

Improvisation

Improvisation - Jamming and riffing off each other is our nature. We do this across all art forms and in our lives.

‘RANTS’

Some choose to prepare and write down these ideas turning them into great works of art and symphonies.



Barry Guy

Others choose to embody the spirit of spontaneity following them down expected and unexpected paths.

Just because they can't be documented or explained as easily as the more formulated traditions, does not mean improvisation is any less valid, considered or authentic.

In fact if you really watch and listen any improviser from any idiom you will see and hear that they are just as, if not more devoted and committed to creating something for you to enjoy and to challenge you.

As a classical musician, improv has taught, and allowed me to develop a greater understanding of expression, phrasing and presence in performance.

And an improviser, classical music has bestowed technique, control, commitment and direction.

So, improv musos why not go to that Bach, Mozart, Bartok, Stravinsky or Schoenberg performance? You don't know what you're missing!

And classical musos why not go to that club that has Keith Jarrett, Wayne Shorter, Julian Arguelles, Barry Guy or Paul Dunmall playing? You really don't know what you're missing!

So lets all acknowledge, treat and respect all idioms of music as equals. Tear down the barriers of genre, education and especially funding, (cough) Arts Council, and allow these brilliant practitioners to collide and unite!

Thank you.

Performed at the Southbank Centre as part of the New Music Biennial Festival weekend representing the [Institute of Composing](#) .

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