

## Expanded inspiration: metric improvisation and compositional tools in contemporary modal music

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## **Propositions Marina Liontou**

- 1. Armenian oud players profoundly shaped the rhythmic environment of urban modal music in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, from the late Ottoman Empire through to the present time.
- 2. Metric modal improvisation is a practice that can be developed and performed as a generic type, distinct from non-metric types of modal improvisation.
- 3. Engagement with rhythmic practice can help strengthen skills in improvisation.
- 4. Compositional practice can be facilitated by and enhanced through the practice of metric modal improvisation.
- 5. Some of the bewilderment suffered by performers of historical genres can be resolved by composing music.
- 6. Emphasis on rhythmic practice within the study of melodic instruments can bring benefits at all stages of music education and conservatory training.
- 7. The world music performer today should be specifically trained to take a creative role that goes beyond the dutiful reproduction of older material.
- 8. "Comprovisation" is a useful term for describing the process of music-making using tools from both composition and improvisation.
- 9. Artistic research can provide tools, methods and a theoretical framework for performers and researchers of oral traditions wishing to explore new means towards personal expression.
- 10. Tulips smell better in Greece than in the Netherlands.