

Foreword

This special volume of the Journal of Interdisciplinary Music Studies (JIMS) comprises eight revised and extended papers selected from the Fourth Conference on Interdisciplinary Musicology (CIM08) held in Thessaloniki, Greece, 3-6 July 2008. The theme of CIM08 was *musical structure* from the viewpoint of all musically and musicologically relevant disciplines. CIM08 was hosted by the Department of Music Studies, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, presented in collaboration with the European Society for Cognitive Sciences of Music (ESCOM), the International Musicological Society (IMS), and the European Seminar in Ethnomusicology (ESEM) and directed by an organizing committee consisting of Emiliios Cambouropoulos (Department of Music Studies, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), Costas Tsougras (Department of Music Studies, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), Makis Solomos (Department of Music Studies, Université Montpellier 3) and Richard Parncutt (chair of CIM council, Centre for Systematic Musicology, University of Graz). The conference aimed at bringing together representatives of the humanities, the sciences and musical practice involved in research on *musical structure*.

Musical structure plays a central role in all levels of engagement with music: listening, performing, improvising, composing and teaching. In recent years, an increasing number of music researchers have adopted or promoted an explicitly interdisciplinary approach to understand musical structure. CIM08 responded to this trend by inviting humanities scholars, scientists and musicians to present their original collaborative research. All presentations (keynote lectures, talks and posters) at CIM08 involved interactions between contrasting disciplinary approaches to musical structure, such as music-theoretic or music-analytical, practical (compositional, performative), humanities (social, historical, ethnological, anthropological, philosophical, linguistic), cultural (semiotic, hermeneutic, aesthetic, critical-theoretic), empirical (psychological, perceptual, cognitive, emotional, expressive, sociological), scientific (computational, mathematical, acoustic) or educational. Each paper had at least two authors representing different disciplines. The conference's 85 papers were selected from 123 submissions as keynotes (3), talks (65) or posters (17) following an anonymous peer-review procedure. Abstracts and full papers can be downloaded from the CIM08 webpage at <http://web.auth.gr/cim08>.

Following the conference, the organizing committee and the editors of JIMS convened and discussed/considered which papers should be chosen for this special issue. First, we decided that keynote lectures should be published. Beyond that, only talk presentations (not posters) that were included in the proceedings were eligible for post-conference publication. Second, we examined the papers' content and involved disciplines and filtered out the ones that do not promote JIMS' special type of interdisciplinarity: synergic collaboration of humanities, sciences and practically oriented disciplines (papers oriented towards computational approaches were chosen for a forthcoming special issue of the Journal of New Music Research), while at the same time we evaluated the academic quality of the proceedings contributions. Finally, we examined the two evaluation grades available for each paper: the grade for the extended abstract submission that was provided by the scientific committee of

CIM08, and the grade for the paper presentation provided by conference participants in the evaluation form that they filled out at the end of CIM08. The authors of the papers included in the final list yielded by this procedure were invited to submit revised and extended collaborative papers for the present special issue.

The guest editors chose suitable reviewers for each submitted paper, seeking high level of expertise not only in the background disciplines listed by the authors but also in the specific content of the paper. A special advisory board was thus assembled consisting of selected members of the JIMS editorial board and the CIM08 academic committee and other international scholars with expertise in specific areas. The fruitful exchange of ideas between the advisory board members and the authors that took place during the reviewing procedure was the most exciting and rewarding part of the project. The result - the eight papers of this volume exploring an impressive range of topics related to musical structure - demonstrates the importance of interdisciplinary approaches to contemporary musicological research. Creative collaboration and academic rigor have yielded significant and original contributions that could not have been achieved by individual researchers. We hope that the papers of the present volume will function as creative stimuli for future interdisciplinary research in the area of musical structure.

We would like to thank all the authors who responded to our invitation for this special issue and worked carefully on the revision and extension of their papers. We especially thank the following reviewers for their evaluations and helpful advice to the authors (in alphabetical order): Maria Alexandru (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), Jean-Michel Bardez (Conservatory of Paris X), Amanda Bayley (University of Wolverhampton), Mireille Besson (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique-CNRS), Emmanuel Bigand (LEAD-CNRS, Université de Bourgogne), Julie Brown (Royal Holloway, University of London), Guilherme Carvalho (University of Paris 8), Simon Emmerson (De Montfort University, Leicester), Anders Friberg (Royal Institute of Technology-KTH, Stockholm), Anastasia Georgaki (University of Athens), Benoît Gibson (University of Evora), Gerd Grupe (Universität für Musik und Darstellende Kunst, Graz), Xavier Hascher (University of Strasbourg), David Howard (University of York), Sebastian Jentschke (UCL Institute of Child Health), Timothy Koozin (University of Houston), Philippe Lalitte (LEAD-CNRS, Université de Bourgogne), Katie Overy (University of Edinburgh), Julien Samson (University of Lille), Catherine Simon (University of Montpellier 3), Jonathan Stock (University of Sheffield), Barbara Tillmann (CNRS, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1), Markos Tsetsos (University of Athens) and Lawrence Zbikowski (University of Chicago).

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Costas Tsougras, Makis Solomos
guest editors