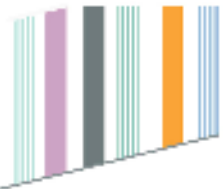


**Galerie Mazzoli**

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**AGOSTINO DI SCIPIO**  
(Naples 1962)

## Agostino di Scipio

Agostino Di Scipio (born in Naples, Italy, 1962) approached sound and music as a self-taught musician in his late teenage years, and then moved quickly into more adventurous electronics and computer programming, also developing an interest for experimental theatre while a student at Istituto Universitario Orientale, in Naples. Later he pursued more formal, academic studies, and graduated in Composition and Electronic Music from the Conservatory of L'Aquila (teachers included M.Lupone, G.Bizzi, M.Cardi). At the time, he also studied Computer Music at the CSC (Centro di Sonologia Computazionale), University of Padova.

Composer, sound artist, and scholar, Di Scipio explores original methods in the generation and transmission of sound, often experimenting with phenomena of emergence and chaotic dynamics. His best-known works are the solo live-electronics concert works and sound installations where cybernetic principles and "man-machine-environment" networks of sonic interactions are implemented and creatively elaborated (e.g. the *Audible Ecosystemics* series of pieces, and the more recent *Modes of Interference* series). In 2001, together with poet Giuliano Mesa, he wrote *Tiresia*, a mix of poetry reading and electroacoustics. Earlier on, he had already explored this medium with *Sound & Fury*, a stage work based on a collaboration with photographer Manilio Prignano and poet Eugenio Tescione, bearing on elements of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* (and fragments of Auden's *Commentary*). Monograph CD portraits are available through RZ\_Edition (Berlin) and Chrysopée Electronique (Paris/Bourges). More recordings are included in collective CDs and DVDs by labels such as Wergo, Neuma, Capstone, ecc. With pianist Ciro Longobardi, he prepared and published an extended realization of John Cage's *Electronic Music for Piano* Cage (Stradivarius). With saxophonist Mario Gabola he run a duo project in radical electroacoustic improvisation, mostly based on recycled analog circuitry (*Upset*, Viande Records). Spring 2011, the Berlin-based Galerie Mario Mazzoli hosted a personal exhibit of Di Scipio's installation works, *Sound. Self. Other*.

Di Scipio mainly works in his own studio in L'Aquila. He was occasionally the guest composer of institutions such as CSC in Padova (1987-1991), ZKM (Karlsruhe, 2005-06) and IMEB (Bourges 2003 and 2005). In 2004 and 2005 he lived and worked in Berlin as artist-in-residence of the DAAD Künstlerprogramm. Professor of Electronic Music at the Conservatory of Naples (2001-2013), today he holds the same position in L'Aquila. In Winter 2007-08, Di Scipio served as Edgar Varèse Professor at Technische Universität (Berlin). Lecturer in live-electronics composition at CCMIX (Paris, 2001-2007), guest professor in several institutions, a.o. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (2004), University of Paris 8 (2013), IRCAM (2013), Johannes Gutenberg Universität, Mainz (2004), Simon Fraser University (Burnaby-Vancouver, 1993), Sibelius Academy (Helsinki, 1995). He delivered the opening keynote speech at the International Computer Music Conference 2013, in Perth (Australia).

Di Scipio is the author of papers and essays internationally published, partly focussing on his own experience as a composer, sound artist, and computer music practitioner, partly focussing on the analysis and history of musical technologies and their connected socio-cultural, cognitive and political implications. A collection of his writings on the latter subject has appeared in Italian, *Pensare le archeologie del suono e della musica* ('thinking the technologies of sound and music', Editoriale Scientifica, Naples, 2013). In 2004 he served as guest editor for a monograph issue of the *Journal of New Music Research* on Iannis Xenakis. Di Scipio served as editor of the anthology *Teoria e prassi della musica nell'era dell'informatica* (Laterza, Bari, 1995) and curated the Italian translation of volumes of various authors, a.o. Iannis Xenakis (*Universi del suono*, LIM/Ricordi, Milano 2003), Michael Eldred (*Heidegger, Holderlin & John Cage*, Semar, Rome, 2000), G.M.Koenig and Tom DeLio. In 2009, with some his students in Naples, started an independent scholarly review, *Le Arti del Suono*.

In 2014 a special issue of *Contemporary Music Review* has been published, edited by Makis Solomos, collecting papers on Di Scipio's work by musicologists and electroacoustic music practitioners, partly the outcome of earlier international scholarly gatherings (Université Paul Valéry-Montpellier 2010, Universität des Kunste-Berlin 2011, Université Paris 8 2013). A book + CD publication appeared in 2015, edited by Andrea Semerano (plus graphic work by Matias Guerra), *Agostino Di Scipio. Polvere di suono: una prospettiva ecosistemica della composizione* (La Camera Verde, Rome).

