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...in summary

The "Chaos Machine" is an **interactive sound installation that uses original electroacoustic instruments to create a unique collective experience**. This innovative proposal focuses on generating a sound dialogue among participants, who, although they do not know each other beforehand, are invited to improvise and jointly create a spontaneous soundscape. This type of "jam session" involves people who, through sound, weave connections and allow their imagination to flow in order to construct a constantly transforming sound universe.

The operation of the installation serves as a metaphor for chaos theory: small actions by each participant can have unforeseen effects on the whole, evoking the complexity and interconnection inherent in any system. The experimental instruments and the configuration of the installation, located **within a geodesic dome**, allow each participant, following a map of conceptual scores, to actively contribute to the creation of this dynamic and changing sound ecosystem.

The purpose of the "Chaos Machine" is to invite participants to reflect on their interdependence with the group, questioning the idea of control and embracing improvisation as a source of creativity. At the center of the experience is an electronic system that processes the generated sounds, emphasizing how small individual changes can trigger unexpected results.

Through this installation, the company Cia. La Cresta proposes an experience that transcends individualism, opening a window to a new understanding of reality and chaos as a creative engine.



Theoretical Context: The Theory of Chaos and the Chaos Machine

The "Chaos Machine" is based on the principles of chaos theory, which offers us a fascinating view of the complexity and unpredictability of dynamic systems. This theory, developed from various branches of science, reminds us that what seems like disorder often hides an inherent order. As the famous phrase goes: "It is not possible to pick a flower without disturbing a star," indicating that everything is interconnected and every action has an impact, even if subtle.

Order and Chaos: An Inherent Relationship

Chaos theory does not define chaos as simple disorder. On the contrary, it recognizes that within this apparent chaos, there is an underlying order. Small variations can lead to significant differences in the future, making the prediction of certain phenomena impossible. This sensitivity to initial conditions is key to understanding how complex systems can evolve in unexpected ways.

Complex and Dynamic Systems

The systems described by chaos theory are dynamic and complex. They are characterized by having multiple components that interact in a non-linear manner. These interactions can generate unpredictable behaviors and, at the same time, allow ordered structures to emerge within the apparent chaos.

Interrelationship of Systems

According to the biologist Ludwig von Bertalanffy, reality is composed of multiple systems that self-organize through their mutual interactions. This holistic view teaches us that the behavior of a system can only be understood when we consider its connections with other systems, emphasizing the interdependence of everything around us.

The Seven Laws of Chaos

The "Chaos Machine" is derived from the book *Seven Life Lessons of Chaos* by John Briggs and David Peat, where "The Seven Laws of Chaos" are presented as a proposal to understand life and society through the logic of chaos. These laws invite us to embrace disorder as a source of creativity and freedom, and to harness chaos to foster personal and collective change.

Law of the Vortex: The Creativity of Nature

Moments of chaos are opportunities for innovation and improvement. This law encourages us to leave behind known structures and allow for creative and unexpected reorganization.

Law of the Butterfly Effect: The Power of Subtle Essence

Small actions can have significant repercussions. This law emphasizes the importance of each person as an agent of change within the complex fabric of reality.

Law of Collective Renewal: The Magic of Self-Organization

Systems constantly self-organize, and we are an integral part of this process. Diversity and cooperation are key elements to participating in the flow of life.

Law of the Simple and the Complex: The Labyrinth of Mirrors

Simplicity and complexity reflect each other. This law reminds us that it is necessary to seek balance between both to understand life in its entirety.

Law of Fractals: The Art of the World in Action

Fractal patterns reproduce at different scales in nature. This law inspires us to recognize these patterns and see our connection with the universe.

Law of Fractal Time: The Connection with the Rhythms of Life

Time is not linear, but fractal, reflecting the natural rhythms of the world. This law invites us to observe and understand time in a more organic and cyclical way.

Law of New Perception: Reuniting with the Whole

This law encompasses the previous ones and proposes a new way of perceiving reality that reconnects us with the universe, inviting us to overcome a reductionist view and to experience solidarity with the whole.

