

setup (INTRODUCTION){

This publication documents the work developed during the first trimester of Piet Zwart Institute's Experimental Publishing programme 2019.

It involves working with notions of sound, language and interfaces, towards building a common organism - a modular synthesizer.

#define A modular synthesizer consists of separate specialized modules. Each individual module accepts inputs and produces an output. When interconnected, this allows for unexpected results where the whole is greater than the sum of its individual parts.

This point of departure led us to produce 10 unique contributions to the common assembly of the publication INPUT-OUTPUT: Tales from another module. Each contribution consists of one or more modules, which represent our individual interests in exploring this medium. Outputs vary between sound, image and text, resulting in an audio-visual performance.

The following pages are a compilation of our research and resulting work, complete with instructions of assembly and use. See more on the website: <https://issue.xpub.nl/10/>

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loop (COMPLEXITY ARISES THROUGH CONNECTION){

Faced with the completely unknown world of modular synthesizers, we pushed on toward the edges of our comfort zones. Soldering fumes gave us headaches, learning C/C++ tested our patience, debugging became a daily process.

After establishing an initial framework, we were challenged to find our own subjective interests in this vast field, to equip ourselves technically and conceptually, to risk failure.

The flood of information at first presented itself as a swirl of confusion, but navigation gradually became easier. We got to know the module, it became accessible, something that we could shape, form and use as a medium. The internal hidden workings of a complex system became more transparent and ideas for our individual modules started to develop. We got inspired! By understanding electronic circuits and speaking the language of code, we constructed our own individual modules.

These are presented in this publication as the most physical and direct trace of our process.

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