Improvisation, MU 322.2  
Fall, 2005  
Class meetings:  T, Th;  Foy Hall;  10:20 - 11:10 (period 3a)  
Professor:  Dr. Barbara Liebhaber  
Office:  Music Department Room 305  
Phone:  861-1671 office  
e mail:  mebj01@moravian.edu  
office hours:  M/ T/ W/ Th 2:15 – 3:30

Reading:  
Required texts:  The Inner Game of Music;  Barry Green  
Free Play – Stephen Nachmanovitch

On Reserve in Music Library:  
CD’s:  
Swingle Singers - Mozart and Bach  
Bach – Goldberg Variations - two versions:  
  1. piano - original Bach composition  
  2. Jacques Loussier trio - jazz version  
Score - Bach Goldberg Variations

CD:  
Betty Carter – An Audience with Betty Carter

Text:  Vocal Improvisation – Madura (in music education reserve section )

Course Objective:  
Each week students will improvise, using their bodies, voices, percussion instruments, Orff instruments and, eventually, their applied instrument. Students will explore the possibilities using all of the six elements of music (melody, harmony, rhythm, tone color, form, expression), as well as different forms of music. The goal is that students become comfortable expressing themselves through sound, through music and become less self-conscious as performers. We will use many techniques to explore the infinite expressive possibilities using the widest variety of dynamics, tempo, rubato, fermata and any other musical emotions. Experimentation will be encouraged. Students will improvise on their primary instruments given the blues harmonic structure.
Requirements:

Attendance: Any unexcused absences will result in a zero for class work that day.

Homework: All homework is due on date given. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Process log: After each class session jot down your reaction to the class. This is informal. It can be as short as one sentence or as long as you want it to be.

Critical Reflection on Reading: After reading the assignment, write your personal response to the book. Include ideas you found particularly helpful or interesting. This paper should not be more than 2 pages, typed, double-spaced. Bring three copies of your paper to class. Two will be given to your classmates for comments, one will be submitted to the professor.

Papers from classmates: Return papers to classmates with your comments at the next class meeting. Comments are about content only. It is expected that students will validate each other's points of view and reflect on the ideas presented.

Portfolio: Due at last class meeting. Includes process log and critical reflection on reading with comments given by your classmates. Also include a final process log that offers your reflection on what you gained from the class during the semester.

Required concert: All B. Mus. Students are required to attend the trip to NYC for the jazz concert on Thursday, September 22, 2005. There will be no class that day.

Required concert attendance:
Students must attend at least two of the following concerts at Moravian College:

- Teresa Ines - Sept. 14; 7:30 p.m., Foy ($6.00)
- Gairo/Rissmiller - Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m. Foy
- Fusion/Combo I - Nov. 19, 8:00 p.m. Foy
- Big Band/ Jazz Vocal - Nov. 20, 4:00 p.m. Foy
Grading:
Class participation/Attendance: 40%
HW – papers/listening assignments 40%
Concert attendance; reviews
Portfolio - 20%

Academic Integrity:
Students are expected to uphold the standards of academic honesty, as they are spelled out in the Student Handbook.

Reading Assignments are as follows, with accompanying papers due on that date:

Text: The Inner Game of Music – Barry Greene

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<th>Due</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Intro. - chapter 3</td>
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<td>chapters 4 - 7</td>
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<td>chapter 15</td>
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Text: Free Play – Stephen Nachmanovitch

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<td>6</td>
<td>The Sources</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>The Fruits</td>
<td>Thurs., 11/17</td>
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Homework for weeks 10 – 14: Students will perform the Terry Riley composition, In C, and then compose their own compositions using the same
form as the Riley composition. These compositions must be printed on a music program such as Finale, and then copies brought to class. Students will perform each other’s compositions and critique the pieces and performances.

Students can expect to work 5 hours per week outside of the class preparing for this class.

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Learning Services Office as soon as possible to enhance the likelihood that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.