

*Mobile Performance Group:*  
teaching advanced musical concepts  
through multimedia performance

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Digital Arts and Music Technology

# *Overview*

# MPG: *mobile performance group*

- Founded in 2004 by Matt Roberts
- New media collective
- Enabling technologies
  - Performance & laptops
  - Collection & digital formats
- Emphasis on non-traditional venues
  - Public spaces
  - Uninitiated audience

# Guiding aesthetics

- Psychogeography
  - Explore location, collect sounds & images
  - Use as material for performance
- Mobile presentation
  - Autos, bikes, shopping carts, batteries
- Co-opting technologies
  - Networks, controllers, cell phones, etc.

# Learning opportunities

- Practical application of techniques
- Working in collaborative setting
- Professional presentation of work

# Phase 1: *Collection*





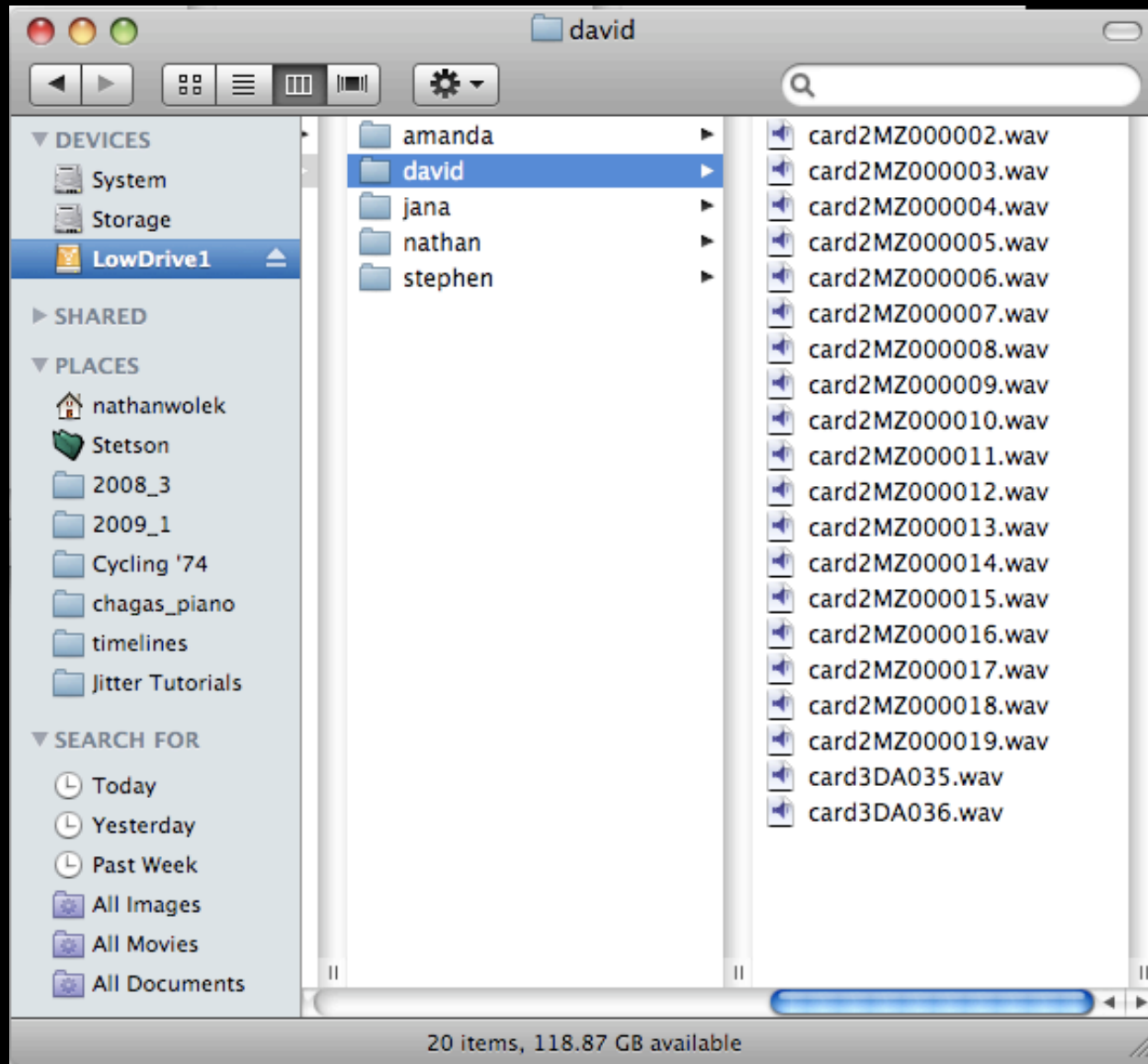


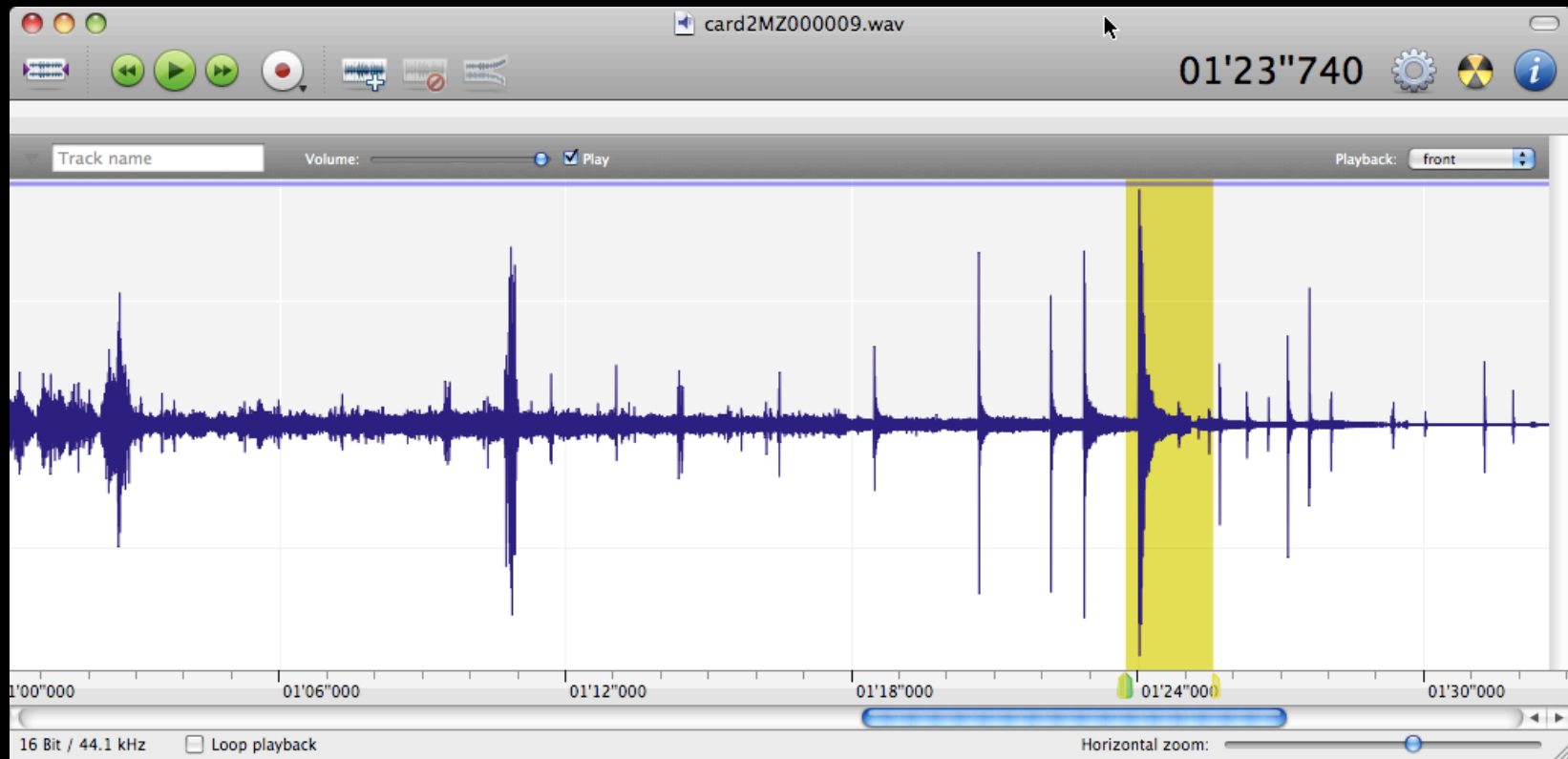


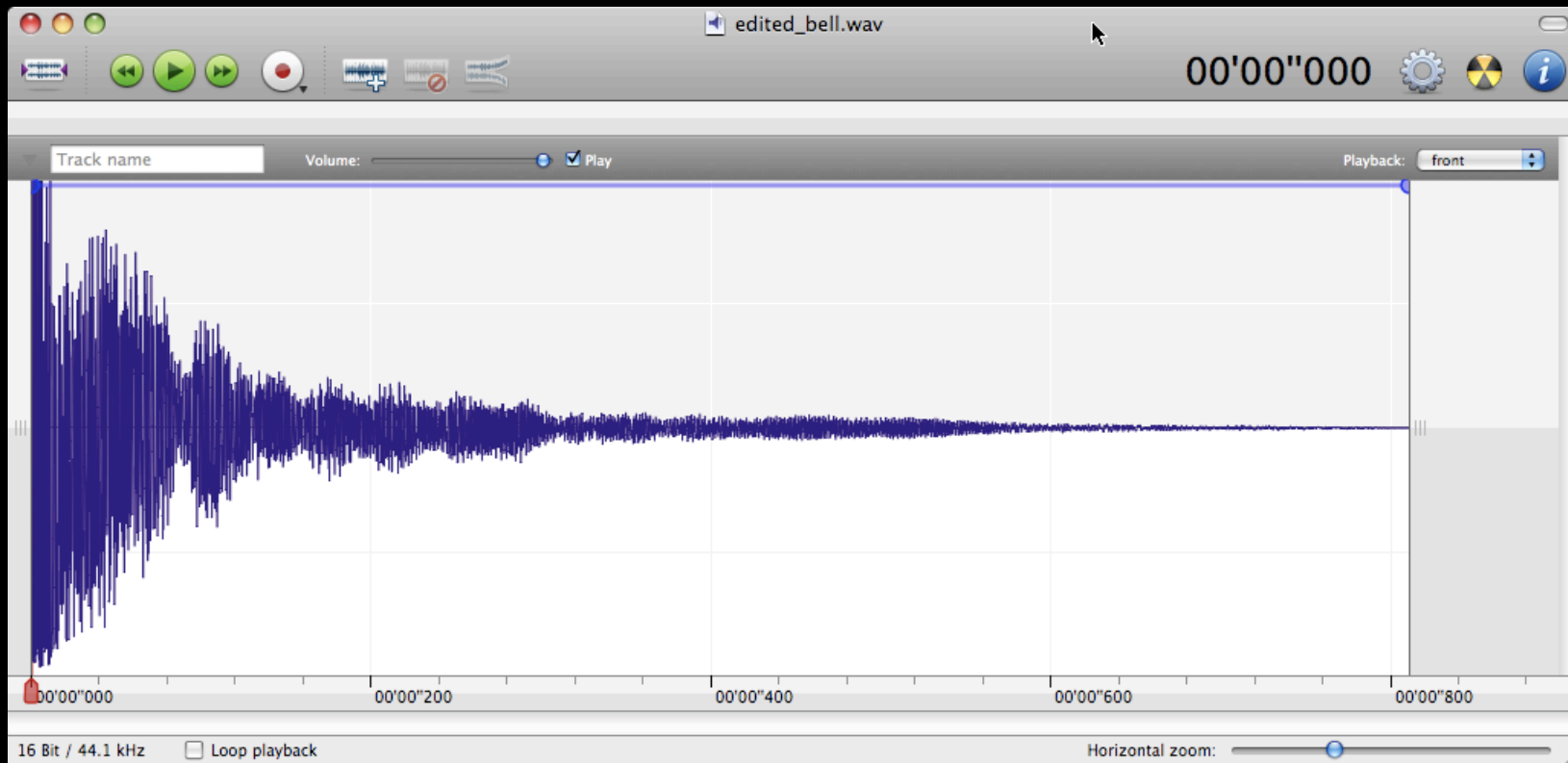
# Learning outcomes

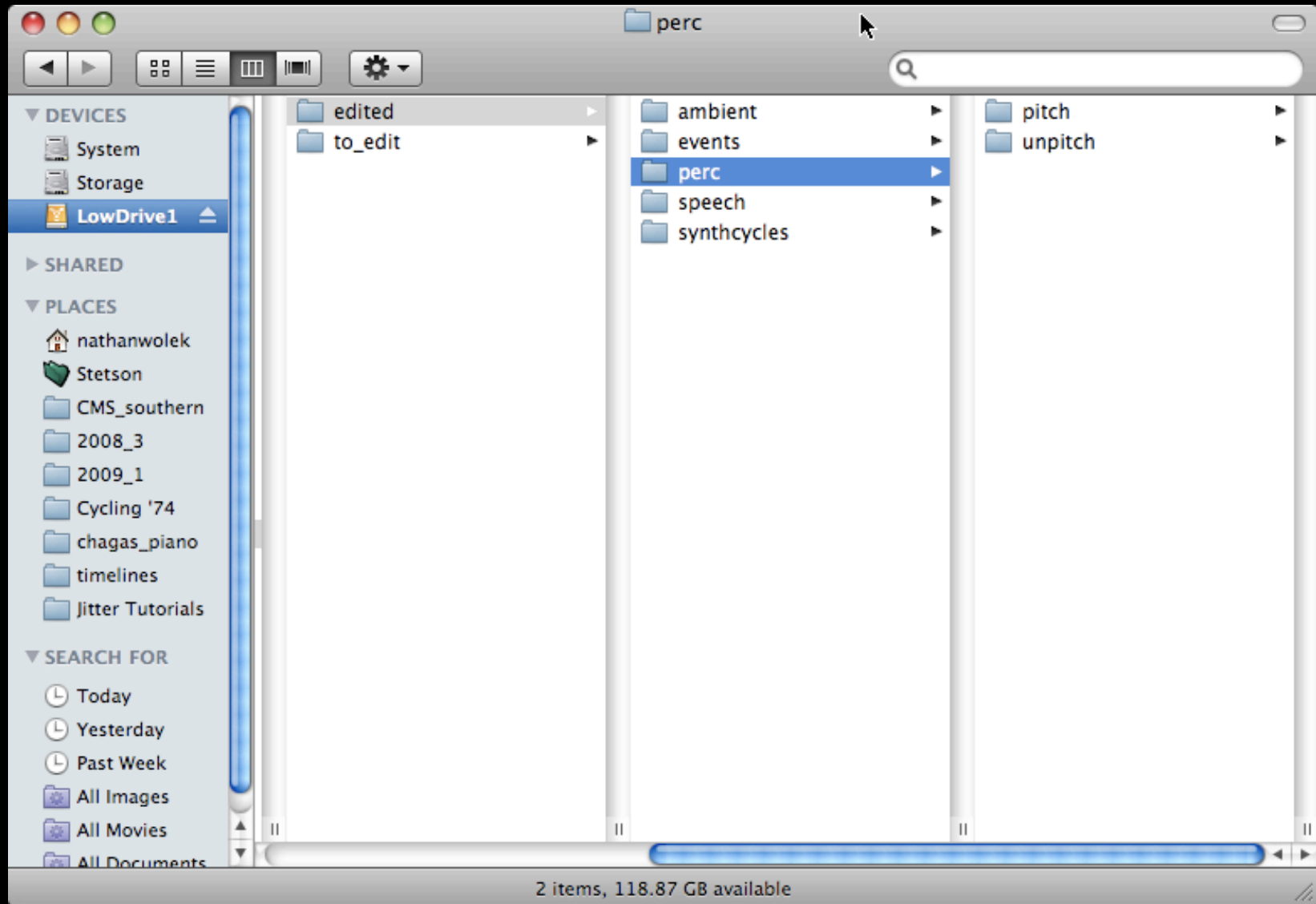
- Managing field recording equipment
- Imagining/evaluating potential objects
- Interacting with the public

