# NIL

for guitar and interactive music system

photo by Raquel Fernandes

by V.J. Manzo

© 2010
vjmanzo.com

## Performance Note

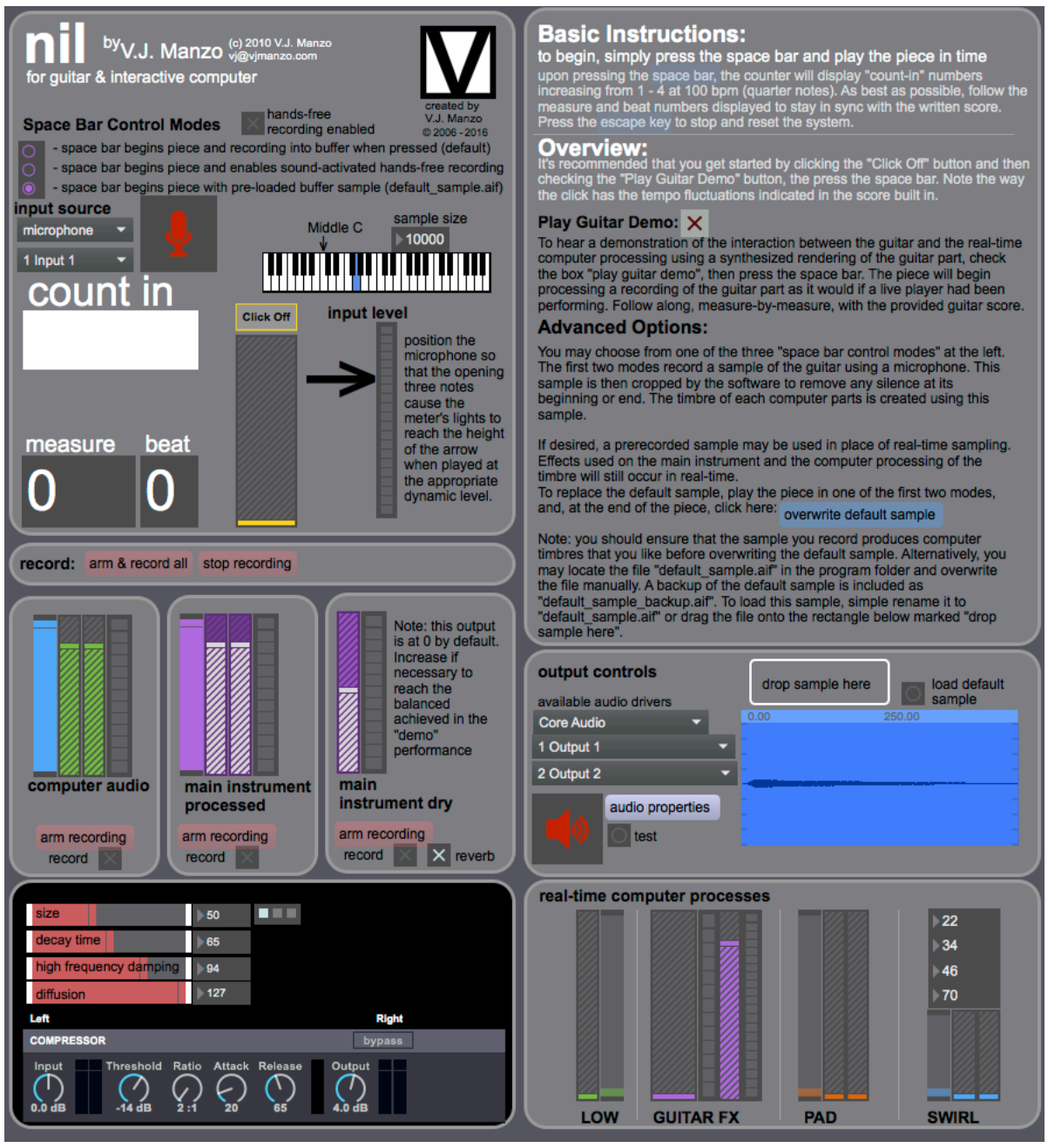
nil is a composition for solo classical guitar and interactive music system. In this piece, the opening note of the guitar performance is recorded by the computer and used to create all of the other computer-generated sounds hard throughout the piece. As the performer continues to perform from the notated score, the computer begins manipulating qualities of the audio sample according to its own score that it follows. All of the computer processing and sound generation for nil occurs in real-time and is driven by the performance of the guitarist. The computer also processes the live input of the performer in a number of ways including various delays.

V.J. Manzo
10-01-10

Duration: *5' 50"*

## About the Composer

V.J. Manzo is a composer and guitarist with research interests in theory and composition, artificial intelligence, interactive music systems, and music learning. His interactive music systems and other software systems/algorithms are freely available for download from his website www.vjmanzo.com.




*screenshot of nil software*

**Setup:** position a microphone in front of the guitarist, connect the microphone to a computer, open the nil software, and ensure that the audio properties of the software are addressing the appropriate input and output channels.
**Performance:** To begin a performance, simply press the space bar.
Upon pressing the space bar, the counter will display "count-in" numbers increasing from 1 - 4 at 100 bpm (quarter notes). As best as possible, follow the measure and beat numbers displayed to stay in sync with the written score. Press the escape key to stop and reset the system.

# nil

for guitar and interactive music system

**V.J. Manzo**

Guitar

♩ = 100

*slight accel. through triplet*

*let notes ring out*

*ponticello*

*soltasto*

*artificial harmonic w/ r.h. at XV*

*relax tempo*

*accel.*

*a tempo*

*rit.*

*subito* ***p***

© 2010 clear blue media | ASCAP

70

*ponticello*

*soltasto*

*ff*

*fff*

76

*strum all strings between 5 and 2*

*ffff*

83

*artificial harmonic w/ r.h.*

*p*

*pp*

90

*relax tempo*

♩ = 40

♩ = 50

*p*

*mf*

97

*mf*

*f*

103

*pp*

109

*f*

112

*p*

*p*

117

*pp*

*ppp*