

Cort Lippe

Program Notes

TAPEWALK I (1981) for two-channel tape, was composed at the Institute of Sonology, Utrecht, The Netherlands. A computer, using stochastic procedures, was involved in every level of the composing process, from sound-synthesis algorithms to higher-level compositional decision-making. All programs were written by the composer in an assembler or high-level language and used in a real-time context.

The piece is based on an elaboration of *Brownian motion*, also known as a *random walk*. Two processes interact dynamically during the piece. The first process is a tendency over time towards equal probabilities of sound events - increasing the probability of repetition among events. The second process is a tendency over time towards a greater range of choice for possible events - decreasing the probability of repetition. The dynamic interplay of these two opposing, yet closely interrelated tendencies gives the work its individual contextual and formal characteristics.

TAPEWALK I was premiered at the 1982 *International Computer Music Conference* in Venice, Italy and was a winner in the 1983 *New England Computer Music Association (NEWCOMP) International Computer Music Competition*. It is recorded on the Big Orbit label. Duration: 6'54".