Through these seven laws, chaos theory offers us a new way to see and understand the world, where uncertainty becomes an opportunity for creativity. The interconnections between the various components of the system are crucial for its evolution, so that no element acts in isolation. This philosophy, applied to the "Chaos Machine," highlights the capacity of collective experience to generate complicity and new forms of expression through chaos.



Operation of the Installation

The experience of the chaos machine occurs in three phases. The first begins outside the dome, where the group is prepared by generating collective complicity. The second phase takes place inside the geodesic dome, where sonic experimentation happens, and the third phase occurs outside the dome in a space prepared for reflection and exchange. The installation functions as an entresort, providing participants with an intense experience in a relatively short time.

First Phase: Preliminaries

Three chaos scientists welcome the audience approaching the dome, theatricalizing the scene and generating an unusual atmosphere. A member of the company offers them a ten-minute theatricalized introduction. This introductory session provides the necessary guidelines and instructions to prepare them for the experience about to begin. Thus, while one group enjoys their experience inside the dome, another group waits outside, receiving additional information and instructions to ensure a smooth transition between sessions.



Second Phase: Sound Experimentation

Participants are invited to use headphones and enter the dome, where they begin the experience through the instruments. The Chaos Machine transforms each session into an audibly chaotic and creative journey, where communication and complicity among participants are key to experiencing a new form of sound art. In this enclosed space, sound is not just an auditory experience but a collective adventure that challenges expectations and explores the possibilities of chaos and improvisation.



Third Phase. Chill chaos & chaos book

After completing their experience inside the dome, the participants are invited to exit amidst applause and smiles. Outside, they have the opportunity to continue their immersion in the world of the Chaos Machine through various complementary activities:

- Once they exit the dome, they can leave their impressions in the Chaos Book, a book where they can share their thoughts, feelings, and reflections on the experience lived. This section allows participants to contribute to a collective record of the diverse perspectives and reactions to the sonic chaos they have created together.
- Additionally, participants have the opportunity to read and explore sketches of the project and texts related to chaos theory that are available in the adjacent space. This material provides additional context about the philosophy and concepts that have influenced the creation of the installation, offering a deeper understanding of how chaos and complexity relate to the sound experiences generated inside the dome.
- Finally, participants can choose to remain in the Chill Chaos, an area designed for relaxation and reflection. Here, they can also listen with wireless headphones to the intervention of the next group of participants while observing the landscape outside the dome. This area provides a quiet space to assimilate their experience, connect with other participants, and observe how the sonic chaos evolves with each new session. This additional time outside the dome completes the experience, allowing participants to integrate their experiences and enjoy a moment of calm while chaos continues to be created around them.



Intention

"Subtle essence of change"

The installation of the Chaos Machine is directly linked to the intention of exploring fundamental concepts of chaos theory, both on a personal and collective level. Through this experience, participants are invited to immerse themselves in a series of reflections and sensations that transcend the traditional understanding of the world, offering new perspectives on their interaction with chaos and order.

1. Transcending Individualism

The Chaos Machine invites participants to stop emphasizing the isolated "self," one of the fundamental ideas of chaos theory, which underscores the interdependence of all components in a system. In this context, the installation fosters a collective awareness, where the individual understands that only through cooperation and connection can a more comprehensive understanding of the world be accessed. This resonates with the "Law of Collective Renewal," where diversity and integration within the flow of life are essential.

2. The Observer and the Observed: Interdependence

The relationship between the observer and the observed is another key aspect of the installation. As chaos theory states, the observer is always part of what is observed. The Chaos Machine visualizes this interconnection, making participants aware of how their actions, perceptions, and decisions affect the larger system in which they find themselves. This resonates with the "Law of the Butterfly Effect," which reminds us of the power of small actions in a complex system.

3. Embracing Change and Improvisation

One of the most powerful lessons of the Chaos Machine is the need to let go of control and allow chaos and improvisation to become a source of creativity. This is directly related to the concept of chaos as an opportunity for innovation, reflected in the "Law of the Vortex." The experience of the Chaos Machine does not seek precise predictions but aims to raise participants' awareness of their ability to create and reorganize within a framework of constant change.

