



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Simon Belshaw Releases a limited edition CD and digital downloads of 4 music machine recordings.**

Exeter March 2022.

Simon Belshaw is a music composer from Exeter, United Kingdom. He studied composition with the renowned Gavin Bryars and completed his PhD at the University of Hertfordshire in 2005. Belshaw has had numerous pieces performed by various ensembles in various locations, including New York, Montreal, Belfast, and the UK. Additionally, Belshaw has produced multimedia installations and has had pieces sited on Sonorities, Audiograft, and other festivals.

*"Simon Belshaw's Music Machine compositions (conceptually fascinating AND sonically beautiful)."*

Belshaw has released a four track cd and digital downloads of some Music Machine recordings. The four pieces are Music Machine 26, Music Machine 28, Music Machine 29 and Music Machine 34. They are performed by Julie Hill (violin and viola) and Hilary Boxer (cello) and were recorded in the autumn of last year. The pieces use a combination of traditional music scores, web based scores and technology. Similarly the recording process used both traditional studio techniques and contemporary methods of constructing pieces note by note using software in combination with live performance.

*"Wonderful sense of patience and harmonies rubbing together."*

The result is four unique sounding, quiet, meditative works. They share elements such as contrasting one line with several, fading in and out, silence, stretching and contracting. Using close-miking the sounds are spare and the slow pace allows the listener time to focus on texture and timbre.

The cd is limited to 100 copies and comes in a single cardboard sleeve with a cover designed by Laura Collins and is available from [Bandcamp](#). Digital downloads are available from all the major streaming and download stores (itunes, spotify etc).

*"I wish we had had time to play it again - as always with these pieces, despite their apparent simplicity there is a lot to learn as an individual and as a group." Emma Welton, Aubergine Family Orchestra.*

*"Which particular works do you think you collectively perform best?"*

*Non-traditional, multimedia works that involve a more performative, even theatrical approach to musicking .... the experiments in graphic notation of composers like John Cage, Cornelius Cardew, and more recent examples by Simon Belshaw." Francesco Fusaro, 19'40".*



## About Simon Belshaw

Born in the UK, Simon Belshaw is a celebrated composer, having been the recipient of the Francis Chagrin Award and Oppenheim John Downes Memorial Trust, and has received funding from The Arts Council, Exeter Arts Council, and RVW trust.

For the past few years, Belshaw has been working on his Music Machines project, with over 40 machines being utilised across the country, including during live performances. Most recently the Library Barcode Music Player has been installed in three libraries in the South west.

Belshaw is currently a resident of Kaleider Studios, a DAISI artist, and is an associate of the University of Exeter.

### Contact Information

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