

# Singaporean Crosswalk for laptop ensemble

by Joo Won Park

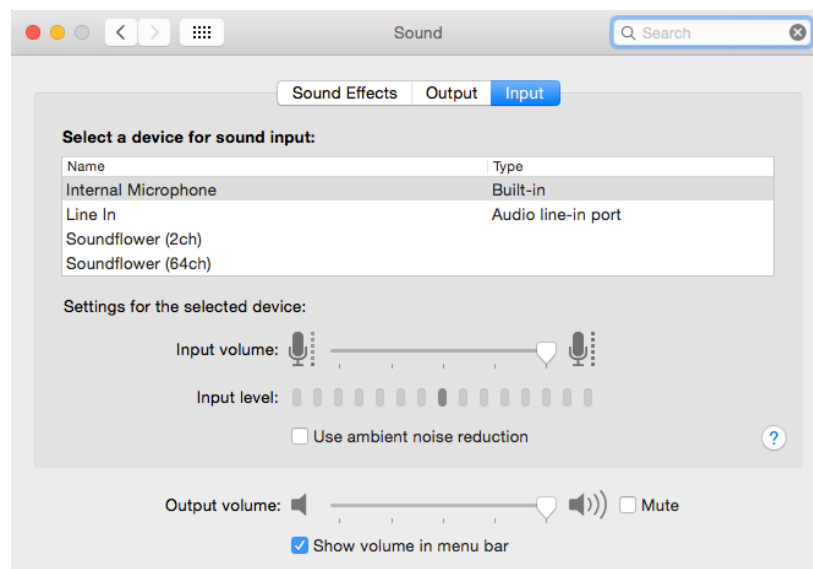
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## Version 2.1 (Updated on 10/11/2016)

**Singaporean Crosswalk** was inspired by my trip to Singapore in 2010. The sound of the traffic light in the city was quite different from that of the United States and Korea. It was fun, effective, and musically intriguing. During the day, this sound was a theme song for the people in a metropolis. During the night, the traffic lights became part of a flora and fauna surrounding the city. I thank SPLICE Ensemble for commissioning this piece. I also thank Oberlin College's Center for Information and Technology for renting me multiple computers.

### Laptop Preparation

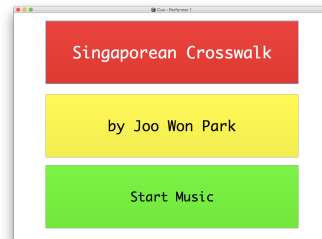
1. Four to eight Macintosh laptops are needed. MacBook Pros with built-in microphone and stereo speakers are the most ideal.
2. Install **SuperCollider** on each laptop (available at [www.audiosynth.com](http://www.audiosynth.com) for free).
3. Download patches for the piece from [www.joowonpark.net/crosswalk](http://www.joowonpark.net/crosswalk)
4. Go to *Finder->System Preference->Sound->Sound Effects*. Uncheck *Play feedback when volume is changed*.
5. In *System Preference->Sound*, set *Output Volume* to maximum.



6. In *System Preference->Sound->Input*, set *Input Volume* to maximum. Uncheck *Use ambient noise reduction*
7. Open the following files in **SuperCollider**. Each Performer uses different .scd files.
  - Performer1** : open *Crosswalk1.scd*
  - Performer2** : open *Crosswalk2.scd*
  - Performer3** : open *Crosswalk3.scd*
  - Performer4** : open *Crosswalk4.scd*, etc

## How to Start Singaporean Crosswalk

1. In **SuperCollider**, go to *Menu->Language->Evaluate File*. A **Cue** window will appear.
2. All performers press *Start Music* button at the same time
3. To stop and restart, press *command+period* or go to *Menu->Language->Stop*.



## Performance Notes

1. The piece uses internal speakers of the laptop. There are total of 27 **changes** of harmony and rhythm. Every **changes**, except two, consist two pitches, one on the left speaker and one on the right.
2. All performers walk around the stage with a laptop. The piece should emphasize the spatial and resonant characteristics of the performance space. The movement decisions should be made to display various listening spaces. Wear footwear that makes minimal sound.
3. The **Cue** window has three text boxes. The **top box** displays a *count-in* before changing to the next section. The **middle box** shows **movement** choices for each **change**.
4. In each section, choose one of the **movements** listed in the **middle box**.
5. There are five **movement** types:
  - **Enter** : walk from offstage to onstage. In a non-traditional performance space, devise a good entrance as an ensemble
  - **Walk** : Vary the *pace* and *direction* at **change**. Choose a simple movement. The walking pace should be slow in most of the times, but occasionally choose to walk at regular/faster pace.
  - **Stop** : stop walking.
  - **With Hand** : put a hand on either left or right speaker of the laptop. You will be able to emphasize or amplify a note depending on the distance between the hand and the speaker. You may gradually cover and open the speaker in any pace. You may either **walk** or **stop** while controlling the speakers with hand. The effect is more audible in high frequencies.
  - **Exit Then Fadeout** : walk away from the stage. When you are offstage, gradually decrease the volume of the laptop by pressing *volume down* key. Fade out asynchronous to each other.