<http://agostinodiscipio.xoom.it/adiscipi/index.htm>

## Portrait concerts

2015

- Graz, IEM, "Signale ", MUMUTH György-Ligeti-Saal
- Edinburgh, "Gap in the air: a festival of sonic art", University of Edinburgh, Talbot Rice Gallery

2014

- Venezia, Conservatorio B.Marcello

2013

- Perugia, festival "Segnali", Auditorium del Conservatorio
- Belfast, "Sonorities" Festival, Queen's University

2012

- Salerno, "Time-Out" Festival

2010

- Festival Crisalide (Forlì)
- Festival Turbulence Sonores (Montpellier)

2009

- Festival Elettrosensi (Como)

2008

- Parco della Musica (Rome)
- Bauhaus Universität und Franz Listz Hochschule für Musik (Weimar)

2007

- Festival Dissonanzen (Naples)

2006

- Freiburg Musikhochschule (Freiburg)
- University of East Anglia (Norwich)

2005

- Inventionen (Berlin)
- Klanglabor Kunsthochschule für Medien (Cologne)
- *Sala Benedetto Marcello* (Venice)
- Tesla/Podewillsches Palais (Berlin)
- Logos Foundation (Ghent)

2004

- *Grande Salle du Conservatoire* (Lausanne)

2003

- *Festival Nuova Consonanza* (Rome)

## Residencies

2015

- guest composer of the "Forms of Sound" Festival, Calgary

2013

- ZKM (Karlsruhe)

2006

- ZKM (Karlsruhe)

2004-2005

- DAAD Künstlerprogramm (Berlin)

2003-2005

- IMEB (Bourges)

2003

- resident composer at the Musica Viva Festival (Coimbra)

2001

- CCMIX Centre Creation Musicale Iannis Xenakis (Paris)

1995

- Sibelius Academy (Helsinki)

1993

- Simon Fraser University (Vancouver)

1987-1992

- Centro di Sonologia Computazionale, University of Padova

## **Solo Exhibitions**

2013

- Saint-Denis, Université Paris 8

2011

- *Sound. Self. Other*, Galerie Mario Mazzoli (Berlin)

2008

- MLAC Museo Laboratorio Arte Contemporanea (Rome)

2005

- DAAD Galerie (Berlin)

## **Group Exhibitions (Selection)**

2014

- ScarlattiLab/Electronics, Castel S.Elmo, (Naples)

2009

- Festival Direct Digital (Modena)
- Galerie Mario Mazzoli (Berlin)

2008

- Festival Inventionen (Berlin)

2007

- Linux Audio Conference, Technische Universität (Berlin)
- Festival Dissonanzen (Naples)

2006

- MUHKA Museum for the Contemporary Arts (Antwerpen)

2005

- J.Gutenberg Universität (Mainz)

1999

- Itinerari Armonici (L'Aquila)

