

Interview with Michael Kieran Harvey

25th February 2018

Hobart Tasmania

Interviewer - Ben Ross www.oralhistorycompany.com

Interview concerns Michael's composition and subsequent performance of The Green Brain Cycle at MOFO Festival Hobart Tasmania February 2018

0:00	Inspiration for the composition. As a child reading the novel The Grain Brain, Frank Herbert. Artificial intelligence. Ecology. Book cover artwork. Sounds of the insect world. Had worked with beekeeper, composer Martin Friddel. Bee population declining.
3:20	Cultural, historical significance of piano. Symbol of the establishment.
5:05	Virtuosity. The artist interpreting other people's music. Parasitic relationship. Richard Vella.
7:35	Aporia. Lack of a way forward. Aporia – musicians. Aporia – humans. What is the way forward for humans? Artificial intelligence. Richard Vella.
12:05	Overview of the approaches to the composition. Twenty pieces. Reference to other cycles. Insect morphology. Adaptation and evolution.
16:00	Each insect morphology informs the composition approach to each of the twenty pieces: pitch, melody, range, texture, harmony.
20:00	Flies. Use of visual stimulus in composition.
22:30	Moths. Ticks. Prometheus chord.
27:45	Concluding piece. Mosquitos. Narrative. Piano sounds. Electronic sounds.
34:20	Jubilation. View of the future? The effect of music on an audience.
37:36	Audience. Collaboration for MOFO. Work with Arjun von Caemmerer, Brigita Ozilins
43:24	Designing the performance for the MOFO audience.
47:20	End.