


LANCELOT BLANCHARD

Musician - Engineer - AI Researcher
MIT Media Lab


CONTACT

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EDUCATION

2023 present	PhD in Media Arts & Sciences, MIT Media Lab <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2024 MIT Presidential Fellow.• Research in AI & Music at the Responsive Environments group.
2022 2023	MRes AI & ML, Imperial College London <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visiting student at Fluid Interfaces, MIT Media Lab• Thesis: <i>Human-AI Co-Reasoning: Augmenting Human Debates with Interactive Neurosymbolic AI Systems</i>
2018 2022	MEng Computing (AI & ML), Imperial College London <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Highest Honours, Dean's List 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 2018	Classical Piano and Music Theory, Conservatory of Rennes

SELECTED PROJECTS & PUBLICATIONS

Generative AI-powered Vocal Harmonization (In Review for NIME 2025)
• Use Singing Voice Conversion Models, Pitch Extraction Models, and MIDI generation models for vocal harmonization.

jam_bot, Real-Time GenAI System for Musical Improvisation (Published in MIT Press)
• 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 interaction modalities.
• Recipient of MIT's Generative AI Impact Publication Grant (\$70K).

Living Memories: AI-Generated Characters as Digital Mementos (Published at IUI 2023)
• Used Semantic Models, LLMs, and Generative AI to construct interactive and compelling digital mementos.
• Studied the impact of using the system on curiosity, learning effectiveness, and motivation.





Symbolic Music Genre Classification with Scalable Logic-based Learning (MEng Thesis)
• 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++, JUCE, 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

- Boston AI Music Meetup Organizer** Aug 2024 - Present
 - Host monthly meetups for the AI Music community around the Boston area, with academic and industry expert speakers.
 - Collect fundings from industry sponsors including Suno and Meta.
- 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).
- Music Producer, Jazz Pianist** Mar 2016 - Present
 - Totalled over 14M streams on streaming platforms.
 - Reached Billboard's Top 10 in the Philippines and top tier playlists.
 - Received MIT's Emerson/Harris Fellowship to be part of Jazz Ensemble.