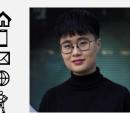# melody chua

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+41 76 534 38 79 ▯
melo@chua.ch ✉
chua.ch ⊕
(full portfolio) chua.ch/p 🕺

education

Künstuniversität 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　　　　　　　　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/ 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

STUDIO ZYKLOS | Stuttgart, Filmwinter Festival of Expanded Media Jan. 2025

Immersive multimedia performance "panic//void," as performer and media artist

World premiere, multimedia dance performance | Congress Basel 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

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 Riikka Tauriainen and Meike Vogt | Kunstmuseum St. Gallen Apr.-Nov. 2024

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, 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 Zürich, Immersive Arts Space Zürich 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 Aug. – Oct. 2023

Lead interaction, sound, and visual designer

Multimedia concert: *when we walk* | Performance in Stäfa, CH   Jun. 2023

Multimedia design, composition, performance; collaboration with dancer and visual designer Jaira Peyer

Exhibition: Echos I-III by Tina Omayemi Reden at Kunstmuseum Appenzell   Mar. – Jun. 2023

Lead interaction and sound designer

Exhibition: touching reverberations by Tina Omayemi Reden at Stiftung Binz39   Dec. 2023

Lead interaction and sound designer

Exhibition: River Oracle at Shedhalle | Zürich, CH   Jun. – July 2022

Lead interaction and sound designer

Exhibition: River Oracle at RADIUS Center for Contemporary Art and Ecology | Nov. 2021 – Jul. 2022
The Hague, NL

Lead interaction and sound designer

LiberA by Max Petersen   Sep. 2021-Feb. 2022

Video Artist for album tracks "No SM" and "Get Out of Me"

black box fading | Immersive Arts Space   Nov. 2020 – May 2021

Full author/composer of work

https://www.chua.ch/box/4

Kein Museum   Oct. – Nov. 2020

Featured Artist

"aiya meets self" interactive audiovisual installation using Posenet skeleton detection

https://www.chua.ch/p/aiya-meets-self

Immersive Arts Space   Mar. – Sep. 2018

Lead developer for interactive sound

Mirror Mirr0r ("Happy Robots") audiovisual dance performance using motion capture and reactive electronics

Immersive Lab, Institute for Computer Music and Sound Technology   Jul. 2017

Guest Resident Artist

Interactive audiovisual installation for 360-degree touchscreen

selected festivals, conferences, symposiums

ARTikulationen Festival for Artistic Research   Oct. 2024

Recipient of Best Practice Award for outstanding research presentation

SONify! Festival | Graz, AT   May 2024

World premiere, multimedia composition: *persistence machine* for midi keyboards and AIYA improvisation machine

Multimedia design and composition; performed by pianist Maryam Mehraban

Artikulationen Festival of Artistic Research | Graz, AT   Oct. 2023

Austrian premiere of composition/multimedia performance *afterdust//afterglow* for Chaosflöte, sensor-augmented saxophone, AIYA improvisation machine, Aiii improvisation machine

CAMPGround Festival | Tampa, USA   Mar. 2023

U.S. premiere of new composition for Chaosflöte and AIYA improvisation machine; performed by flutist Julianna Eidle

Transdiciplinary Artistic PhD Symposium, ZHdK | Zürich, CH   Nov. 2022

Presentation of artistic research with AIYA improvisation machine

Constellations Symposium | Zürich, CH   Nov. 2022

Premiere of work for AIYA and Aiii improvisation machines and two human performers

University of the Arts Bern | Bern, CH   Sep. 2022

Concert of works for flute and electronics; premiere of new work "Dragonfly" for Chaosflöte and improvisation machine

CHIME Festival | Chicago, USA   Jun. 2022

Premiere of new solo works for flute and electronics

Festival Kleintheatre Luzern | Luzern, USA   Apr. 2022

360° film screening of *black box fading*

New Interfaces for Music Expression (NIME) | Auckland, NZ   Mar. 2022

Panel adjudicator for art installation submissions

Performing Music Festival | South Bend, USA   Feb. 2022

Featured artist (Null-state): Live-coding and Chaosflöte performance

REFRESH Conference, Swiss Digital Days | Zürich, CH   Nov. 2021

360°/VR film exhibition of *black box fading*

White Pulse Marathon 3000 | Zürich, CH   Oct. 2021

Organization team (lead technical manager), sound mixing, and performance

Academia Engelberg: Engelberger Dialogue | Engelberg, CH   Oct. 2021

Guest performance, Chaosflöte, interactive electronics, and live visuals

La Cộte Flute Festival | Gland, CH   Oct. 2021

Full concert of works for Chaosflöte, interactive electronics, and live visuals

My Behavioral Surplus Festival – "Freedom of Speech in the Age of Surveillance   Jul. 2021
Capitalism" | Stuttgart, DE

Performance of AIYA and Aiii improvisation machines, Chaosflöte, and saxophone

New Interfaces for Music Expression (NIME) | Shanghai, CN   Jun. 2021

Installation of *black box fading* (full) (360°/VR film)

University of South Florida New Music Consortium | Online   Apr. 2021

Showing of *black box fading* (pt. 1) (360°/VR film)

Performing Media Festival | Online   Feb. 2021

Featured artist; Showing of *black box fading* (pt. 1) (360°/VR film)

International PAM! Festival | Uster, CH   Sep. 2020

Solo concert: *diaphragma* for Chaosflöte, AIYA improvisation machine, and live sound/live visuals

Network Music Festival | Online   Jul. 2020

Live-coding performance *meditation.dystopia* (Null-state)

Accidental Music Festival | Online   May 2020

Intercontinental live-coding performance *meditation.dystopia* (Null-state)

