"English. English." By Matthew Ka Git Wong

Alto Saxophone, Speech, and Electronics

An electronic performance created in Max/MSP. Beginning with a recording of myself speaking Cantonese, narrating about growing up in America with Cantonese as my first language, but realizing the conflict that emerged from an ungratefulness to my culture to a newfound appreciation. I created a system to emulate these emotions along with a structured improvisation on the alto saxophone. The system autotuned incoming signals to the nearest frequency in the given pentatonic scale, one outputting signal would be immediate and clash directly with the live sound, and the other would only be heard after a 15 – 30 second delay. I intended the system to represent my cultural upbringing that clashed with my own ideals and rebellious attitude towards independency. However, as the piece continues, I begin to realize that my inclinations are naively ignorant and find a newfound acceptance towards my heritage and my own identity.

"English. English." Uses speech on my own narratives, improvisation, a live electronic system utilizing no physical interaction with the laptop throughout the performance, no midi controllers turning things on or off, and a system completely triggered by the analysis of the incoming alto saxophone signal.