

**Barry Truax** is a Professor Emeritus in the School of Communication and (formerly) the School for the Contemporary Arts at Simon Fraser University where he taught courses in acoustic communication and electroacoustic composition, specializing in soundscape composition. He has worked with the World Soundscape Project, editing its Handbook for Acoustic Ecology, and has published a book Acoustic Communication dealing with all aspects of sound and technology.

As a composer, Truax is best known for his work with the PODX computer music system which he has used for tape solo works and those which combine tape with live performers or computer graphics.

A selection of these pieces may be heard on the recording Sequence of Earlier Heaven, and the Compact Discs Digital Soundscapes, Pacific Rim, Song of Songs, Inside, Islands, and Twin Souls, all on the Cambridge Street Records label, as well as the double CD of the opera *Powers of Two* and the most recent CDs, *Spirit Journeys* and *The Elements and Beyond*.

In 1991 his work, *Riverrun*, was awarded the Magisterium at the International Competition of Electroacoustic Music in Bourges, France, a category open only to electroacoustic composers of 20 or more years experience. He is also the recipient of one of the 1999 Awards for Teaching Excellence at Simon Fraser University.

Following his retirement from SFU (Sept. 2015), he became the Edgard Varèse Guest Professor at the Technical University in Berlin (2015-16), and Guest Composer at the 2016 BEAST Festival in Birmingham, where his multi-channel soundscape compositions have been performed, as well as at several other European festivals and ISCM 2017 in Vancouver, plus the 2018 ICMC in Korea where he was a keynote speaker. Website <http://www.sfu.ca/~truax/index.html>

## Soundscape Composition: From the Real to the Virtual

Soundscape composition has matured into an important practice, both as an artistic form and to promote environmental awareness, with works ranging from documentary to the construction of imaginary soundscapes. Just as the concept of “soundscape” embraces all forms of sound and emphasizes how sound is understood by listeners, so too soundscape composition creates simulated environments of sound within which the distinctions between voice, music and environmental sound are blurred. In the author’s soundscape compositions, the sound material is elaborated using contemporary digital signal processing techniques, while maintaining listener recognizability, and the structure of the work and its narrative are guided by the composer’s contextual knowledge of the real world.

Barry Truax



## *Barry Truax* composer and researcher



## Grains and Soundscape *Octophonic Works from Vancouver*

Sala concerti

30-31 ottobre 2019

Ingresso libero fino ad esaurimento posti

Bibliografia introduttiva:

- Barry Truax. *Acoustic Communication*. Ablex Publishing, 1984. 2nd ed., Greenwood, 2001;
- Barry Truax. “Electroacoustic music and the soundscape: the inner and outer world”. In: *Companion to Contemporary Musical Thought*. A cura di J. Paynter et al. London: Routledge, 1992, pp. 374–98;
- Barry Truax. “Soundscape, acoustic communication & environmental sound composition”. In: *Contemporary Music Review* 15.1 (1996), pp. 49–65;
- Barry Truax. “Composition and diffusion: Space in sound in space”. In: *Organised Sound* 3.2 (1998), pp. 141–6;
- Barry Truax. “Interagire con la complessità sonora interna ed esterna: dal microsuono alla composizione con suoni del paesaggio”. In: *Musica/Tecnologia* 10 (2016), pp. 67–73. URL: <http://www.fupress.net/index.php/mt/article/view/18436> (visitato il 21/09/2019).

Il seminario e la masterclass si terranno in lingua inglese. / The seminar and the masterclass will be held in english.

# Programma / Program

- 30 ottobre, 15.30-18.30
  - Introduction (Barry Truax);
  - Masterclass / Seminar.
- 31 ottobre
  - 10.30-13: open rehearsal with analysis;
  - 14.30-16.30: open rehearsal;
  - 17.00 Concert
    - \* *Riverrun* (1986-87; octophonic version 2004), 8 soundtracks, 19:50
    - \* *The Wings of Nike* (1987), 8 soundtracks and computer graphic video, 12:25
    - \* *The Shaman Ascending* (2004-2005), 8 soundtracks, 15:45

Intermission

- \* *Pendlerdrøm* (1997), 8 soundtracks, 12:00
- \* *Chalice Well* (2009), 8 soundtracks, 14:20
- \* *The Garden of Sonic Delights* (2015-16), 8 soundtracks, 11:10

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**Technical Note.** Original recordings from the World Soundscape Project Tape Collection, with sound processing realized with Soundhack convolution, the composer’s DMX-1000 software for granular synthesis, Chris Rolfe’s MacPod software for granular time stretching, with spatialization created by Harmonic Functions’ TiMax2 Soundhub matrix mixer.

# Modulo di iscrizione

Al Direttore  
del Conservatorio di Musica  
Benedetto Marcello  
Venezia

Il/la sottoscritto/a .....  
studente di .....  
presso .....  
email .....  
chiede di iscriversi al seminario/masterclass *Barry Truax: researcher and composer* tenuto dal professor Barry Truax che si svolgerà presso il Conservatorio di Musica “B. Marcello” di Venezia i giorni 30 e 31 ottobre 2019.

Firma

Per ulteriori informazioni e per inoltrare l’iscrizione scrivere al coordinatore

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