

Richard Boulanger

Cloning a Dragon with the DNA from “Trapped in Convert”

(in memory of Shengzheng Zhang - John Towse)

Controlled, modulated, and spatialized live by an assortment of theremin, joystick, brainwave, and pressure sensors, this 4-channel EuroRack modular synthesizer solo will feature: four **Qu-Bit Nebulae** modules (each running and rendering, in real-time, voltage-controlled versions of Boulanger’s classic "Trapped in Convert" Csound instruments, and a suite of new custom “**Qu-Bit Csound**” orchestras); plus two **Thonk Music Thing Modular Radio Music** modules (each playing a number of pre-rendered custom Csound orchestras as .AIF audio files); plus, one **Audio Damage ODIO** module (allowing for the modular system’s audio to be sent to, and returned from an iPad running the **Boulanger Labs** Csound for iOS app *csSpectral*, that is being used for real-time Phase Vocoding and other Csound-based audio processing). This newly composed, and completely re-designed solo version of the work was written to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the world premiere of Boulanger’s classic “Trapped in Convert”. "Back in the summer of 1979, when I composed "Trapped in Convert" at the EMS Studio at MIT using Barry Vercoe’s "music11" language, and then revised it at the MIT Media Lab in 1986 to serve as a beta-test suite for Vercoe’s new "Csound" language, I modeled all my sounds on those I would create in my home studio with my ARP 2600 analog synthesizer. Now, some 40 years later, and to celebrate the 40th anniversary of composition, I have been able to return to the modular synthesizer; to come full circle – but this time, I am making *Csounds* on the modular thanks to the design and commercial availability of the amazing *Nebulae* module from **Qu-Bit Electronics**, (the *Nebulae* is a EuroRack synthesizer module built around a Raspberry Pi running the latest version of Csound under the hood!). And so, as you might well imagine, I am incredibly excited by the fact that this old “Dragon” is no longer “Trapped” and I look forward to letting her loose tonight to run around in Krakow with her friend "Smok Wawelski". This work is dedicated to the memory of a brilliant and talented Csounder, my former student from Hai Ning China, **Shengzheng Zhang, a.k.a. John Towse**, whose tender “Csound Lullaby” is featured in the ending of the work.

Richard Boulanger, (b.1956) Professor of Electronic Production and Design at the Berklee College of Music, is an internationally-recognized performer, composer, researcher, developer, programmer and the founder of *Boulanger Labs*. He holds a Ph.D. in Computer Music from the University of California, San Diego where he worked at the Center for Music Experiment’s Computer Audio Research Lab (CARL). He has continued his computer music research at Bell Labs, Stanford’s CCRMA, the MIT Media Lab, Interval Research, IBM and for OLPC. Throughout his career, Dr.B. was been a close collaborator with "The Father of Csound" - Professor Barry Vercoe at MIT and "The Father of Computer Music – Dr. Max Mathews at Bell Labs. Boulanger has premiered his original interactive works at the Kennedy Center, and appeared on stage performing his Radio Baton and PowerGlove Concerto with the Krakow and Moscow Symphonies. Dr. Boulanger has published articles on sound design, production and composition in all the major electronic music and music technology magazines; and for MIT Press, Boulanger authored and edited two canonical computer music textbooks: **The Csound Book** and **The Audio Programming Book**. His company’s Csound-based iOS apps include **csJam**, **csGrain** and **csSpectral**. For the Leap Motion controller, Boulanger Labs published an app called **MUSE** and he recently composed and performed a major symphonic work built around these apps called: *Symphonic Muse*. Among his many grants and honors, Boulanger was a Fulbright Professor at the Krakow Academy of Music. In New York, Nashville, LA, Hollywood, Silicon Valley, across the US, and all around the world, "Dr.B." has hundreds of devoted students and is known for his nurturing, passionate

and inspiring teaching and mentoring. At The Berklee College of Music, where he has been teaching for over 33 years, Dr. Boulanger has been honored with both the “Faculty of the Year Award” and the “President’s Award.” Boulanger's Philosophy: “For me, music is a medium through which the inner spiritual essence of all things is revealed and shared. Compositionally, I am interested in extending the voice of the traditional performer through technological means to produce a music, which connects with the past, lives in the present and speaks to the future. Educationally, I am interested in helping students see technology as the most powerful instrument for the exploration, discovery, and realization of their essential musical nature – their inner voice.”

Dr. Richard Boulanger
Professor
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Tomek Chołoniewski (1977). Percussionist. Completed his studies with the highest note at the Academy of Music in Kraków.

His interests are particularly focused on improvised music.

He cooperated with orchestras in many countries and performed on number of festivals all around the world. In 2003 he presented lecture in the National University in Seoul and in 2009 at Audio Art Festival in Gdynia based on his dissertation. Tomek played with many musicians, dancers and video artists (. John Butcher, Phil Minton, Frederic Blondy, John Edwards, Milosh Luczynski, Le Quan Ninh, Włodzimierz Kiniorski, Krzysztof Knittel, Jean-Herve Peron, Tomasz Stańko, Yuri Yaremchuk).

He plays in Cracow theatre "Łaźnia Nowa" in "Optimist's Testament" by Dominika Knapik.

Tomek composed music for animated movies of Marta Pajek.

He also teaches percussion in music school, and do the musical workshops for children at Children's University in Cracow. In 2012 appear his first cd release. Debut album called “Un”, and in 2014 in label mathka released with Denis Kolokol cd “Sympli Romatikó”. Lately appeared an improvised music cd of P.U.R. Ensemble with musicians from Poland (Tomek Chołoniewski, Krzysztof Knittel, Maciej Staszewski), Russia (Alexey Kruglov) and Ukraine (Yuri Yaremchuk).

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