Ashley Noel-Hirst

Artist, Designer, and PhD Researcher in Artificial Intelligence and Music - noelhirst.net

Education

PhD, Artificial Intelligence & Music, Queen Mary Univesity of London `2027 (Expected)`

MMus (with Distinction), Sonic Arts, Goldsmiths College University of London `2022`

BA (First-Class), Philosophy (Minor in Mathematics), University of Warwick `2020`

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Goldsmiths Mocap Streamer (AHRC) `2021–2023`

- Developed software to support streaming of motion capture data
- Investigated the impacts and potentials of telematic dance performance with a number of ethnography techniques (workshop, observation and interview)
- Body sonification and interactive sound design for an artistic intervention in accessiblity of metaverse technologies
- Contributed to publications (Pending Review for DIS 2024), presented at Being Human festival (performance) and SXSW (performance and panel)

Research Assistantship – AI and Music, University of Oxford `Summer 2021`

- Summer research assistantship between Oxford's biology and music departments
- Applying models of group behaviour (flocking, f-formations, fluid dynamics) to new interfaces for musical expression (NIMEs)

Intern – HybridLive (AHRC), Goldsmiths College, Stanford, Iklectik, SFJazz `Spring 2021`

- Part of mentorship by Prof Atau Tanaka
- Technically facilitated of performance-led research into telematic jazz performance at Iklectik Art Lab
- Assisted ethnographic interviews with performers

Intern – Signal Processing for Sepsis Diagnosis, University of Surrey/Kings College London `Summer 2015`

- Wrote Matlab code for processing real biomedical signal data
- With applications in machine learning, this work was continued without me, and eventually presented at the Fields Institute

Professional Experience

Demonstrator – Interactive Digital Multimedia Techniques, QMUL; User Experience Design, QMUL; Interactive and Generative Music, Goldsmiths

Producer-Educator (Music), Create Define Release

Assistant Producer, Holocaust Galleries at Imperial War Museums

Assistant Producer – "Young Tech Lab", Iklectik Art Lab in collaboration with Queen Mary Augmented Instruments Lab

Student Engineer, Goldsmiths Music Studios

Workshop Technician, Harris Academy Wimbledon

Audio-Visual Technician, Warwick Arts Centre

Grants/Awards

[Latent spaces for human-AI music generation (EPSRC Studentship)](#)

Future Arts and Culture (Arts Council England)

Goldsmiths Excellence Fee Waiver

NME's 100 Essential Emerging Artists for 2021

Goldsmiths Music Performance Award (part-scholarship)

Warwick Arts Centre Jazz Performance Award (part-scholarship)

Performances/Demos

On Drums and/or Electronics: SXSW – Austin, Texas `2023` ; o2 Ritz Manchester (with Malady and Wet Leg) `2022` ; o2 Institute Birmingham `2022` ; Leeds Beckett Students Union Leeds `2022` ; Color Factory London (with Malady and Sam Akpro) `2022` ; Junction Cambridge (with Malady and Swim Deep) `2022` ; The Crescent York `2022` ; Cluny Newcastle `2022` ; 100 Club London `2022` ; CSTC Symposium – Iklectik London `2022` ; The Standard London `2021` ; EFG London Jazz Festival `2021` ; Notting Hill Carnival (with Kinetica Blocco) `2021` ; Royal Albert Hall (with Ezra Collective) `2020` ; Ronnie Scotts London `2020` ; Drapers Coventry (residency) `2019` ; Copper Rooms Coventry `2019` ; Bedford Street Leamington Spa (residency) `2017–2019` ; Zephyr Lounge Leamington Spa (residency) `2017–2019`

On Voice and/or Guitars: Zephyr Lounge Leamington Spa (residency) `2017–2019` ; Defunct Club in Coventry `2018` ; Leif Tea Rooms Leamington Spa `2018` ; Four Quarters Coventry `2017` ; Copper Rooms Coventry `2017` ; Crystal Palace Jazz Festival `2016`

Presentations/Publications

Corey John Ford, Ashley Noel-Hirst, Berker Banarr and Nick Bryan-Kinns. Autoethnographic Explorations of Using a Folk Generative AI Plugin for Making Punk and Glitch Music `— Pending Review`

Ashley Noel-Hirst and Nick Bryan-Kinns. An Autoethnographic Exploration of XAI in Algorithmic Composition. In *The 1st International Workshop on Explainable AI for the Arts (XAIxArts),* ACM Creativity and Cognition (C&C) `2023` . Online, 3 pages. https://xaixarts.github.io

Kat Hawkins, Clarice Hilton, Ashley Noel-Hirst, Daniel Strutt Dance in the Metaverse: Tools for Accessibility (panel), at *SXSW* `2023` . Texas USA. https://schedule.sxsw.com/2023/events/PP127701

Particular Granulator – Collaborating on Sonic Spaces with Granular Synthesis and Particle Systems at *Goldsmiths Centre for Sound, Technology and Culture Symposium* `2021`

Grain FM – An Anonymous Sampling Radio for Machine-Led Plunderphonics at the University of Aberdeen SERG `2021`

Comfortably NumPy – Music, Algorithms and AI at *Oxford University UNIQ+ Conference* `2021`

(Acknowledgement) Beyond HRV: Interactive attractor reconstruction with cardiovascular waveform data at *the Science Museum and Imperial College London* `2016`