

Ali Momeni

ali@umn.edu

<http://www.alimomeni.net>, <http://minneapolisartonwheels.org>

+1.510.387.9977

Education

2005 *University of California at Berkeley* Berkeley, California

Ph.D. in Music Composition. Completed qualification exams with distinction (2004), completed dissertation titled: *Composing Instruments: Inventing and Performing with Generative Computer-based Instruments* .

1997 *Swarthmore College* Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

Swarthmore, PA. B.A. degrees in Music and Physics. Completed Pre-Medical program.

Relevant Occupations

2008-Present *Artistic Director of the Spark Festival* Minneapolis, USA

Co-artistic direct of the 2008 and 2009 Spark Festivals of Electronic Music and Art (2010 is in planning under my sole direction). The festival presents about 90 works per year, selected from a submission total of about 650 works of concert music, electronic/club music, video and installation. The festival also invites between 5-10 artists per year for a commissioned presentation of a work in their medium. Please see <http://spark.cla.umn.edu> for more information.

2007 *Founder and Captain* Minneapolis, USA

Founded and lead the public art group Minneapolis Art on Wheels. This group concentrates on large-scale real-time mobile video projections of participatory urban interventions; the primary instrument of the group is its array of bicycle driven, back-pack mounted, or suit-cased mobile broadcast units.

2007-Present *Assistant Professor University of Minnesota* Minneapolis, USA

Joint tenure-track assistant professor appointment in the department of art and the new collaborative arts program at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

2006 *Collaborating Artist* Paris, France

Working as collaborator and real-time application designer for an installation produced by Atau Tanaka of Sony CSL Paris, Petra Gemeinboeck, of University of Sydney. The installation is to take place at Maison Rouge in Paris as a part of the Sony CSL *Intensive Science* and symposium.

2005 *Composer and Interactivity Programmer for Sony* Berlin, Germany

Built real-time music engine and composed content for Epidemic Menace, a pervasive gaming project conducted by Sony Net Services (Berlin), the Fraunhofer Institute and Sony Computer Science Laboratories (Paris).

2005 *Consultant for Sony Computer Science Labs* Paris, France

Project of Sony Computer Science Laboratories (Paris) Music group under the direction of Atau Tanaka.

2005 *Interactive Software Designer* Paris, France

Designed a network based music engine for Shu Lea Cheang's large-scale installation *Baby Love* at Palais de Tokyo.

2005 *Interactivity Programmer and Instructor* Paris, France

Collaborator with director Daniel Danis, multimedia artist Luc Courchesne, and composer Zack Settel of Society for Art and Technology (SAT) and composer Atau Tanaka (Sony CSL, Paris) to conduct a month-long exploratory residency/workshop for a group of french actors.

2004 *Interactive Software Designer* Paris, France

Built the audio-video software engine for Atau Tanaka's *Bondage*. The work was subsequently shown at La Villette Numerique (Paris, 2004), *The Eyebeam* (New York, 2005) and *Ars Electronica* (Honorary Mention, Linz, 2005).

2000 *Technical Coordinator of Berkeley TEMPO Festival* Berkeley, California

Acted as primary organizer and implementer of technical requirements for the execution of the TEMPO Festival, a week-long festival of new and experimental music organized by CNMAT/UC Berkeley Department of Music.

1999-2005 *Composer and Research Assistant* Berkeley, California

Conduct research in real-time audio processing and the use of gestural controllers for musical applications. Produce compositions that integrate the wide array of computer music technologies developed at CNMAT.

1999-2004 *Musical Systems Administrator* Berkeley, California

Center for New Music and Audio Technologies, Berkeley, CA. Maintain music hardware and software running on Macintosh, Windows and Unix platforms.

Grants, Scholarships and Residencies

2009 *Joyce Foundation Commission* (Minneapolis, USA): A commission of \$30,000 for a collaborative project with artist Jenny Schmid, sponsored by the Minneapolis Institute of Art, scheduled for 2011.

Connecticut College Commission (Connecticut, USA): A Commission of \$3,000 for collaborative work with artist David Bithell; the commissioned work will be for our *Liminal Surface* project. Scheduled for winter 2010.

