blind date – an audiovisual performance by Pd~graz

The media art collective Pd~graz was founded in Graz, Austria, in 2005 by a group of people who share a fascination for the Pure Data programming environment. It serves as an initiative for the organization of performances, installations, workshops and publications around the Pure Data software.

Description

blind date is an audiovisual performance which aims at an artistic extension of common patterns in computer programming: rather than featuring isolated programmers, several persons at a time are working together on a single program (a Pd patch). All participants are using their own physical keyboard, mouse and monitor, but they are all operating the same logical interfaces, e.g. a single mouse focus to manipulate a single audio-engine. Working in the very same environment allows them to share ideas on a low level. At the same time this interaction becomes interference, e.g. when a person hinders their partner to write a certain bit of code. Since they have to share access to the environment, the players need to coordinate their work in order to produce a (technically and musically) functioning patch. Rather than merely representing a technical tool for generating music, the patch therefore also becomes the primary means of communication between the programmers.

The performers start with a blank canvas (i.e. an empty patch), and gradually build-up and modify a running program in the tradition of Live Coding. Besides the resulting audio (and potentially video) works, the patches themselves are projected into the performance environment as well. As opposed to usual objectives of audiovisual programming, this allows for a deep insight of the audience into the processes of programming and communication among the players.
Performances

- EarZoom festival, Ljubljana, Slovenia (2009)
- Second International Pd~Convention, Montreal, Canada (2007)
- Roxy/NoD, Prague, Czech Republic (2006)
- Netart Community Congress, Graz, Austria (2005)
- Musikprotokoll festival, Graz, Austria (2005)

Resources

The website at [http://pd-graz.mur.at/blind-date](http://pd-graz.mur.at/blind-date) includes pictures, videos and audio recordings of *blind date* performances.

Contact

- Website: [http://pd-graz.mur.at](http://pd-graz.mur.at)
- Email: pd-graz@mur.at