4. New Understanding of Time

Temporality is another highlighted element of the Chaos Machine. The installation presents a view of time as a dynamic flow, in line with the "Law of Fractal Time," which reminds us that time is not linear but has a complex and rhythmic structure. This helps participants rethink their experience of time and connect with the natural rhythms around them, making them aware of the importance of a new temporal perspective.

5. Celebration of Magic and Mystery

Finally, the Chaos Machine invites acceptance of uncertainty and celebration of the mystery that surrounds it. This relates to the "Law of New Perception," which proposes a way to reconnect with the universe and overcome the reductionist view of reality. The experience teaches us to see the unknown not as a source of fear but as an opportunity to discover new forms of beauty and creativity.

In summary, the installation of the Chaos Machine acts as a mirror of chaos theory, offering participants an immersive experience that allows them to explore concepts such as interdependence, improvisation, and the nature of change. This experience not only seeks to transform our perception of ourselves but also the way we relate to our environment, fostering a new way of thinking and creating collectively.



The Chaos Machine and “Concrete Music”

The Chaos Machine by the company La Cresta can be understood as a modern exploration of the concept of concrete music, a musical genre that emerged in the mid-20th century using recorded sounds from the real world as raw material for composition. This type of music, developed by Pierre Schaeffer, breaks away from traditional forms of musical composition, as it is not based on musical notation but on the manipulation of pre-existing sounds—both natural and artificial—to create new sonic experiences.

In the Chaos Machine, the audience is invited to actively participate in sound generation, playing with the randomness and unpredictability of the elements that make up the installation. This process of direct interaction with the machine reflects the principles of concrete music, where the captured and produced sounds do not follow a traditional musical logic but emerge from the manipulation and experimentation with diverse materials and sonic environments.

The sound structures generated in the Chaos Machine may not have a predictable pattern, much like concrete music, where sounds are captured as they are and transformed into unexpected textures and auditory landscapes. This connection between chance, chaos, and sound aligns the Chaos Machine with the spirit of this musical movement, where the goal is to listen to the world differently, and where the creation process includes error and improvisation as essential elements.

Through this connection, the Chaos Machine not only challenges traditional notions of music and sound but also turns the audience into active creators, offering a unique sonic experience that immerses participants in a space where sound is generated, manipulated, and listened to in a new and concrete way.

Trajectory of the Company and the Chaos Machine

Since its inception, Cia. La Cresta has stood out for its ability to fuse disciplines in participatory installations, offering immersive and innovative experiences. The creation of the Chaos Machine represents a turning point in this trajectory, consolidating the company in the field of experimental sound installations.

The company's first creation, ORKESTRÒNIA, established the foundations of an innovative artistic approach that combines sound sculpture, electroacoustics, audience interaction, and musical experimentation. This piece introduced the idea of collaboration and audience interaction as central elements of the artistic experience, offering a new perspective on creative expression through sound. With the Chaos Machine, this exploration reaches a new dimension, where sound, chaos, and chance become tools to challenge the audience's perception.

Àlex Rigol, the creator and driving force, sees the creative process as part of his life development. For ten years, he dedicated himself exclusively to research, exploration, and wood construction of educational materials for early childhood with the company El pájaro jocs. This experience led him to focus on the most vital and experimental aspects of human learning. With a perspective towards different disciplines such as mechanics, visual arts, kinetics, craftsmanship, and music, he always maintains a spirit of surprise, play, and social action.

Cia. La Cresta has quickly established itself as a leading and innovative company in the field of street performing arts, redefining the relationship between art, science, and public participation, with a strong inclination towards sound research.





Artistic Profile

- Idea and Creation: Àlex Rigol
- Set Design and Costumes: Cia. La Cresta
- Sound Design: Àlex Rigol

Technical Profile

- Required Space: 100 m² of flat space.
- Recommendations: Performing in front of a stage with simultaneous programming is not recommended.
 - Recommended Age: From 10 years old.
 - Format: Without text.
 - Setup Time: 3 hours.
 - Dismantling Time: 2.5 hours.
- Electrical Requirements: 220v power outlet.
- Accessibility: Access with a van to the setup location for loading and unloading.
- Parking: Need for a reserved parking space for van + trailer (10m linear).
- Security: Need for security during breaks and overnight.

Contact



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