2008 *College of Liberal Arts grant for the Spark Festival* (Minneapolis, USA): A grant of \$35,000 from the University of Minnesota's College of Liberal Arts, with a matching \$35,000 from the Collaborative Arts Program for the 2009 Spark Festival

Minnesota Futures Grant (Minneapolis, USA): A grant of \$250,000 from the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of Minnesota, for the research project "Mobile Media for Everyday People: Bridging the Digital Physical Divide"; research into the function of mobile media in the public art, citizen journalism, real-time networked technologies

Institute for Advanced Studies Research Grant (Minneapolis, USA): A grant of \$18,000 from the Institute for Advanced Studies for the research and development of a collaboration on live-drawing performance with artist Jenny Schmid

Institutional Partnership Grant (Minneapolis, USA): A grant of \$25,000 from the Office of International Programs at the University of Minnesota, for collaborative research of mobile media and cellular telephones as an interface for gestural real-time work with mobile media, with the new media lab, Kitchen, Budapest.

2007 *UMN College of Liberal Arts Office of Information Technology* (Minneapolis, USA): A grant of \$37,000 to jump-start the creation of mobile broadcast units for my group Minneapolis Art on Wheels

UMN College of Liberal Arts grant for the Spark Festival (Minneapolis, USA): A grant of \$35,000 from

the University of Minnesota's College of Liberal Arts for the 2008 Spark Festival

UMN Graduate School McKnight Foundation (Minneapolis, USA): A grant for \$6,000 to pursue collaborative research and performance with composer David Bithell, with a matching grant of \$6,000 from the McKnight Foundation.

2005 *Artist in Residence, Exploratorium* (San Francisco, California): Week-long artist residency at the San Francisco Exploratorium museum. Develop a prototype of a proposed installation perScrutinizer, for the Exploratorium's Listening Project

Composers Grant MTG/ICMC 2005 (Barcelona, Spain): A grant from the Music Technology Group in Barcelona, Spain, to produce an installation work for the International Computer Music Conference 2005.

Eizner Prize (Berkeley, California): A cash prize awarded to UC Berkeley student showing great achievement in music and potential in creativity.

Composer in Residence La Kitchen Lab (Paris, France): Invited to serve as composer in residence at the new media research and implementation center in Paris.

Berkeley Fellowship (Berkeley, California): Full tuition and fees compensation and part-time teaching assistant position in Department of Music at UC Berkeley (1999-2005)

Publications

Ali Momeni, Christopher Baker, Andrea Steudel. "Minneapolis Art on Wheels: Mobility and Artful Actions in the Public Sphere", Poster for ACM Creativity and Cognition Conference in Berkeley, CA, 2009.

Ali Momeni, "Composing Instruments: Inventing and Performing with generative computer-based instruments". Doctoral Dissertation, University of California in Berkeley, 2005.

Ali Momeni, Cyrille Henry. Dynamic Independent Mapping Layers . *Computer Music Journal*, 30:1. 2005.

Tanaka, A., Tokui, N., Momeni, A. "Facilitating Collective Musical Creativity." In *Proc. ACM Multimedia*, Singapore. 2005.

Ali Momeni, David Wessel. Characterizing and Controlling Musical Material Intuitively with Graphical Models , *Proceedings of the New Interfaces for Musical Expression Conference*, Montreal, Canada. 2003.

Mathew Wright, Adrian Freed, Ali Momeni. OpenSoundControl: Past, Present and Future , *Proceedings of the New Interfaces for Musical Expression Conference*, Montreal, Canada. 2003.

Matthew Wright, Ahm Lee, Ali Momeni, Adrian Freed. "Managing Complexity with Explicit Mapping of Gestures to Sound Control with OSC", *Proceedings of the International Computer Music Conference*, Havana, Cuba. 2001

Matthew Wright, Amar Chaudhary, Adrian Freed, Sami Khoury, Ali Momeni, Diemo Schwarz, David Wessel, . An XML-based SDIF Stream Relationships Language , *Proceedings of the International Computer Music Conference*, Berlin, Germany. 2000.

