

AREA 1.

A cloud is a structure that is difficult to perceive when you are inside it. When you are a distance away its form becomes more discernible, even though it is constantly permuting.

In the *open form* of music making described above, scale, fluidity, multiplicity, non-repetition and chaos exist and are embraced as one comfortably accepts conventional notions of structure in genre-specific music. In *open form* or non-genre specific music making (as in genre specific also), composing in the moment requires you to synthesize all elements of the process and make decisions rapidly in a way that appears/sounds/feels like a fluid, organic, musical experience.

The word 'interactive' in the term *spic*, places emphasis on that aspect of composing in the moment.

[**'spic'* a phrase coined by Australian bassist David Tolley to describe his approach to music making.]

12/ Knowledge is gained both intellectually and experientially. Books and teachers provide ways to efficiently and systematically acquire information, fundamental to advanced. However, it is intrigue, curiosity and willpower that are needed to derive maximum benefit from books and teachers. These attributes become even more important in teaching yourself where the most efficient path may not always be followed, but efficiency or system are not essential ingredients in the creation of a potent musical character.

Information is available to everyone, how you perceive it and how you use it contributes to the development of your musical identity. Consequently, the more knowledge feels like a result of your own discovery, the greater the sense of ownership and momentum in direction, deepening your involvement with what and how you play.

Allowing your *intuition* to act as your guide strengthens your *intuition*. It may mean you get *distracted* by sidetracks, things other than what you originally set out to achieve. But it just may be that this *distraction* is something of great worth. A balance between organically, intuitively exploring the instrument and a programmed approach is advisable. It is equally important (if not more!) to develop the intuitive faculty as it is the intellect.

In the process of exploration and discovery and assembling information, your preferences and choices are at work. This is important because the seeds of your individuality are here.