

## Concert 2 - July 5<sup>th</sup>, 12h00

### *TransVariations – Music beyond the limits of time and technology*

**Oeyvind Brandtsegg** (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

**Alfonso Benetti** (University of Aveiro)

**Trond Engum** (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)

**Francisco Monteiro** (Instituto Politécnico do Porto)

The project uses innovative technological approaches to problematize the relationship between music creation and interpretation in the context of Western-Art Music. It uses a well-known classical composition as a departure point and research object, namely Beethoven's "32 Variations in C minor". We ask: How would this piece sound if the composer had all modern tools of today at his disposal? Well aware that the question itself has a logical flaw (as the cultural implications would surely mean that the whole piece would be different), we investigate the relationship between score and sonic manipulation of the instrument. This again leads to discrete changes in the performer's phrasing and articulation, and as such can radically change the basis on which interpretation is made. Keeping in mind that the instrument for which the piece was composed was new technology at the time, it seems natural to make use of today's technology in a contemporary interpretation. With the full freedom of modern sonic manipulation, adhering to the traditional score might seem limiting, as the affordances of the new instrumental sound also affect which notes to play. This can also be seen as a point of friction and dissonance, which demands and generates creative solutions.

The project is a collaboration between Alfonso Bene (pianist), Øyvind Brandtsegg (live sound manipulation and programming), Trond Engum (live sound manipulation and recording), and Francisco Monteiro (external ear). Three academic institutions participate in the project: University of Aveiro (Bene), Instituto Politécnico do Porto (Monteiro), and Norwegian University of Science and Technology (Brandtsegg and Engum).



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