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date: 3. july 1979
vos réf:
nos réf: JMC/dr
objet:

Dear Mr. White,

John Pierce, who has recently been at IRCAM, suggested that I write to you regarding a rather critical funding need with which we are currently confronted at Stanford. I have enclosed a few pages which describe our activities and present a bit of the background.

Over the years at Stanford the work in computer music has been done in the Computer Science Department's Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. At first we were non-paying guests, but in recent years we have been able to contribute to the support of the lab through research grants from the National Science Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

I was recently informed that because of unforeseen space constraints in the new Computer Science building and our increasing computational demands, the Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA) will have to acquire an independent system in the next months. The cost for our own system will be \$ 300,000. I have so far managed to get ca. \$ 100,000 from Yamaha in the form of a royalty advance. (Yamaha has exclusive rights to a patent which is in my name but assigned to Stanford and which represents a technology to be used in a new generation of electronic keyboard instruments.). We still are in need of \$ 200,000 and I am asking if the Sloan Foundation would accept a proposal from us for all or part of that sum in order to aid us in continuing our work. As eventual income could be substantial and NSF's continuing interest in the scientific aspects of our work, the long term prospects look rather good that we can be self-supporting, which is unusual for a department of music. It is this immediate need that worries me and I would appreciate any advice you may have.

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Musique et Acoustique

page 2

There are a number of people who know our work rather well in both the scientific and artistic domains (including John Pierce) and should it be useful to you I would be happy to provide you with a list of references. I would also be happy to fly to New York in order to talk with you if you find that would be useful.

As I am on leave from Stanford and at IRCAM until september, you can write to me at the IRCAM address.

Sincerely,



John M. CHOWNING
Professor of Music and Director of CCRMA
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305 (USA)

Encl.

