

## TODD MURRAY

### ***PUSH! An Exhibition of Analog Music Machines***

“Control voltage is the use of an electrical signal to manipulate components in various analog circuits for many different purposes. Analog music synthesizers in particular, use control voltage to provide the pitch, timbre, tone and build a profile of a particular sound. Voltage is the “**Push**” that causes electrons to move through a wire and initiate this control process.

**Push** is an exertion of influence to promote another's interests. My passion for jazz fusion and electronic music complements my interest in building useful things with repurposed materials. The result is a series of music sculptures that can be played as individual musical instruments or be combined in an orchestrated electronic symphony. Some of my projects include parts scrounged from old military aircraft, telephone and industrial equipment or everyday items. If I find an old, beat-up instrument that many people would consider trash, I rework it knowing there is a beautiful sound object within it.



**Push** is to urge or press the advancement, adoption, or practice of something. I love teaching and instructing anyone with an interest in music synthesizers and electronic music. Synthesizers are also designed by the online ‘Open Source’ community, where anyone can download computer manufacturing files, software and schematics to build their own creation. The point is: there really is not a single way, methodology or rationale anyone can use to point to a single path to success for creativity or electronic music. We do however constantly need to **Push** the boundaries of any art form.”

- Todd Murray



Many of the materials used in the construction of these synthesizers were obtained from a variety of sources including recycling bins, bargain or thrift shops. Kitchen appliances are a great source for sheet metal and aluminum. Unused materials for home construction and wood from furniture are used throughout. Salvaged old electronic equipment has provided many high-quality parts and components that are no longer manufactured. High quality wire has been pulled from old computer printer cables which were obtained for free.

**About the Artist:**

Todd Murray (aka SixbySeven) is Hamilton artist who creates electronic music and builds musical synthesizers using found objects, recycled or reclaimed electronic components. His creations incorporate elements from both the analog and digital technologies and range from small box sized mini-synths, to drum machines and a full-sized modular.

Todd has assisted artist and studios with various technical projects and is available for workshops on using technology for artistic endeavours including Arduino, Raspberry Pi, electronics, robotics, light shows and synthesizers. You can find Todd performing at many of the electronic media art shows across the Hamilton region including the 2019 Hamilton Winter Solstice Festival, the 2019 Electro-acoustic Night Pic-Nic in Beasley Park and the 2018 Function Keys4 Conference. Further information can be found at <https://sixbyseven.ca>

**The Anne Foster Windows:**

As part of the City of Hamilton, Tourism and Culture Division's ongoing support of the creative industries, local artists are invited to create and install window displays that celebrate Hamilton's music scene. This space, the Anne Foster Window, is a fitting home for music themed displays as the entryway lead to the Anne Foster Music shop for almost 50 years (1947-1995).

For more information visit [www.hamilton.ca/annefosterwindows](http://www.hamilton.ca/annefosterwindows)

