

Press (1986) 9'10"

fixed electronics

format

fixed electronics 4-channel

listen excerpt

<https://soundcloud.com/adolfo-nunez/press-sol-0251-0421a>

premiere

21-05-1986

Círculo de Bellas Artes, Madrid, Spain

records

Adolfo Núñez, música por ordenador, Anira,

Hyades Arts, 1991, hyCD-1

Música Electroacústica Española 2.

Círculo de Bellas Artes, Madrid, 1987

program notes

Press was composed at Stanford University's CCRMA (Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics), using its *Samson Box* digital synthesizer controlled by computer programs written by Bill Schottstaedt. All the timbres used are synthetic, some of them simulate acoustic instruments such as marimba (designed by Xavier Serra), plucked strings (David Jaffe) and percussion (Jean Mattox). Other timbres are imaginary (programmed by the author using the frequency modulation technique).

The work is a divertimento about the perception of rhythm. A periodic rhythm, with a single duration, is transformed into another with almost imperceptible irregularities. This ambiguous rhythm subsequently is transformed into another one with four distinct durations. The rhythm of the sun, although very fast, is also present in this work: A curve that represents the activity of sunspots from 1940 to 1982, is several times used to control the variation of intensity and timbre over time; this curve is self-similar (fractal) as in other phenomena of nature.

Press was realized thanks to a scholarship from the Joint Hispanic-American Committee for Cultural and Educational Cooperation.