

Andre Borges is a saxophonist, microtonalist, performer & sound artist: I create microtonal instruments and perform in the fields of theatre, dance and circus, video and bands in Brazil and worldwide since 1992. In the UK since 2004, recently engaged in solo performances exploring internal body sounds combined with Arduino™ technology.

Andre's composition "Apologies in a Lift" (2005) will be part of "One can not be too careful" exhibition.

Case Description:

I am a musician and a composer-producer working with microtonal instruments, sound textures and experimentalism for the last 25 years. My artistic identity was built around my interest and involvement with unusual music, performances and sound-art. Nevertheless, I am also into more traditional forms of music, such as Brazilian folk, rock, jazz and so on. Further more, as anybody else living in society, I am always exposed to all sorts of music of all styles willy-nilly.

As producer, I try to bring my musical ideals to life recording live instruments and mixing them with loops (created from prerecorded samples) and using MIDI controllers. Normally, the creative process is spontaneous, starting from a feeling that develops into a simple musical melody and so on, until a whole track is born. However, sometimes it happens that a feeling develops into a musical idea that doesn't feel coherent with the kinds of sounds I intend to show to any public. Sometimes, even quite the opposite, conflicting with my beliefs and filling myself with a shame of my own creation, but that does not stop me from finishing the track. After done, these tracks are quickly disposed in some external back-up hard-drive to be forgotten, although they end up revisited every now and then, bringing back the weird feeling of shame.

This is "Apologies in a Lift", produced in 2015. This track is a good example of a composition meant to be forgotten by myself and that found a way to come back not just to haunt me but also to be exposed to the public this time. I always wonder what would be my own opinion if this track had been composed by someone else. Would I feel the same way? Would I still find it common, flat, boring, monotonous, mediocre and shameful? Possibly. Why do I care?