REFRESH Conference at Digital Festival | Zürich, CH   Sep. 2019

World premiere of *next step* for dancer, pressure-sensitive shoes, and live visuals

Swiss Digital Day | Zürich, CH   Sep. 2019

Chaosflöte performance at the Zürich Hauptbahnhof

Zürich Design Biennale | Zürich, CH   Sep. 2019

World premiere of *BAD DECISIONS* for Chaosflöte and improvisation machine (AIYA) at the Museum für Gestaltung Zürich

La Cộte Flute Festival | Gland, CH   Oct. 2018

Full recital of works for Chaosflöte

ZHdK Highlights Festival | Zürich, CH   Sep. 2018; Sep. 2017

Chaosflöte recital

USF International New Music Festival | Tampa, FL, USA   April 2018

Selected as a performer, composer, and scholar, presenting and performing works for the Chaosflöte

Immerse Festival / Creative City | Orlando, FL, USA   Oct. 2017
Intercontinental live-coding performance (Null-state)

Digital Festival | Zürich, CH   Sep. 2017
European premiere of *Prelude to an Avenoir* for Chaosflöte and live sound/live visuals

Accidental Music Festival | Orlando, FL, USA   Sep. 2017
As resident artist giving performances, masterclasses, and workshops on electroacoustic composition and Chaosflöte

ZKM Next Generation Festival | Karlsruhe, DE   Jun. 2017
Live-electronics laptop performance

"Art's Birthday" | Freiburg, DE   Jan. 2017
Premiere of *Hcaos Ver. 2* for Chaosflöte and live sound/visuals

Atlantic Music Festival | Waterville, ME, USA   Jul. 2016
Future Music Lab Fellowship
World premiere of *Selective Memory* for Chaosflöte, 4-channel live sound and live visuals

Montreal Contemporary Music Lab | Montreal, CA   May – June 2016
World premiere of compositions by Keiko Devaux (*Falling's Just Like Flying*) and Neil Quigley (*Elephant in a Dark Room*)

Grolloo International Flute Festival | Grolloo, NL   Aug. – Sep. 2015
Selected Participant/Performer

selected lectures, presentations, publications

Magic and Design Festival at the Hochschule der Künste Bern (MA Design)   Oct. 2023
Lecture with Paloma Ayala: "River Oracle – Water Bodies as Guiding Beings"

PLATEU Publication: "The machine is your mirror, but do you recognize yourself?"   Jul. 2023
Article contribution on learnings from the development of the sensor-augmented flute   Feb. 2023
(Chaosflöte) and improvisation machine.

CHO – Centre Chorégraphique, Urgent Paradise—Workshop | Lausanne, CH
An oracle-making and sound workshop: This performative process addresses the   Sep. 2022
concepts of liquid bodies and hydrofeminisms, emphasizing touch as a horizon.

University of the Arts Bern Symposium: 20 Years of Sound Arts | Bern, CH   Jun. 2022
Workshop: "Techniques for applying motion gesture recognition and mapping as an
expressive medium"   Dec. 2021

University of Chicago—Guest Lecture | Chicago, USA
Lecture: "(Dis)embodiment with an Immersive Improvisation Machine"

ZHdK Immersive Arts Space—Public Lecture Series | Zürich, CH
Lecture: "(Dis)embodiment with an Immersive Improvisation Machine"

My Behavioral Surplus Festival – "Freedom of Speech in the Age of Surveillance   Jul. 2021
Capitalism" | Stuttgart, DE
Guest artist presentation, *black box fading*

Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst | Stuttgart, DE   Jul. 2021
Guest lecture and workshop on machine improvisation

Kein Museum | Zürich, CH   Jun. 2021
Workshop presentation on the queer use of digital games as part of the artistic research
project "Queering Games"

University of South Florida, School of Music | Tampa, USA   Nov. 2019; Jan. 2017

Guest lecture in composition for real-time electronics + guest artist presentation; guest lecture "Aesthetic and Practical Considerations in Electronic Music"

Zürcher Kantonalbank (Freiraum – Für Kreativität, Co-Kreation, und Innovation) | Nov. 2019
Zürich, CH

Chaosflöte presentation

Geneva International Film Festival (Swiss Interactive Sessions) | Geneva, CH   Nov. 2019

Chaosflöte presentation

Kein Kino (Zürich University of the Arts) | Zürich, CH   Mar. 2019

Lecture: *Building a Performance Practice for Interactive Electronics*

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University | Daytona Beach, USA   Oct. 2018

Guest artist presentation (Null-state) and live-coding workshop

Zürich University of the Arts | Zürich, CH   Feb. 2018

Chaosflöte Presentation for ZHdK Academic Advisory Committee: Future of Creative Industries

Eastern Florida State College | Cocoa, USA   Sep. 2017, Sep. 2018

Guest lecture on studio recording techniques and digital audio workstations + guest artist presentation

Wayne State University | Detroit, USA   Mar. 2018

Guest lecture and artist presentation on performing with live electronics

University of Central Florida, School of Music | Orlando, USA   Feb. 2017; Jan. 2018

Improvisation and live-coding workshops

Melrose Center for Technology, Innovation, and Creativity | Orlando, USA   Jul. 2017; Sep. 2017

Max/Jitter programming workshop and guest artist presentation

program participation

Roche Continents   Aug. 2019

Selected Participant, representing ZHdK

5-day exchange between scientists and artists, hosted by Roche and the <u>Salzburg Festival</u>

Z-Kubator "What's next_Project" Entrepreneurship Program   Mar. – Sep. 2018

Selected Participant

awards

Fulbright and Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship   Sep. 2016 – May 2018

Study and research grant awarded by the United States government in cooperation with the Swiss government, based on merit. Provides a monthly stipend for the duration of study to cover living expenses, tuition, and transportation.