

# Some Tunes

by Daniel R. Mitchell

Synthesized sounds created on a software synthesizer that I designed and wrote, *BasicSynth*.

Each piece has one or more melodies with accompaniment, often a drone and arpeggios.

## Jitter Creep (2016)

Music to accompany the “zombie apocalypse.”

*jitter*

*n.* feelings of extreme nervousness, anxiety, restlessness or agitation.

*n.* slight irregular movement, variation, or unsteadiness, especially in an electrical signal or electronic device.

*creep*

*v.* move slowly and carefully, especially in order to avoid being heard or noticed.

*v.* occur or develop gradually and almost imperceptibly.

*n.* slow movement, especially at a steady but almost imperceptible pace.

*n.* (informal) a detestable person.

Two syncopated themes are each repeated several times. As the piece develops, the themes are layered on top of each other, with

each layer halving the rhythm of the previous. The result is a confusing mass of sound.

## Dance On An Electronic Moonbeam (2016)

A slow “dance” of two timbres, with complementary tunes. The two sounds are similar, complementary and accompanied by an arpeggio background.

## Rainbow (2016)

Light strikes a drop of rain and scatters. This was inspired by seeing a double rainbow one day.

A pair of melodies, each with a different sound, finally joined in unison, accompanied by multiple arpeggios at different rhythms, some producing slow arcs, others faster arcs.

## A Chance Of (Electronic) Flurries (2016)

Music for Christmas 2016, with snow in the weather forecast. Written using Dorian mode, with a simple folk-like melody. Then, accompanied by increasing “flurries” of arpeggios, finally ends up switching to a relative major key.

## Scattered Changes Matter (2017)

A composition using “minimalist” technique to create a hypnotic listening experience. The “matter” involves slowly changing the density of part, the rhythmic speed of another part, the timbre of yet another part. The slow changes in density, speed and timbre are “scattered” throughout the aural space.

## *An arc in the road (2017)*

The journey we are on in life is not a straight line, and we speak of bends and curves in the road ahead. But we travel through a multi-dimensional space and time's arrow sometimes lifts us through the arrow's arc as well.

This composition opens with a canon in three voices with a repeated, cyclic accompaniment. A contrasting developmental section provides a respite. The ending returns to the opening themes, reversed in order and duplicated in octaves.

## *Synthverse 2 (2017)*

A lively tune for my second wedding anniversary. The opening runs form a signature motive for the piece and reoccur over the course of the whole. The main tune is then heard twice using different accompaniment for the second time through. The following section uses a slower moving tune, with an "improvised" melody accompaniment. The final section repeats the texture of the opening, but with shortened and reversed tunes.

This was initially composed for a jazz orchestra (*Verse 2*) and then performed with synthesized sounds.