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The Place of the Composer in New Artificial Intelligent Assisted Music Composition Tools

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New methods of creation based on AI and the processing of large masses of data are radically transforming the act of musical composition. The beginnings of computer music in the 1950s were marked by the search for automatic composition in various styles. Today, this trend is still very much present in using AI techniques in musical composition. Alongside this approach, which raises some ethical issues (the role of the human being in creation, large-scale production of music that costs nothing...), a second approach has gradually developed which does not seek to replace the human being but to place him or her back at the heart of the compositional process by encouraging and enhancing the composer's creativity through the use of intelligent software assistants at every stage of the creative process. This research is based on the theoretical framework developed by Gilbert Simondon and Bernard Stiegler of open systems promoting hybridisation and fluidity between humans and machines in human individuation. In contrast to the automatic generation of music (which seeks to remove the composer from the process), the researchers will be looking instead at approaches that place the human element at the heart of the compositional process by encouraging and enhancing the composer's creativity through the use of intelligent software assistants at every stage of the creative process. The researchers use a case study method and examine some innovative experiments in this kind of approach, including the "Flow-Machines" project, led by François Pachet as part of Sony's research department in Paris and the Italian composer Andréa Céra's hybrids known as "Midi Freaks".

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