”J.B. REMEMBERS J.B.”:

A SYSTEM FOR DYNAMIC IMPROVISATION ACCOMPANIMENT

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ICMC2024 Seoul
Sound in Motion

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Context and Goals

- Improviser aesthetics: different every time and sometimes surprising
- Fun to play with AND feels like free improv
- Computationally lightweight = rule based, not AI
    - Easy to iterate and experiment with

The Randomness Problem

How do we mark phrases?

- A note is too small, but how many notes is too many?

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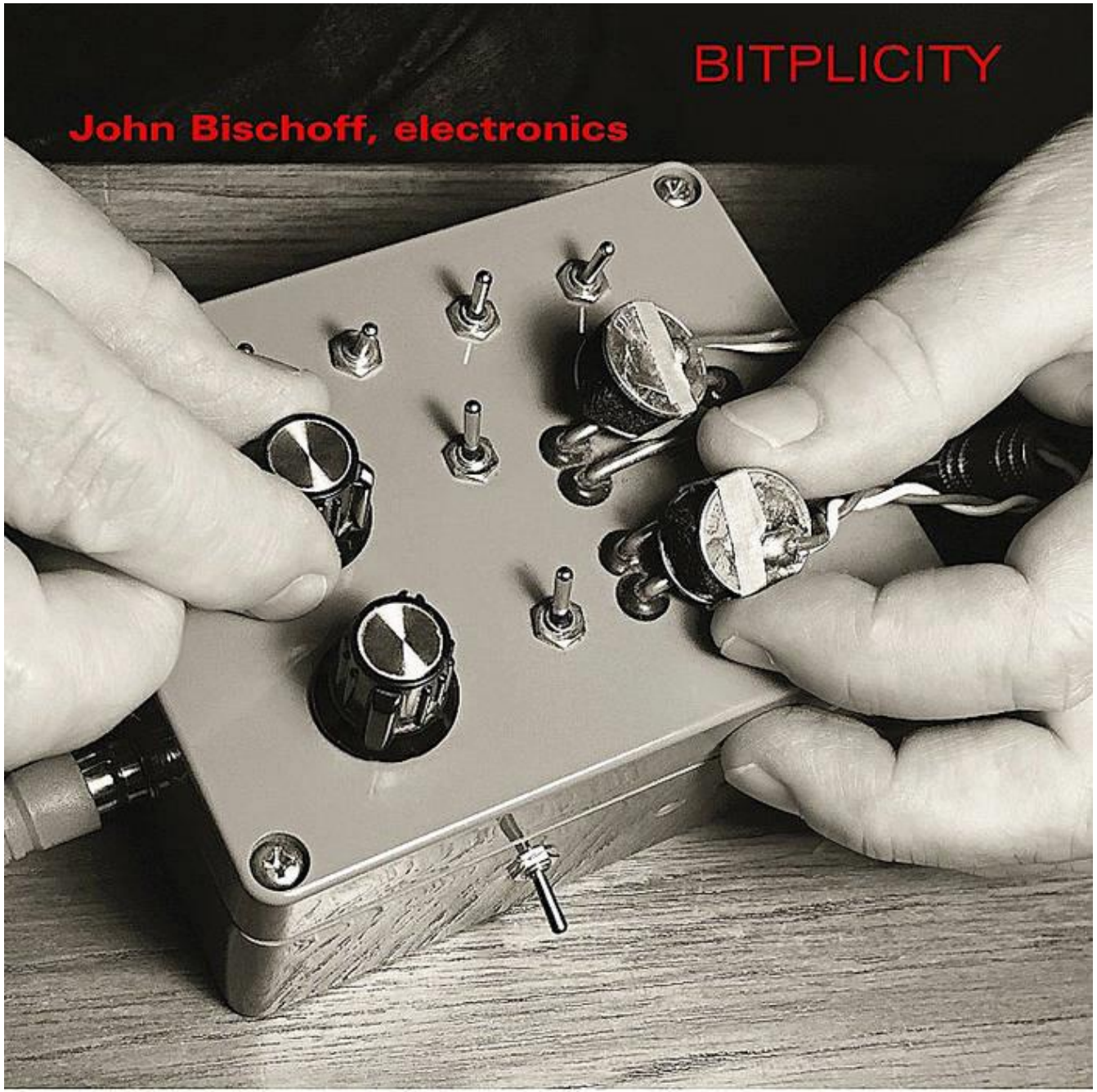

