

The Music Ball Project: Concept, Design, Development, Performance

Alexander Refsum Jensenius ☐ # Arve Voldsund #
☐ Norwegian Academy of Music
University of Oslo, Dept. Musicology

Abstract

We report on the Music Ball Project, a longterm, exploratory project focused on creating novel instruments/controllers with a spherical shape as the common denominator. Besides a simple and attractive geometrical shape, balls afford many different types of use, including play. This has made our music balls popular among widely different groups of people, from toddlers to seniors, including those that would not otherwise engage with a musical instrument. The paper summarises our experience of designing, constructing and using a number of music balls of various sizes and with different types of sound-producing elements.

Microphone-based music balls



Sensor-based music balls



Electroacoustic music balls



Music troll



Big buoy



ADHD ball



Mobile phone balls

