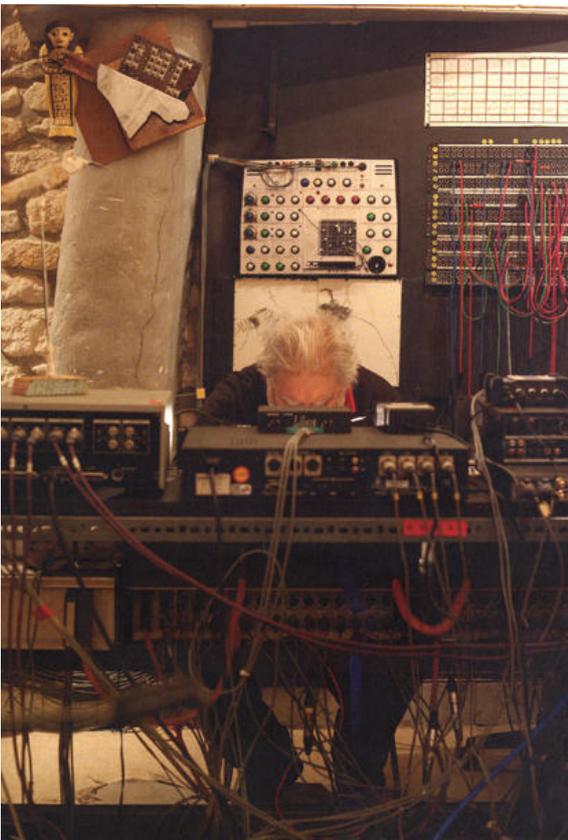


## Pierre Henry

### *Pierre Henry's world*

17 september – 28 october 2011

opening Saturday 17 September from 4 to 8 pm



**Pierre Henry** (born 9 December 1927 in Paris, France) is a French composer, considered a pioneer of the musique concrète genre of electronic music.

For his first solo exhibition at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the gallery, he will propose to show some sculptures-paintings-installations created from the sixties to today.

Pierre Henry began experimenting at the age of 15 with sounds produced by various objects, and became fascinated with the integration of noise into music. He studied with Nadia Boulanger, Olivier Messiaen, and Félix Passerone at the Paris Conservatoire from 1938 to 1948 (Dhomont 2001).

Between 1949 and 1958, Henry worked at the Club d'Essai studio at RTF, which had been founded by Pierre Schaeffer in 1943 (Dhomont 2001). During this period, he wrote the 1950 piece *Symphonie pour un homme seul*, in cooperation with Schaeffer; he also composed the first musique concrète to appear in a commercial film, the 1952 short film *Astrologie ou le miroir de la vie*. Henry has scored numerous additional films and ballets.

Two years after leaving the RTF, he founded with Jean Baronnet the first private electronic studio in France, the

Apsone-Cabasse Studio (Dhomont 2001).

Among Henry's best known works is the experimental 1967 ballet *Messe pour le temps présent*, written with Michel Colombier, and one of several cooperations with choreographer Maurice Béjart featuring the popular track "Psyché Rock"

In 1970 Henry collaborated with British rock band Spooky Tooth on the album *Ceremony*.

Composer Christopher Tyng was heavily inspired by Henry's "Psyché Rock" when writing the theme to the popular animated cartoon show *Futurama*. The theme is so reminiscent of the Henry's song, it is merely a variation of the original (Cohen 2001).

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