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The story of the title…

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…and the sounds matter

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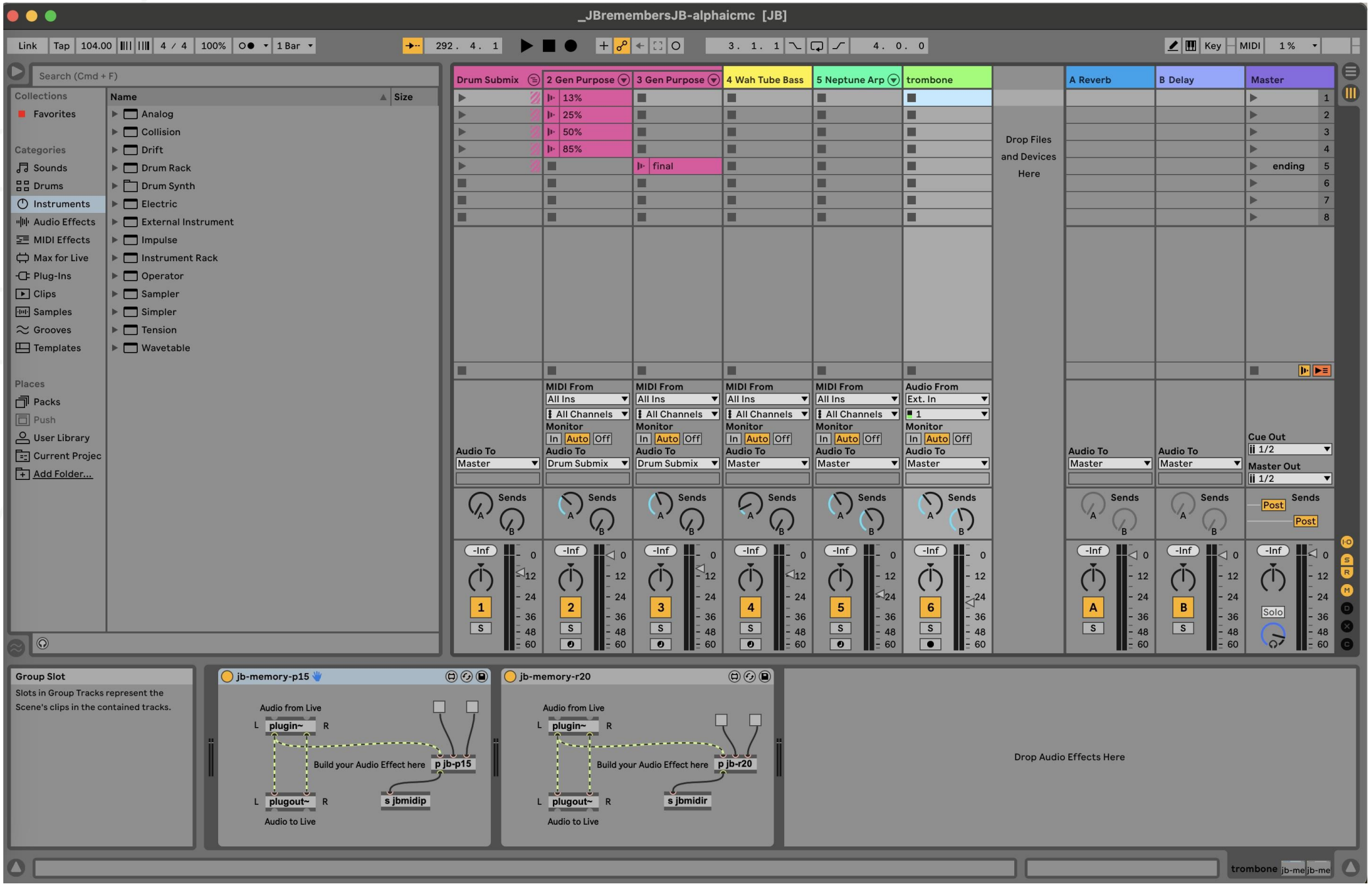

