

# COMPOSING WITH OBJECTS AND UNCONVENTIONAL INSTRUMENTS

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LSU

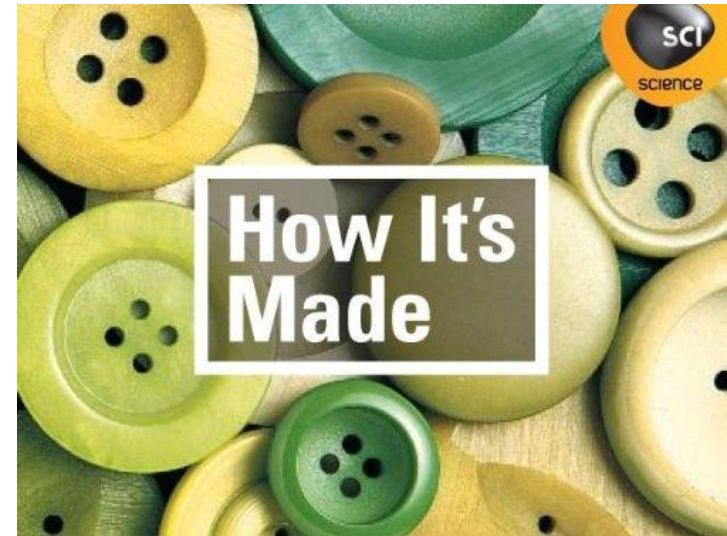
# Overview

- Background in jazz piano and audio repairs
- Pieces often incorporate improvisation and decision-making with rules
- 3 tiers of objects:
  - Found objects, hacked objects, built objects
- Considers instruction design and user interfaces
- And sometimes subverts these things for humor / fun



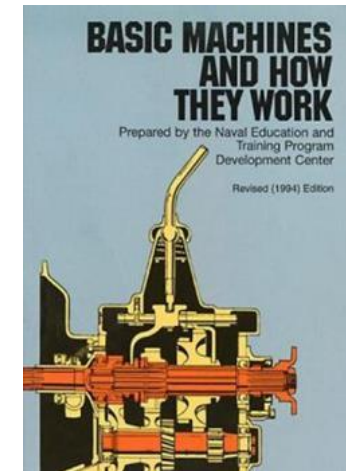
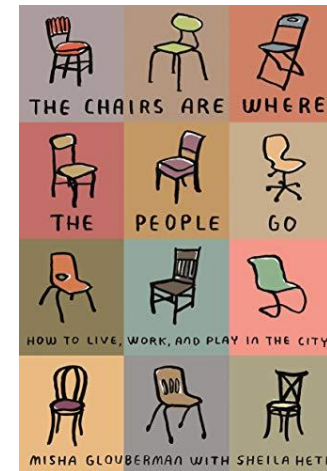
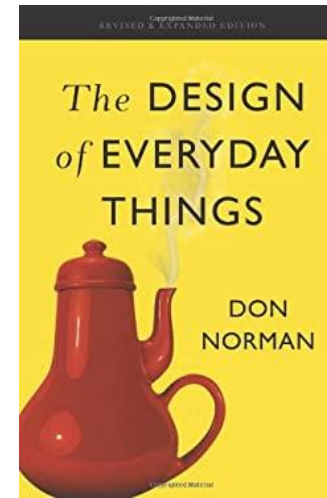
# Concepts and Considerations

- How things work
- How and why things were invented
- How things are fabricated
- How we know how to use things (handles, buttons)
- How we know how to do things (cones, stanchions)
- Using that knowledge to inform new actions



# Books and Research

- Design of Everyday Things
- Play Anything
- The Chairs Are Where the People Go
- Basic Machines and How They Work
- [507 Mechanical Movements](#)



# Boundaries and Play

- Finding the limitations and boundaries of an object
- Finding the boundaries of structure in an interaction or action
- Play occurs within boundaries and by pushing boundaries
- Balance between prescriptive and unstructured is key