1998

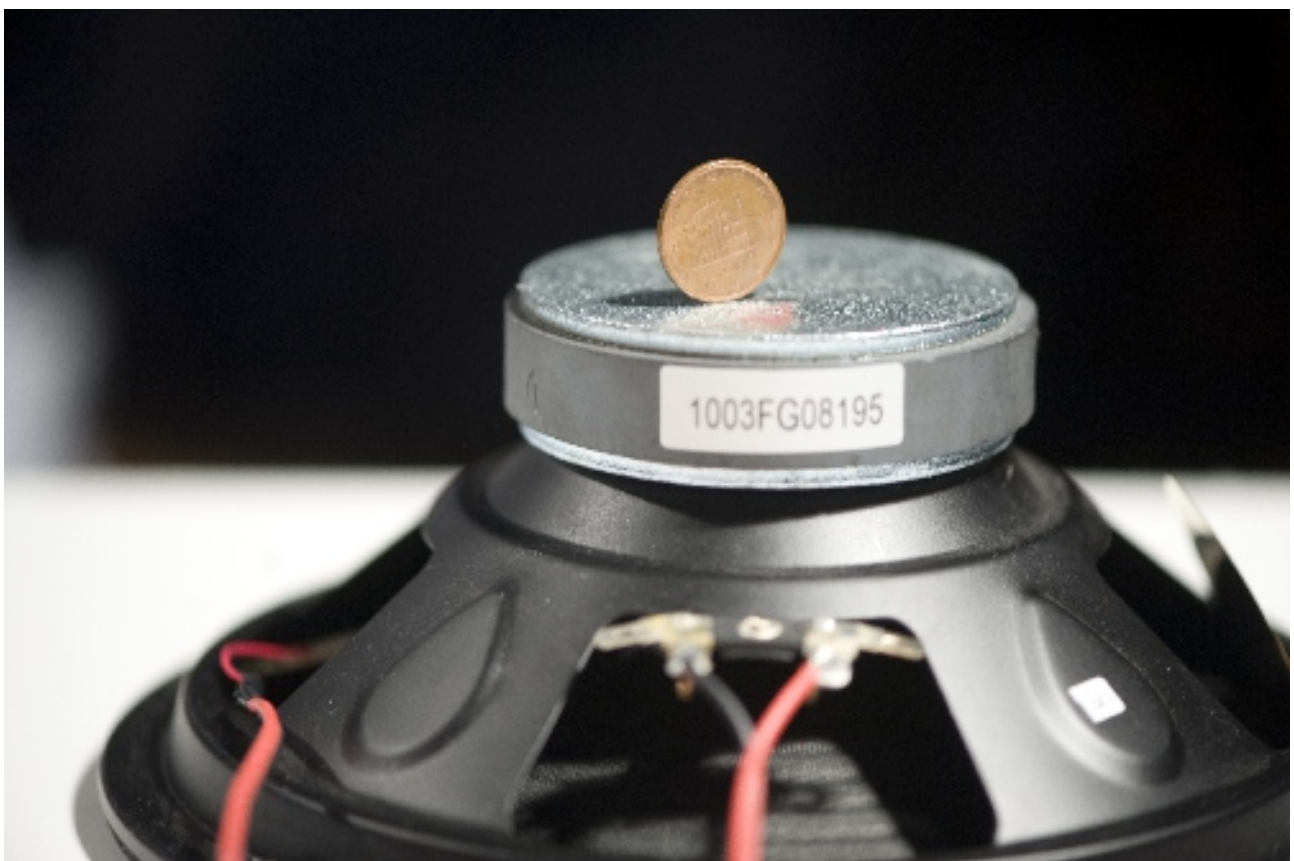
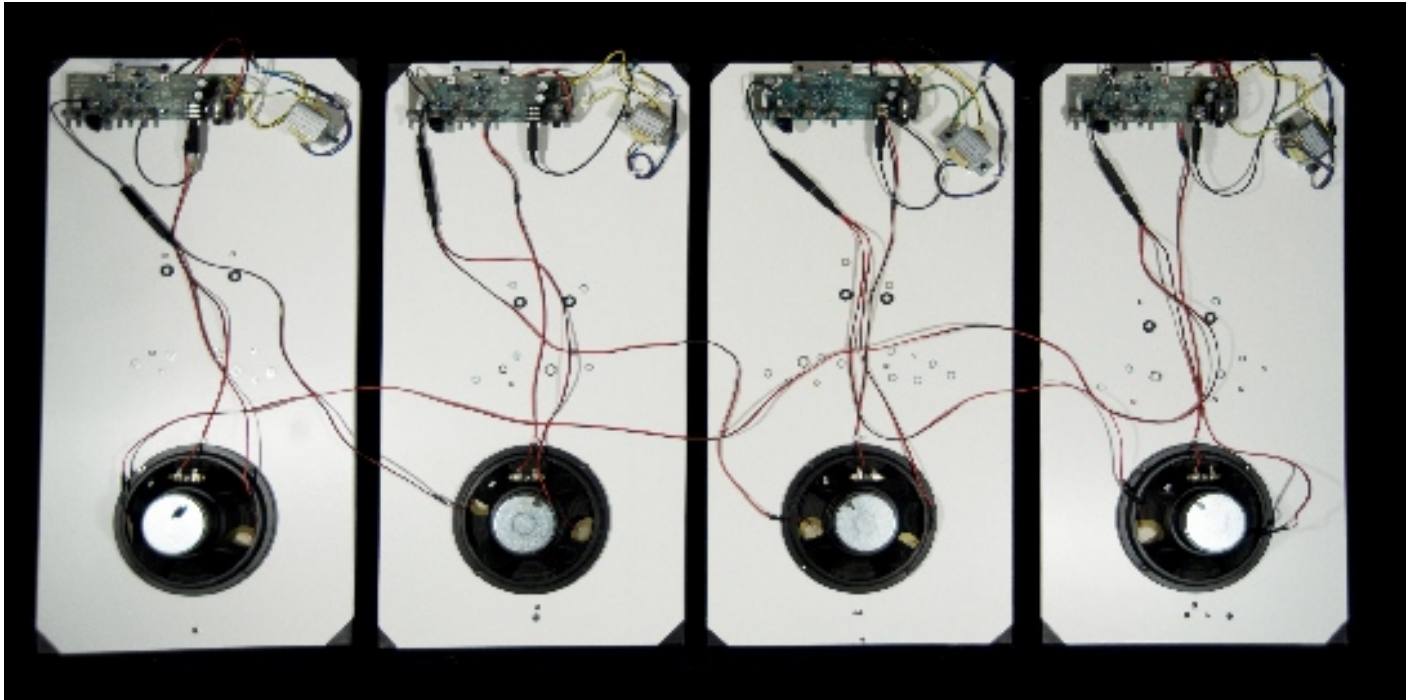
- Notaresco, Verde Utopia - Oggetti Sonori per Verde Utopia
- Acquario Romano (Rome)

