2012 NTU/CUHK International Music Forum

Music, Mediation, and Environment

4-6 May 2012, Taiwan

Call for Papers

The Graduate Institute of Musicology at National Taiwan University and the Department of Music at the Chinese University of Hong Kong are pleased to announce its fourth NTU/CUHK International Music Forum, to be held on 4-6 May 2012 at National Taiwan University. Postgraduate students from both universities as well as other invited institutions are welcomed to submit proposals on the theme of “Music, Mediation, and Environment.” An abstract of no more than 350 words and written in English should be sent to ntu.cuhk.forum@gmail.com before 16 January, 2012. Please include presenter’s name, university, current year of study, discipline (if applicable), title of the presentation, and keywords along with the text of the proposal in the submission.

Conference theme description: The French sociologist Antoine Hennion has recently argued that “Music has nothing but mediations to show: instruments, musicians, scores, stages, records...” In other words, music never merely exists, but always embodies the particular, subjective conditions in which it is created and enjoyed. This conference will examine the multifaceted ways in which "the music itself" is inseparably linked with its media and environments, the two terms here defined not only in the narrow sense of technologies and natural settings, but also in their broader, more abstract meanings encompassing socio-cultural contexts, processes, and ideologies. A wide range of envisioned topics aims to demonstrate how understanding of music's sonic content relies crucially on careful analysis of the environmental factors mediating this content, which include (but are not limited to) physical-acoustical spaces, social-institutional practices, religious belief systems, and modes of economic production.