practice for Interactive Electronics</i>	Mar. 2019
<b>Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University   Daytona Beach, USA</b> Guest artist presentation (Null-state) and live-coding workshop	Oct. 2018
<b>Zürich University of the Arts   Zürich (CH)</b> Chaosflöte Presentation for ZHdK Academic Advisory Committee: Future of Creative Industries	Feb. 2018
<b>Eastern Florida State College   Cocoa, Florida (USA)</b> Guest lecture on studio recording techniques and digital audio workstations + guest artist presentation	Sep. 2017, Sep. 2018
<b>Wayne State University   Detroit, Michigan (USA)</b> Guest lecture and artist presentation on performing with live electronics	Mar. 2018
<b>University of Central Florida, School of Music   Orlando, Florida (USA)</b> Improvisation and live-coding workshops	Feb. 2017; Jan. 2018
<b>Melrose Center for Technology, Innovation, and Creativity   Orlando, Florida (USA)</b> Max/Jitter programming workshop and guest artist presentation	Jul. 2017; Sep. 2017

## awards and nominations

<b>Best Practice Award (Recipient)</b> Awarded for outstanding doctoral presentation at the ARTikulationen Festival for Artistic Research (Graz, Austria).	October 2024
<b>Digital Shapers   Category: “Creatives” (Nomination)</b> Awarded by digitalswitzerland, in partnership with Bilanz and Handelszeitung, for leading digital innovation in Switzerland.	August 2020
<b>Fulbright and Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship (Recipient)</b> Study and research grant awarded by the United States government in cooperation with the Swiss government, based on merit.	Sep. 2016 – May 2018

## program participation

<b>Roche Continents   Salzburg (AT)</b> <i>Selected Participant, representing ZHdK</i> 5-day exchange between scientists and artists, hosted by Roche and the <a href="#">Salzburg Festival</a>	Aug. 2019
<b>Z-Kubator “What’s next_Project” Entrepreneurship Program   Zürich (CH)</b> <i>Selected Participant</i>	Mar. – Sep. 2018