1997

- Nettuno Public Schools (Nettuno)
- Poetronics (L'Aquila)

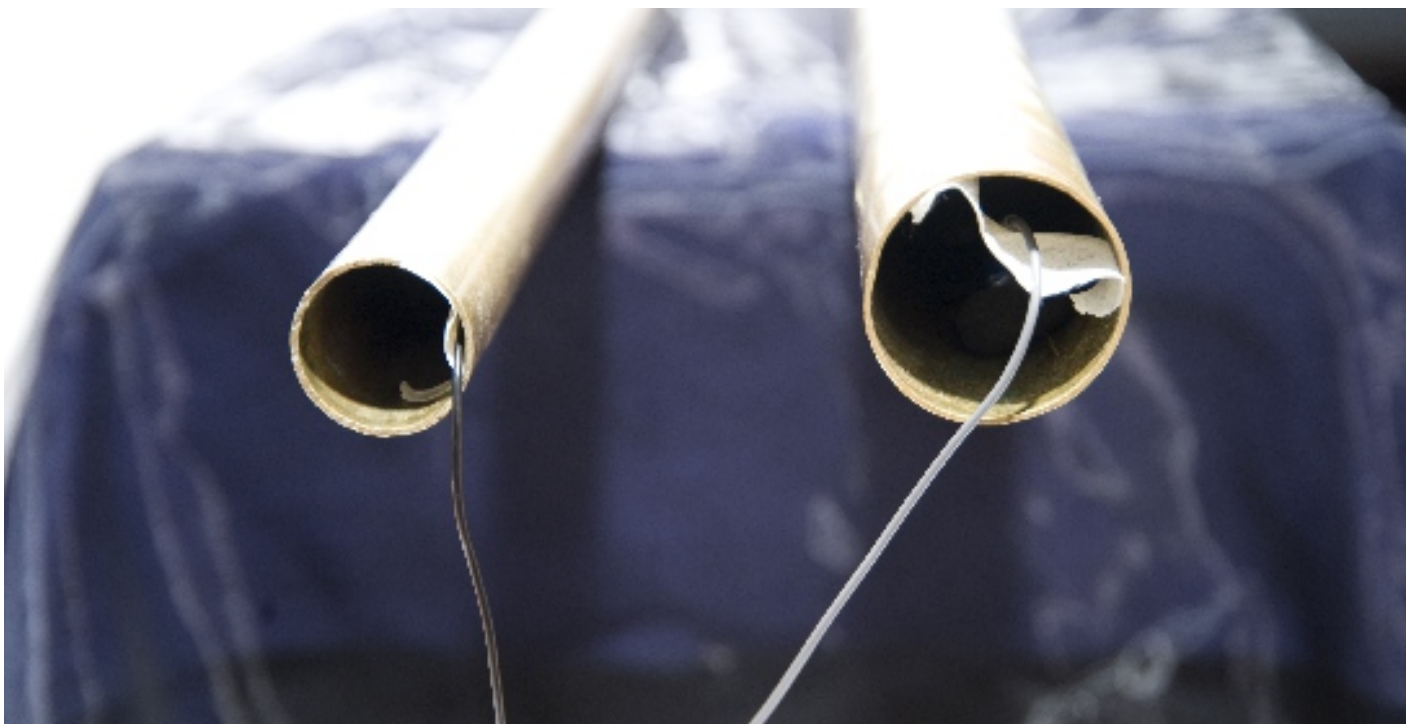
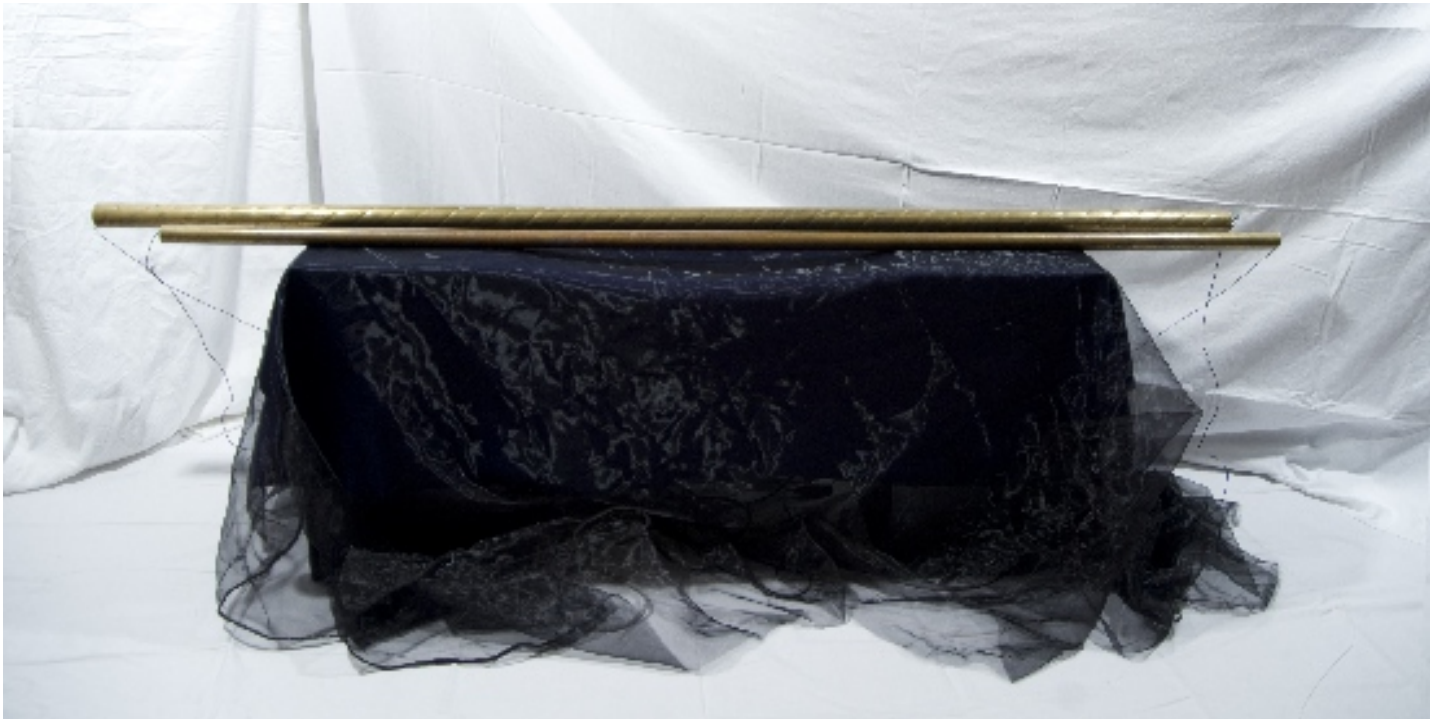


