radio pulsars

Miguel Angel Crozzoli

In this sound installation data from The European Pulsar Timing Array has been transformed into sound, and you can play with them using the MIDI controllers you find in the room. With the noobs, you can mix the sounds, and hear the stars as looking up into the night. You can also change their tempo, and make them spin faster or slower to find textures, colors, and new sounding star relations.

INSTRUCTIONS

Enter the room and stand in front of a MIDI controller.

S starts a sound. M mutes the sound. The upper wheel changes the time relation of that sound, and the slide changes the volume.

Play with the stars! and read the text below to know more.

Neutron stars comprise one of the possible evolutionary end-points of high mass stars. Once the core of the star has completely burned to iron, energy production stops and the core rapidly collapses, squeezing electrons and protons together to form neutrons and neutrinos. These stars are extreme objects that measure between 10 and 20 km across. They have densities of 1017 kg/m3, meaning that a teaspoon of neutron star material would weigh around a billion tonnes.

We listen to the sky beating strongly throughout the night, and we see the gleaming shades of dense neutron stars. We become when they die, as we could not exist without these pulsating hearts.

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