

Remote Decay

How can performative music address highly topical issues in the age of digitalization? In his hybrid lecture, musicians Riccardo Sarti, Roberto Musanti and Alfredo Puglia present a sound art installation as an example, which grapples with the decay of coral reefs in an interactive, immersive way.

The lecture by Italian musicians Riccardo Sarti, Roberto Musanti and Alfredo Puglia presents "Remote Decay", a sound art installation developed entirely by the School of Electronic Music at the Conservatory of Sassari. The project unfolds across two parallel locations: the Coral Museum in Alghero (Sardinia) and a remote site in the Fiji Islands/Micronesia. Bridged by the metaverse, these distant places become part of a shared, immersive experience, linked through the symbolic fragility of coral ecosystems which are under threat from rising sea temperatures and environmental stress. This installation gives voice to their silent decay.

At its core are underwater recordings from endangered coral reefs. Every sonic detail is sculpted based on user interaction. Prolonged focus causes the audiovisual material to collapse inward—yet unlike in the real world, this virtual ecosystem absorbs human presence without breaking. An adaptive algorithm, developed by the Electronic Music School, connects the two sites and the metaverse. The installation becomes a living system—mutable, reactive, and shaped by remote entanglements.

The lecture will provide insights to the work, which is both interactive and 'alive', shaped by those who engage with it. We invite people with a background in the arts, musicology, performative practice and from cultural institutions to attend the lecture.

LOCATION

Schader-Campus
Goethestraße 2, 64285 Darmstadt

HOW TO GET THERE

Details can be found [here](#).

REGISTRATION

Attending the lecture is free of charge. The number of participants is limited. You will receive a confirmation of your registration via e-mail.

IN CHARGE

Prof. Michelangelo Galeati, MUSIC4D
Dr. Stella Lorenz, Schader-Stiftung

SCHADER-STIFTUNG

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You can find details regarding our accessibility [here](#).

Program

Friday, 30. January 2026

02:00 PM

WELCOME

Alexander Gemeinhardt | Schader-Stiftung

Prof. Michelangelo Galeati | Conservatorio Santa Cecilia

02:05 PM

LECTURE

Prof. Riccardo Sarti, Prof. Roberto Musanti

Dr. Alfredo Puglia | Conservatory of Music Luigi
Canepa Sassari

03:15 PM

CORRESPONDENCE

Arne Gieshoff | Akademie für Tonkunst Darmstadt

03:20 PM

OPEN DISCUSSION | Q&A

04:30 PM

END

This project is a cooperation with Conservatorio Santa Cecilia, Rome, set within the framework of MUSIC4D, an innovative project led by Palermo Conservatory that explores the intersections between music, technology, and artificial intelligence, ushering academic training into new frontiers. In an era of profound digital transformation, MUSIC4D serves as an advanced laboratory where tradition and innovation converge to create new ways of learning, composing, and performing music.

The lecture will also be accessible digitally. Please register for access via our [website](#).