# Phase 2: *Organization*









# Learning outcomes

- Streamlining editing procedures
- Abstracting sound from physical objects
- Developing meaningful descriptors



# Phase 3: *Presentation*

# automobiles



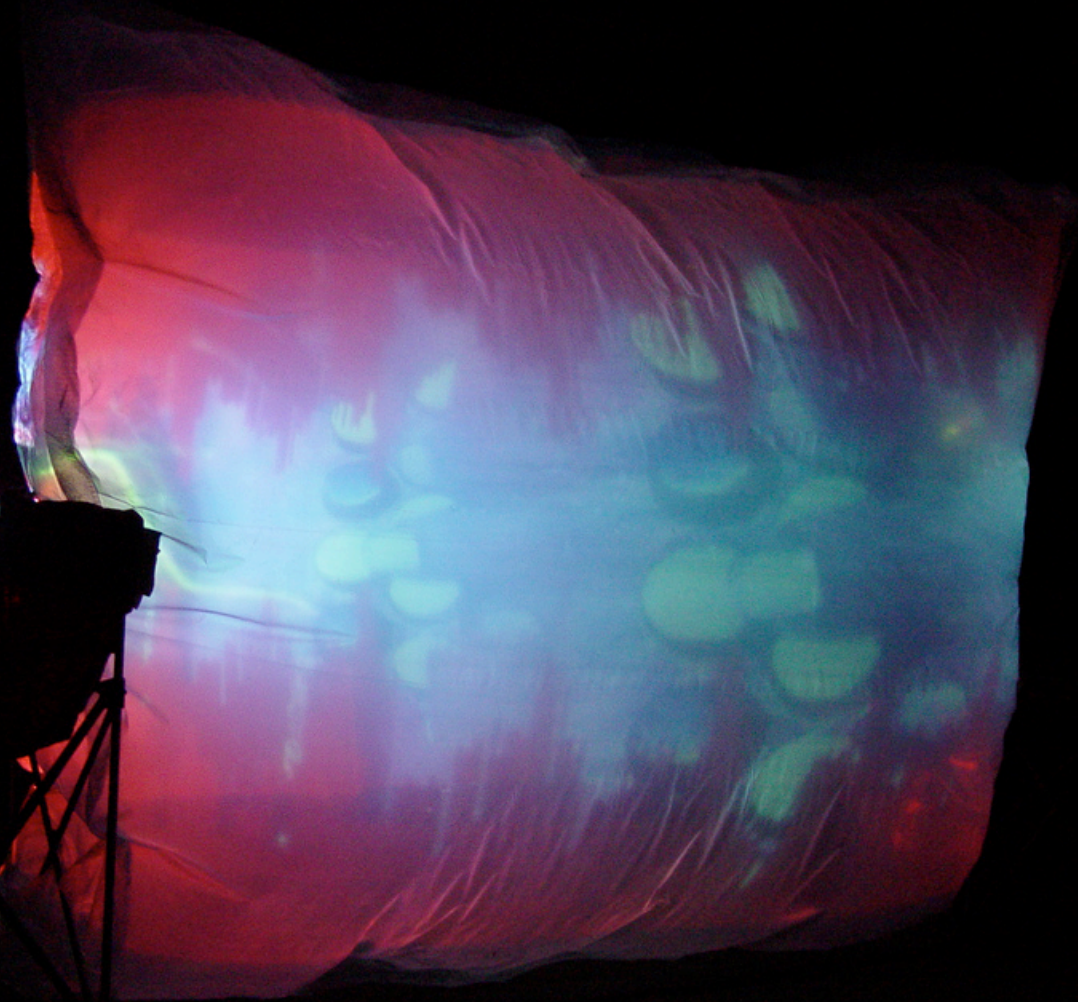
# automobiles



# shopping carts



# inflatable screen



roaming



# performing



performing





# Learning outcomes

- Collective improv sensibilities
  - Listening/viewing & responding
  - Rapid decision making
- Testing/improving instrument design
- Interacting with the public