# Found Objects

- Cable wheel
- Plastic cone
- Magnetic stirrers
- Fans
- Foil
- Milk frother
- Cups / vases
- Facial brush
- Bouncy balls





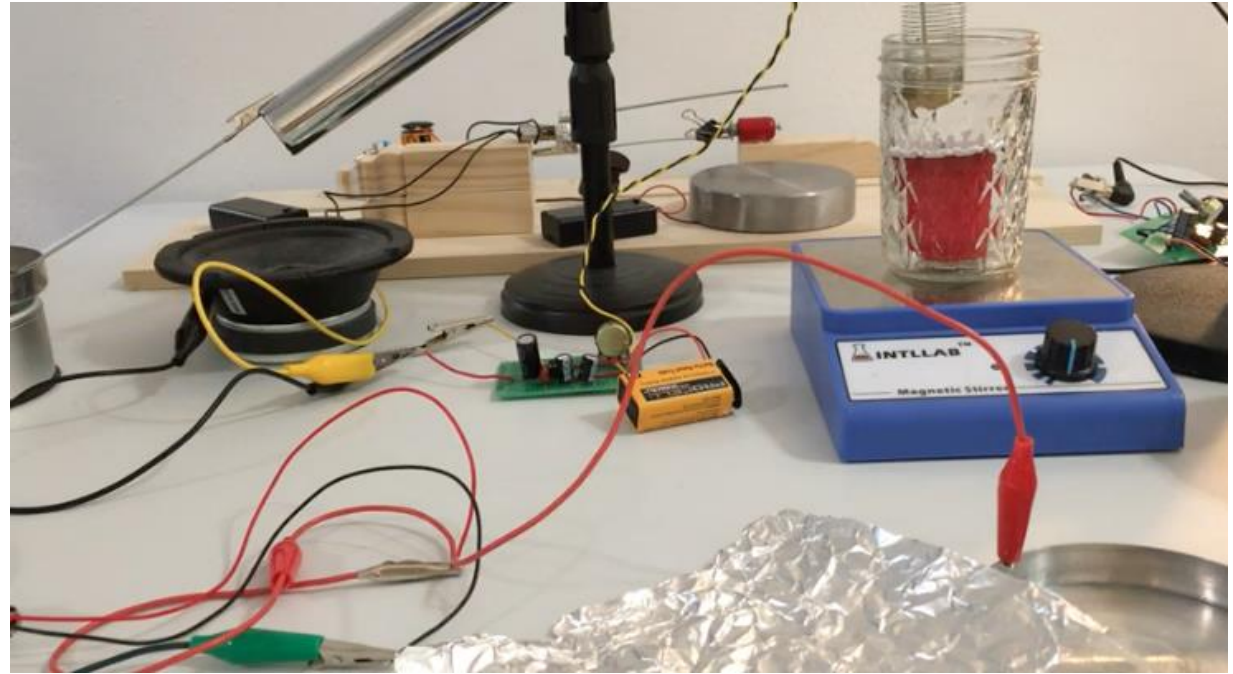
# Found Object Performances

- [MFYI Leviathan](#)
- [Cups & Tubes](#)
- [Sound Shadows](#)



# Hacked Objects and Electronics

- [Connections](#)
- [Solo for 2 Slinkies](#)
- [Microphone](#)





# Built Objects

- [Circuit Connector](#)
- [Autobird](#)
- [Sound Machines](#) (prototypes)
- [Interface Design](#) (installation)
- ThingMusic Shop
  - Slinky Box, Rubber Band Box, Noise Maze, Bead Box



# Scores and Instructions

- [Error Chirp](#)
- 4-8 people and Mac Preview
- [Computer Music II](#)
- 2 people, DAW feedback, objects
- [How To](#)
- Ensemble and objects
- Balance between improvisation and instruction
- Drawing from the familiar and applying it to something unfamiliar
- I.e., flowchart / arrow semiotics or things that look like music score but aren't (Error Chirp)
- Often proportions indicate timing rather than time stamps or measures

# THANK YOU!

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For more information, visit [erindemastes.com](http://erindemastes.com)