

I am sitting in a room (1969)

Alvin Lucier

Software for performance by Nicolas Collins, 2014 - 2021

This program runs on Macintosh computers. Connect a vocal microphone to the left input for recording the original text. Connect a second microphone to the right input for recycling the recordings through the room. The two microphones can be placed in different locations. Connect the audio output to an amplifier and loudspeaker (output is mono, same signal through left & right channels).

Toggle **dac off/dac on** to enable audio.

Open the dsp control panel to select built-in or external audio interface.

State indicates performance state:

Ready with all audio **muted**

Recording **1st (spoken) Phrase** through **Mike 1 (Vocal)** microphone).

Recycling the recordings through **Mike 2 (Recycle/ambient)** microphone).

Mute the **recycling** microphone to initiate last loop playback of the piece.

In performance the **space bar** steps through these recording modes. **Carriage return** toggles muting of the recycling microphone (**Mike 2**). **Delete** key resets all settings and clears the loop. Lower case “**m**” key toggles the mute of all audio. Lower case “**r**” key toggles performance audio file recorder on/off.

Loop number increments with each generation of recording.

indicates number of current generation of recording.

Elapsed indicates elapsed time of performance.

Vocal fader adjusts level of incoming vocal microphone. **Pre** meter indicates level before limiter. **Post** meter indicates level after limiter.

Thru fader adjusts level of **Vocal** microphone through sound system during recording of initial text. Meter indicates level.

Recycle fader adjusts level of microphone used for recycling of recording through the room. **Pre** meter indicates level before limiter. **Post** meter indicates level after limiter.

Limiter adjusts level at which limiting engages. This is useful for avoiding unexpected peaks in the recording, but is best used “for emergencies only” to avoid coloration.

Phase Shift engages a slowly changing phase delay in the recycling audio, which can prevent the dominance of a single strong resonance.

(For the greatest historical accuracy the **Limiter** should be set to a very high threshold so it never engages, and the **Phase Shift** should be bypassed.)

Record: Records stereo AIFF file of performance on desktop (vocal mike in Left channel, recycling mike in Right). “**r**” toggles recorder on/off