

LANCELOT BLANCHARD

Musician - Engineer - AI Researcher  
MIT Media Lab

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

2023	Master's of Media Arts & Sciences, MIT Media Lab
2025	• Research in AI & Music at the Responsive Environments group.
2022	MRes AI & ML, Imperial College London
2023	• Visiting student at Fluid Interfaces, MIT Media Lab • Thesis: <i>Human-AI Co-Reasoning: Augmenting Human Debates with Interactive Neurosymbolic AI Systems</i>
2018	MEng Computing (AI & ML), Imperial College London
2022	• Highest Honours (average 81.24%). • Dean's List (Year 2, Year 4) and 2018 Entrance Scholarship. • Thesis: <i>GenFastLAS: Scaling up the FastLAS system to large feature spaces, and application to Symbolic Music Genre Classification</i>
2006	Classical Piano and Music Theory,
2018	Conservatory of Rennes





MAIN PROJECTS & PUBLICATIONS

Generative AI for Musical Accompaniment (in Preparation for MIT Press)	Sep 2023 - Present
• Work with Grammy-winning artist Jordan Rudess to build novel Human-AI Co-Created Live Music Performance. • Optimize GPT2-based MIDI generation models for real-time interaction and implement diverse conditioning modalities. • Recipient of MIT's Generative AI Impact Publication Grant (\$70K).	
inHarmony: Community Belonging and AI Choirs (In Preparation for ISMIR 2024)	May 2023 - Present
• Use SOTA Singing Voice Conversion models (SVC, RVC) to develop interactive AI choirs. • Study the impact of experience on sense of community belonging and social anxiety.	
Living Memories: AI-Generated Characters as Digital Mementos (Published at IUI 2023)	Oct 2022
• Used Semantic Models, LLMs, and Generative AI to construct interactive and compelling digital mementos. • Co-authored with Pat Pataranutaporn, Valdemar Danry, Lavanay Thakral, and Prod. Pattie Maes (MIT), and Misha Sra (UCSB).	
Symbolic Music Genre Classification with Scalable Logic-based Learning (MEng Thesis)	Oct 2021 - Jun 2022
• Developed GenFastLAS, an automated logic-based learning system that can efficiently scale to large feature spaces. • Applied it to the genre classification of symbolic music using novel music theory features. • Project supervised by Prof. Alessandra Russo. Received Distinction (86%).	

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Amazon UK - Business Intelligence Engineer	May 2021 - Sep 2021
• Worked as part of the Amazon Pan-EU Fashion Data & Analytics Team. Developed a full internal product to provide interactive action-orientated feedback to customers. Performed ad-hoc data analysis and wrote business reports. • Worked with React and a wide-range of AWS services (notably Cloudformation, S3, Lambdas, RDS, Redshift, QuickSight)	
Privitar - Software Engineer Intern	Jun 2020 - Sep 2020
• Worked as part of the API Team in order to implement complete APIs for both internal and external use cases. • Worked with Java, Spring, and Hibernate for MySQL, PostgreSQL and Oracle databases. Also used data tools such as Apache Hadoop, Apache Hive, Apache NiFi, and Apache Kafka.	

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Computing
 Python, Java, Kotlin, C, C++, Haskell, R, SQL, Vue.js, HTML, CSS, PHP, JS, TS, AWS, GCP, Scikit-Learn, PyTorch, Tensorflow
Languages
 French (Native), English (Fluent), Italian, German
Music
 Piano, Guitar, Production, Songwriting, Mixing, Sheet Writing, Synth Design
Sports
 NYC Marathon Finisher

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

AI Music Reading Group Organizer	Sep 2023 - Present
• Host weekly discussions with international colleagues and leaders of the field. • Contributing institutions include Adobe, Carnegie Mellon University, Stanford University, and Queen Mary University of London.	
Startup Founder - DJStreamr	Jun 2020 - Sep 2020
• Designed novel technology to synchronize and livestream remote DJ gigs. • Gained interest of Music Tech companies (Native Instruments) and DJ labels (DEFECTED).	
Freelance Music Producer	Mar 2016 - Present
• Totalled over 14M streams on streaming platforms. • Reached the Top 10 in the Philippines and top tier playlists. • Managed Imperial College's fully-equipped recording studio.	