Lectures, Symposia, Visiting Artist (partial list)

- 2009** FEEDFORWARD symposium at Laboral, Gijon, Spain
 Week-long workshop on titled "Digital to Physical" at Anderson Ranch, Snowmass, CO, USA
 Week-long workshop at Center for New Music and Audio Technologies, at UC Berkeley, CA, USA
 Lecture at the 2009 FlashBelt conference, Minneapolis
- 2008**
 Almost Cinema Lecture at Vooruit, Gent, Belgium
 Lecture at New York University, invited by professor Wafaa Bilal
 Lecture at Colby College, invited by visiting professor Robin Mandel
 Lecture at Carleton College, invited by professor John Schott
 Lecture at The School of Fine Arts (AVU) Prague, Czech Republic
- 2007** Colloquium Lecture at University of MN, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
 Lecture at Carleton College, invited by professor John Schott

Works, Commissions and Performances (partial list)

- 2009** *Truce*: Collaboration with Robin Meier; Work for three living mosquitoes, contact microphones, cameras, speakers, and real-time software. Presented at the 2009 Spark Festival in Minneapolis, USA.

Minneapolis Art on Wheels: Over 100 outings in the Twin Cities, 10 other US states and 5 countries abroad. The performances are large scale projections in public spaces, with sound, usually deployed from our bicycle driven mobile broadcast units. The performances include interactive installations, theatrical performances and live-drawing on urban landscapes. Commissioned performances include the 2008 ZERO 1 New Media Biennial in San Jose, CA, the Beijing Film Academy in China, and the Plains Museum sponsored " Fargo Ho!" weekend of city performances by MAW.

Eyes and Ears and the Truth Itself (No People Allowed): Live performance collaboration with Jenny Schmid, premiered at Pay Attention 2008 at the Soap Factory, Minneapolis, USA.

Table Settings: Vooruit: Table-top musical theater performance, with David Bithell, premiered at the 2008 Almost Cinema festival at Vooruit, in Gent, Belgium.

Smoke and Hot Air: Installation for smoke-ring quartet, synthesized voice, electronics and micro-controller, premiered at the 2008 Almost Cinema festival at Vooruit, in Gent, Belgium. Shown again at FEEDFORWARD, a group exhibition at Laboral, Gijon, Spain.

- 2008** *Animal Warmth (#28, Now is the Time)*: Installation for carbon filament light bulbs, electronics and real-time software, premiered at the 2008 Almost Cinema festival at Vooruit, in Gent, Belgium.

Animal Warmth (#32): Installation for carbon filament light bulbs, electronics and real-time software premiered at Pay Attention 2008 at the Soap Factory, Minneapolis, USA.

Wall Whisperer: Live performance with a gestural video instrument, premiered in Minneapolis and performed at the Beijing Film Academy and the 2008 ZERO 1 New Media Biennial.

What Paint Doesn't: Live performance with a gestural video instrument, premiered in Minneapolis and performed at the Beijing Film Academy and the 2008 ZERO 1 New Media Biennial.

For Air, For Water: Live video performance with gestural video instrument, in collaboration with Da Wei Xu of the Beijing Film Academy (BFA) manipulating ink, wire and plant life. Premier performance at the BFA.

2006 *WHAT you say HOW you say it*: Interactive sound and video installation, commissioned by the San Francisco Exploratorium as a part of the exhibit titled Listening.

Net_Derive: Collaboration with Atau Tanaka and Petra Gemeinboeck and produced for the Intensive Science symposium in honor of Sony CSL Paris's 10th anniversary at Maison Rouge in Paris. An interactive installation exploring locative media, mobile music and social interactions mediated by interactive media.

2005 *Takemitsu My Way of Life*: Real-time Instrument designed and performed with Staatsoppper Unter den Linden directed by Peter Musbach and the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester directed by Kent Nagano. Performances were in Theatre du Chatelet, Paris, France and in Bunka Kaikan, in Tokyo, Japan

An[ti]c: Interactive video installation created for and presented at the Transmissions festival, part of the 2005 International Cultural Heritage Informatics Meeting (ICHIM) held in Paris.

frelia: Interactive kinetic sculpture and sound installation created in collaboration with Robin Mandel. Commissioned by the Music Technology Group in Barcelona Spain for the 2005 International Computer Music Conference. *Frelia* was show again at Brown University & Rhode Island School of Design's Pixelerations II in Providence, Rhode Island, the EMS 2005 Conference at Hexagram in Montreal, Canada