

# Aphex Twin

## How Shaping Technology Shapes Us

*"Miniaturization has changed our experience of mechanism"*  
(Haraway, 1991)

"It's not that big (the lap-top) and you can still make more noise than any fucking band. It's simple. You got to these festivals and you see these bands that are shit, just making noise. But you put this in and it's ten times louder with more bass. It makes loads more noise." (Gross, 1997)

*"It is not clear who makes and who is made in the relation between human and machine. ... Biological organisms have become biotic systems, communications devices like others." (Haraway, 1991)*

*"In the conventional sense, I love the programs I make. It doesn't involved any sort of interaction- you just put it in, press the button and it goes. That doesn't involved much interaction and that's quite hard to get the balance right. If I'm using a sequencer, I don't find it difficult to use it to get what I want into the music. I don't find the equipment to get into my way then. If I did, I wouldn't use it." (Gross, 1997)*

*"There is no fundamental, ontological separation in our formal knowledge of machine and organism, of the technical and organic."*

*(Haraway, 1991)*

Ontology: a branch of metaphysics concerned with the nature and relations of being

Ontology deals with abstract entities. (via Merriam Webster)

EX.

Cock/ver10      Avril 14th

"For years, I could listen to jungle and nick things from them, but they didn't know I existed. It was a separate world. But that world doesn't exist any more. It's all merged into this global Internet world." (Sherburne, 2014)

Jungle / Tracker

Yamaha Disklavier / Automations

“Avril 14th’ was recorded on a Yamaha Disklavier: a standard Yamaha acoustic piano rigged to accept MIDI data, meaning you can write on computer and have an acoustic piano perform it. As Scott Wilson writes in his guide to Aphex Twin gear, “the result is something that sounds human but not quite” (Horner, 2017)

## Shaping Machines / Modifying Equipment

<https://bedroomproducersblog.com/2022/09/26/samplebrain-aphex-twin>

“‘You've done some tinkering and reworking of the keyboards and electronic equipment you've used. Did you find that what they could do wasn't good enough?’

AFX: ‘Yeah. I knew that there better keyboards that were out there but it was costly. I really enjoyed doing working on them though. It's really taxing on your brain, making circuits. It's satisfying to make your equipment and then to make music with it as well. It's really nice.’” (Gross, 1997)

*"The machine is us, our processes, an aspect of our embodiment."*  
(Haraway, 1991)

## Korg Monologue

Nov

