



Music Student Builds Counterfeit Virtuoso: The End of the Musician as We Know It?

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Music student builds a 'virtual' musician in pure software and has fooled the 'serious' music world with his invention. 'Experts' from all over the world are tripping over themselves to 'authenticate' a Chinese virtuoso named Yang Li who is said to be 'on the lam' from the Chinese authorities and hiding in the cultural backwaters of Glasgow, Scotland.

PR9.NET August 23, 2004 - We've all heard of hackers. We've all heard of forgers. Now a kid has managed to build a 'virtual' musician in pure software and has fooled the 'serious' music world with his invention. 'Experts' from all over the world are tripping over themselves to 'authenticate' a Chinese virtuoso named Yang Li who is said to be 'on the lam' from the Chinese authorities and hiding in the cultural backwaters of Glasgow, Scotland.

This is the premise of a new book by Francis Ellen called *The Samplist*. Ellen has not only written the book, but actually recorded the music of Yang Li on an accompanying CD and made it available on his publisher's website (www.ronak-publishing.com) for free download.

Ellen has written the story as a novel (although he claims – way off the record – that "it actually happened, but I'd rather not get sued") and it's a great read. It's funny, it's sexy, it draws a completely new angle on serious music and the fusion (or "re-integration" as Ellen prefers to call it) of art and science. "It's part of the new renaissance that's currently underway," he says. "The world is more violent and awful than it's ever been. But hidden away from the headlines a revolution is happening. There's a coming together, a melding, a fusion taking place quietly. We can't see it too well because it's being drowned out by idiot politicians bent on murdering each other's populations, but when the smoke clears people will become aware of something quite wonderful. *The Samplist* is my contribution to a little corner of the future where computer science and music and literature are indistinguishable."

"Writer creates characters create character creates music," said a spokesperson for Ronak Publishing. "Publishing is due for a shake-up. The big boys are asleep. They're cranking out celebrity dollar-harvesters on narrow bandwidth. The industry is wide open. It's stale and boring. It looks like popular music before punk and new wave hit. Great writers are falling from the sky 'cause the big guns only want 'certainties'. We've found a gem in Ellen. He's done something quite new and vital. This is the funniest book I've read since *Catch-22*, and I don't know where Ellen gets the music but it's beyond belief. He didn't even submit to big publishing houses. He wanted creative control and we gave it to him. He's already written some very successful things under various pseudonyms. He has a very playful and refreshing approach and a writing style unlike anything I've ever seen, it's like easy-to-read literary fiction, it's poetic but gritty, it's elegant but streetwise. Ellen demanded that we form a new imprint to launch the book. Ronak Publishing is dedicated to innovation and entertainment in writing. We have some interesting things in the pipeline."

Francis Ellen has worked as an editor, feature writer and columnist in London and Mexico City, and as a technical writer in Silicon Valley. He has also worked as a stock market consultant and a currency strategist in the City of London (where he was quoted in the press on a daily basis after predicting the Asian currency meltdown). He has a degree in music and a master's degree awarded by the department of mathematics and computing science at Stirling University. He lives in Glasgow with his wife and son.

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About Ronak Publishing

Ronak Publishing is a new imprint dedicated to innovation and entertainment in writing.

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