

Chorder description – INSTALLATION version

Chorder is an ecosystem-based sound installation that puts the human spectator inside the silicon brain of an Artificial Intelligence. The opus lays bare the reasoning faculties of an AI algorithm to make them directly audible and palpable for the listener. In particular, this study shows the way an AI can conceive the archetypal conflict between order and chaos. To make this possible, the AI has been trained to understand how human beings perceive the difference between ordered and chaotic sounds. Moreover, it has been programmed to explain through auditory vibrations its "personal" interpretation of the experienced knowledge.

The installation is organized in the form of a quadrafonic space, incorporating four autonomous sub-systems. Each one is composed of one AI instance, capable of listening its surrounding acoustic ambiance and reacting to it by generating new sounds. The sub-systems are placed at the corners of the auditory space and are completely independent one another from a functional point of view. Nevertheless, they are acoustically interconnected, being positioned in the same environment. Each sub-system generates interpenetrating sound textures following deterministic rules based on its acquired knowledge, aiming to satisfy one simple condition: balancing the level of order and chaos within the soundscape. However, every decision taken by a sub-system unavoidably affects other sub-systems' decisions. This happens because they are part of an acoustic ecosystem. The result is an ambiance that constantly chases the balance, sometimes converging into a static point, occasionally diverging into an indefinite state and other times oscillating between the two conditions.

The evolution of this auditory space contains enough information to comprehend the way the AI conceives the difference between order and chaos. Therefore, the listener is invited to plunge into the soundscape and carefully listen to it, in order to understand how the machine is able to interpret and elaborate this emblematic human paradigm.