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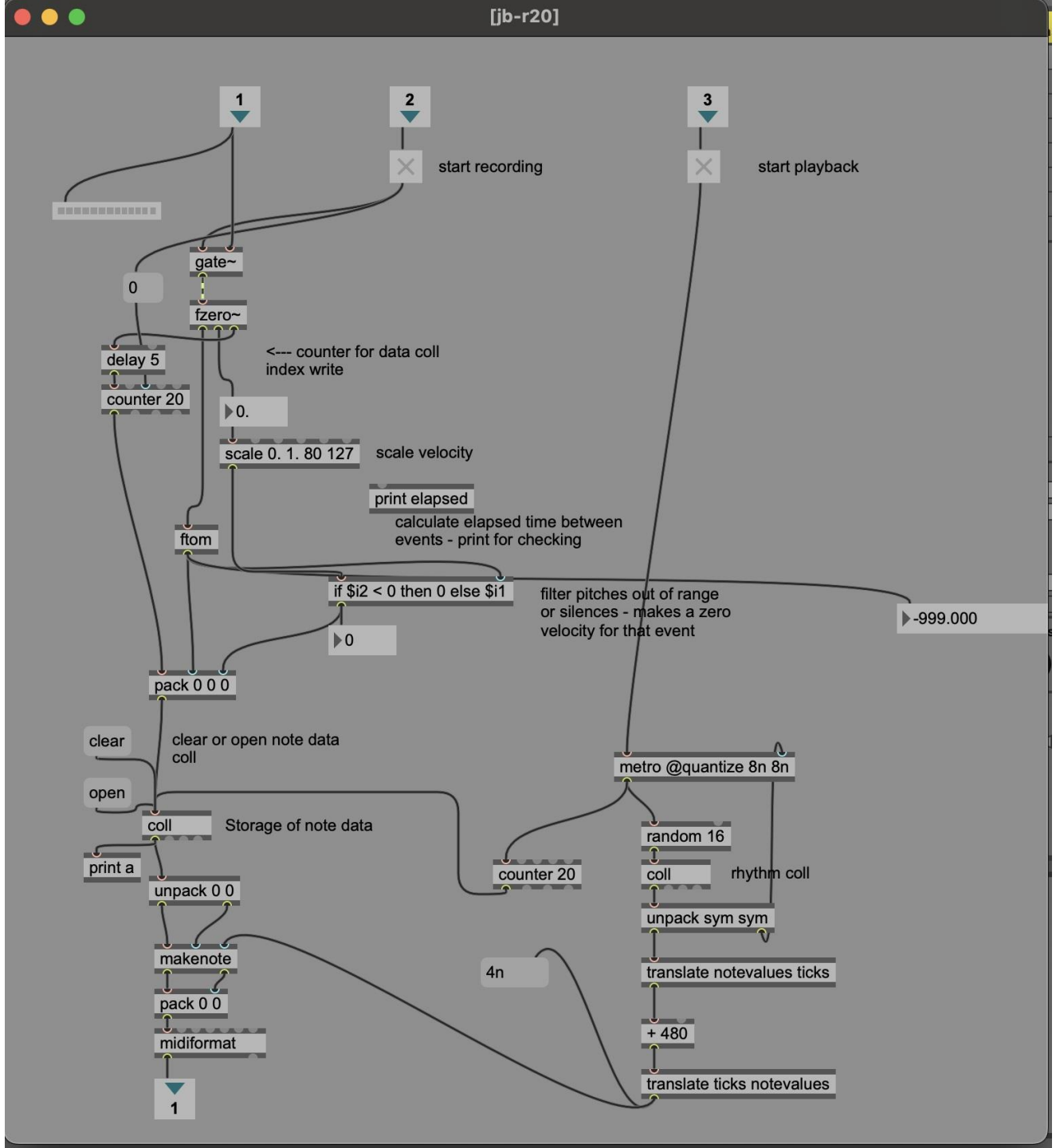
[jb-r20]
1
2
3
start recording
start playback
gate~
0
fzero~
delay 5
<--- counter for data coll
index write
counter 20
0.
scale 0. 1. 80 127
scale velocity
print elapsed
calculate elapsed time between
events - print for checking
ftom
if $i2 < 0 then 0 else $i1
filter pitches out of range
or silences - makes a zero
velocity for that event
-999.000
0
pack 0 0 0
clear
clear or open note data
coll
open
coll
Storage of note data
print a
unpack 0 0
makenote
pack 0 0
midiformat
1
metro @quantize 8n 8n
random 16
counter 20
coll
rhythm coll
unpack sym sym
4n
translate notevalues ticks
+ 480
translate ticks notevalues

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Does it still sound good if I don’t know how it works?

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Thank you!

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