# Phase 0: *Instrument Design*

# musiclinks

my name:

my ip: 147.253.120.7    interface:

stored ip addresses:

147.253.120.7	YourName

get my ip

slave  
 master

update me

tonic:     --scale--    hold

basis:

struct:

root:     --chord--    sent

struct:

harm: 60 64 67

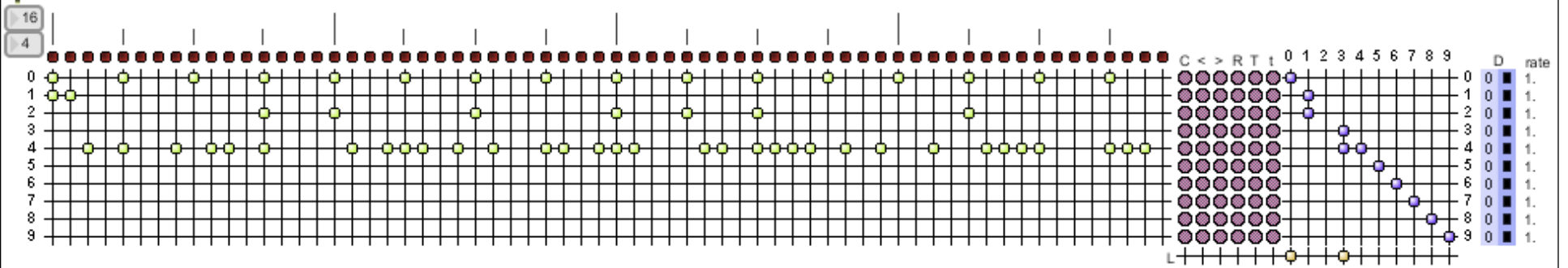


bpm: 


4bar\_freq: 


sync:     start:

# *riddumbank*



# synthvox

The interface is divided into several functional areas:

- Top Left:** Two piano-roll editors. The first has a scale of 0 0 1 2 and a chord of 1 2 0 0 0. The second has a scale of 1 3 3 2 and a chord of 1 1 0 0 0.
- Top Middle:** A piano-roll editor with a scale of 1 and a chord of 1 0 0 0 0.
- Top Right:** A vertical stack of six pan controls, each with a 'rate' and 'max' parameter.
- Middle Left:** A piano-roll editor with a scale of 1 3 3 2 and a chord of 1 3 1 3.
- Middle Center (Red Panel):** A parameter panel for `--notedef5--` with controls for `attack_ms` (1, 10), `delay_ms` (5, 0), `sustain_level` (0.5, 0.8), and `release_ms` (100, 300).
- Middle Right:** A vertical stack of six pan controls, each with a 'rate' and 'max' parameter.
- Bottom Left:** Gain controls (`gain_unit`: -3, `gain_max`: 0, `dur_unit`: 100) and synth unit options (`---synthunit---`, `wavetype`: wavetable, `active` checkbox).
- Bottom Center:** `custom harm` (checkbox), `wt` (Beep.aif), and `---bandlimit---` controls (`in db`: 0, `out db`: 0, `hi freq`: 0, `lo freq`: 0).
- Bottom Right:** `midout` (IAC Driver I..., channel: 7), `channel` (7), `--echounit--` controls (`init db`: 0, `sub db`: 0, `ms`: 0), and a `tap` button.
- Bottom Far Right:** `--panunit--` (L-R slider), `trans` (checkbox), `time` (2000), and an `analyzing...` button.

# Learning Outcomes

- Managing design cycle (idea > perform)
- Adapting to prescribed protocol
- Application of synthesis / processing
- Designing expressive capabilities

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