**Agostino di Scipio, *Boylean Sound Objects* (2011)**  
handmade electronics packed in vacuum-sealed plastic bags four bags each approx: 25 x 40 cm, plus separate compact disc. Foto by Fabio Paparelli.



**Agostino di Scipio, *Modes of Interference n.4* ("four unbearable guys")2011**  
feedback system with disassembled combo amplifiers and other electronics, panels each approx. 80 x 45 cm. Foto by Fabio Paparelli.





**Agostino di Scipio, *Condotte Pubbliche (Public Conducts)*2011**  
two brass pipes, miniature microphones, earplugs, two monitor speakers, one condenser microphone,  
realtime audio processing computer, approx: 180 x 60 cm. Foto by Fabio Paparelli.





**Agostino di Scipio, *Sound Portrait of Angela Tucker (Small Sound Portrait n.1)* 2011**  
condenser microphone, speakers, gauze, wooden panel, real-time audio processing computer, panel of approx. 80 x 50 cm. Photo by Fabio Paparelli



**Agostino di Scipio, *Sound Portrait of Grace Ryan (Small Sound Portrait n.2)* 2011**  
condenser microphone, speakers, gauze, wooden panel, real-time audio processing computer, panel of approx. 80 x 50 cm. Photo by Fabio Paparelli





**Agostino di Scipio, *Stanze Private*, 2008**

size variable, speakers, earphones, miniature microphones, condenser microphone, glass vessels, wooden boxes, black cloth, duration variable. Photo by Douglas Henderson.