





One century ago,
on the twelfth hour of the twelfth day of the twelfth month of 1901,
Guglielmo Marconi received the first transatlantic wireless signal.
The letter "S" in Morse Code (dit dit dit) was transmitted
from Poldhu in Cornwall to Signal Hill in
St Johns, Newfoundland, a distance of
nearly 3000 km (1800 miles).



So began the age of radio

& wireless communication, conveniently in the first year of a new century.

Topology & Loops celebrate both the medium & the century,

looking back over a number of key events & people

by means of recordings of broadcasts of voices.



The way we have

generally approached these voices is to make “voice portraits”—finding the characteristic musical qualities of each speaker & then emphasising & underscoring them with instrumental accompaniment. The result is part opera, part documentary, part entertainment.

We are fascinated by the power recorded sound has to take us to the actual people & events.

It is a form of time travel.



The piece runs backwards,
*starting with live broadcasts & working gradually back through the years
to Marconi's original transmission. Inspired by the opening sequence
of the film Contact, we pictured ourselves travelling out into
space along with the radio waves, ending out where
those letter S's are today, 100 light years away,
maybe somewhere near the star Arcturus.*



LOOPS

Jon Dimond—electric bass ♦ tabla ♦ trombone

John Parker—drums ♦ marimba

Jamie Clark—guitars

TOPOLOGY

Robert Davidson—double bass ♦ samples

Kylie Davidson—piano ♦ harpsichord

John Babbage—saxophones

Christa Powell—violin

Bernard Hoey—viola



OTHER CREDITS

Topology ♦ *Loops* ♦ *Geoff McGahan*—production
Lovehate Design—design
Geoff McGahan—sound engineering ♦ mixing
♦ mastering

*Recorded at QUT studios,
Creative Industries Faculty, Brisbane
& ABC studios, Ferry Road, Brisbane*

THANK YOU

*Thanks to ABC Archives & Screensound
Australia ♦ The Queensland Orchestra
for piano & studio use ♦ Robyn Ravlich & The
Listening Room*





For full program details

& transcription, visit www.topologymusic.com

Loops website—www.jonathandiamond.com/loops

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Australian Government

