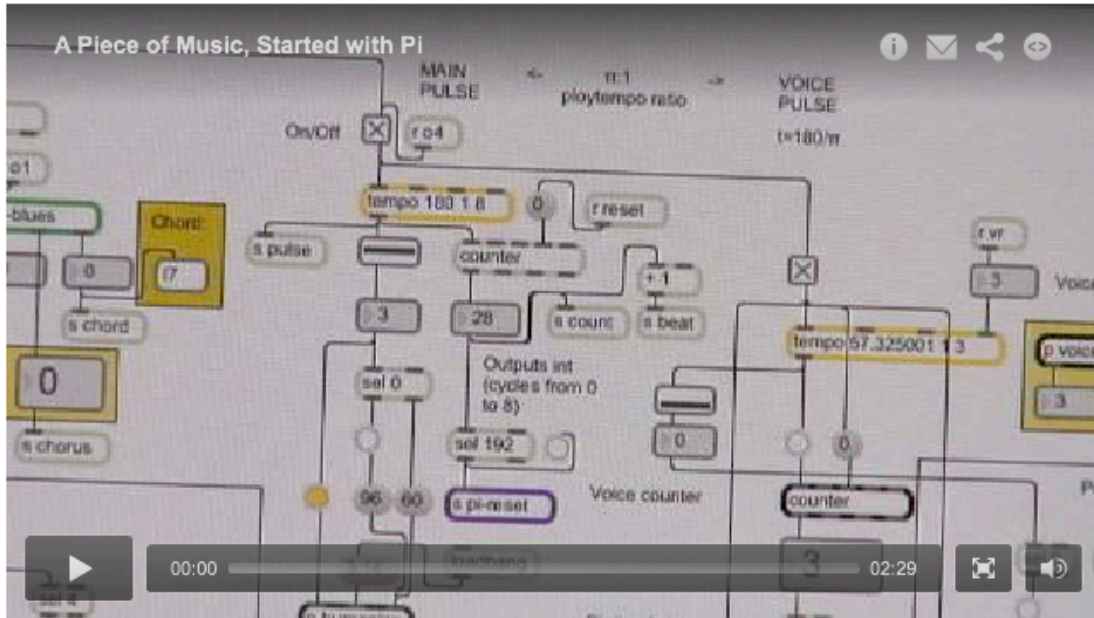


A Piece of Music, Started with Pi

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Written by
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Columbia, SC (WLTX)- A USC Professor has combined two of his passions: music and the mathematical expression pi.

"I wanted to give my musical spin to that so I wrote this piece called *Pi Day*," said Reginald Bain, the Coordinator of Composition and Theory and Director of the Experimental Music Studio. Bain said it took him [nearly] two years to perfect his musical composition.

"I took the digits of pi, which repeat indefinitely and turned them into a musical composition," he said. "One of the biggest challenges in making a piece out of pi is that [it] has an infinite number [of digits]."

Bain said he used only the first 512 [digits of pi for his] piece. [For] each [digit 0-9], he assigned a different note [in the harmonic series]. He said the difficult part was making the number and the note work together to make [music that sounds familiar].

He said this Pi Day expression is one of many ways people celebrate 3.14 every year. "Just do artful things that are based on a kind of free spirit engagement of the idea of Pi," he said. Professor Bain said and regardless of whether or not a person honors the day, the mathematical constant will never go away. "It's a number that appears in mathematics, in engineering and [in] music for an incredibly frequent basis."

<http://www.wltx.com/news/article/128009/2/A-Piece-of-Music-Started-with-Pi->