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Ensemble Robot

High Tech Bots Play Ancient Tune

Story aired: Wednesday, January 25, 2006

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Last week, Japanese scientists announced the creation of a robot that can do sign language. That brings the science of robotics another step away from the assembly line, and closer to human contact.

But robotic music? Won't it sound like that cheesy "Theme from the Entertainer" on your telephone hold button?

No, says "Ensemble Robot" director Christine Southworth. This week the ensemble is premiering "Heavy Metal," a new piece for Balinese gamelan, robots and strings.

The piece debuts at "Music and the Invasion of Technology," part of the "When Science Meets Art" series underway at the Boston Museum of Science here in boston.

Guests:

- Christine Southworth, "Ensemble Robot" director
- Evan Ziporyn, the founder and artistic director of the collaborating orchestra, Gamelan Galak_Tika

SPECIAL FEATURE:

See photos of some of the ensemble's robots.

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