

## Interfacing the Txalaparta Workshop

Enrike Hurtado

University of the Basque Country, Bilbao, Spain  
enrique.hurtado@ehu.es

**Keywords:** txalaparta, generative, interface, interactive.

### Description

The workshop will consist on an introduction to the Basque tradition of the txalaparta and the research that lead into the creation of the Interactive txalaparta software.

The txalaparta is a percussion tradition from the Basque Country. The instrument consists of a variable number of wooden planks placed horizontally and beat vertically with wooden batons (figure 1). It is played by at least two players who alternate their beats performing through an improvisatory call-and-response pattern.

The Interactive Txalaparta is software developed by the author during his PhD at the University of the Basque Country. It listens to a human playing a txalaparta using the microphone input. It analyses and extracts several parameters from the play and generates the second player's part of the rhythm in real time allowing a single human to improvise together with a computer using a real txalaparta. The software reacts to the human play in a txalaparta and by doing so the txalaparta instrument effectively becomes the interface to control the Interactive Txalaparta software (figure 2).

Participants will learn about the history and the main characteristics of the txalaparta and they will gain a basic understanding of playing it, practising in pairs using a real txalaparta. They will also learn about its history and the changes it has undergone since the recovery in the 60s and the current state of the matter.

They will also be able to test the Interactive Txalaparta software playing the real txalaparta together with the computer. Different aspects of the research and the development will be covered and explained in depth adapting to the participants' interests and questions. The author expects to gain interesting feedback from musicians with no previous knowledge of the txalaparta, which will contribute to his ongoing research on txalaparta.

### Additional Information

Two txalaparta players

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4LQ85RMX\\_U&index=6&list=PLauBVgFtMcLDCSNnLCngm0BtBas2SsFB7](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4LQ85RMX_U&index=6&list=PLauBVgFtMcLDCSNnLCngm0BtBas2SsFB7)

Interactive txalaparta software demo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjRBDxHjbv0&feature=youtu.be>

### Bio

Enrike Hurtado lives in Bilbao where he studied his BA in Fine Arts. He later studied an MA in Design for Interactive Media in London. Recently he has completed a PhD on the basque percussive tradition of the txalaparta at the University of the Basque Country.



Figure 1. The Ugarte brothers playing txalaparta. Picture by Xabier Eskisabel

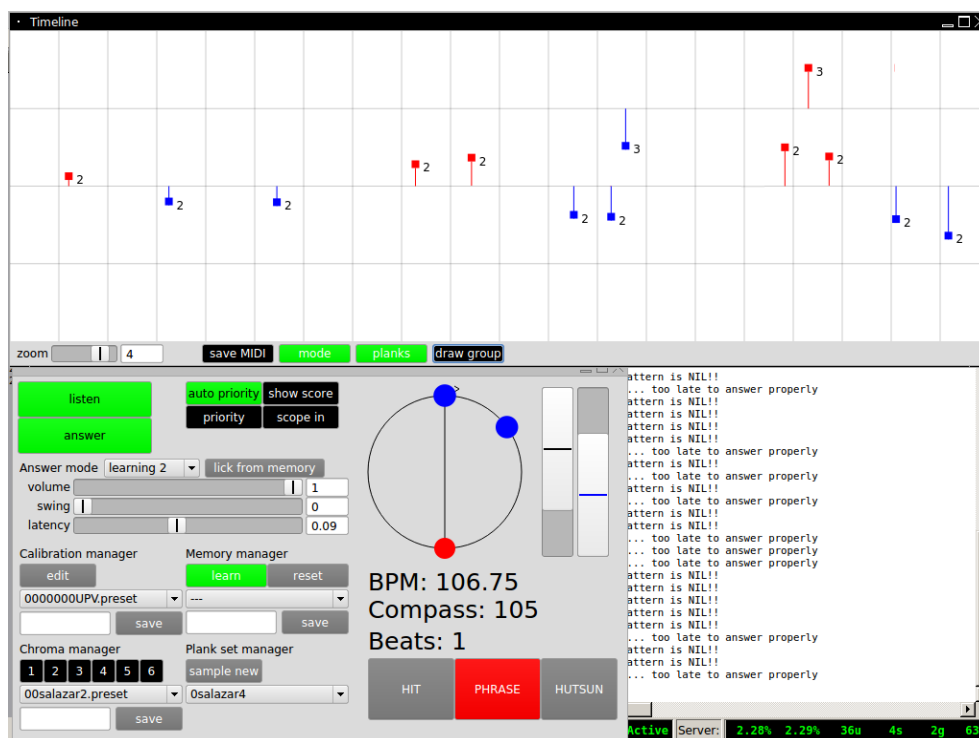


Figure 2. The Interactive txalaparta software