

What is BioMusic? Toward Understanding Music-Making and Its Role in Life

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Editorial

If we believe that our world (including us) is most fundamentally understood as a manifestation of information, then the exploitation of sound/time represents robust opportunities for life systems to co-create meaning and to build relationships. Co-created meaning informs relationships, builds culture, and contributes to a greater complexity exponentially. Indeed, to grasp the complexity of the communicative nature of the world requires a deep, detailed probe into the embedded layers of sound/time. These exist not only within the human context but also within the context of other living beings. And they help to define multiples of relationships between the individual and the external world. This is an exercise by its very nature at the intersection of science and music; an exercise that presents robust opportunities for collaboration by many disciplines. That intersection is BioMusic.

This interdisciplinary field began at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington DC in 1986. At that time, the Academy opted to grant its critical imprimatur to a then new and controversial concept