Editor’s Note

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THE current issue of Empirical Musicology Review (EMR)—Volume 6, Number 2—contains three target articles, a pair of commentaries, and a book review.

In the first target article, Rafael Ferrer presents a theoretical framework that promises to penetrate psychological aspects of timbre by focusing on the social and the ecological context in which sound exists. The second article, by Glaura Lucas, Martin Clayton, and Laura Leante, provides an enlightening description of inter-group entrainment in Afro-Brazilian Congado ritual. This colorful event is characterized by participants—drummers, dancers, and singers—from different groups attempting to resist the tendency to synchronize with one another in order to demonstrate their own intra-group cohesion and to assert their unique spiritual and cultural identities. The final article deals with how musical knowledge and preferences pertaining to compositional and performance style is passed down from one innovative musician to another. Nick Collins examines this form of influence in a thorough survey of self-reports by a large sample of musicians.

In the first commentary, Marcus Pearce provides an in-depth dissection of Dean and Bailes’ (2010) article—published in Volume 5, Number 4 of EMR—about the analysis of acoustic influences on the real-time perception of music. Roger Dean and Freya Bailes then respond to Pearce’s points in a commentary of their own.

Volume 6, Number 2 of EMR closes with Jessica Grahn’s review of the recent book Psychology of Music, by Tan, Pfordresher, and Harré (2010), which will certainly be of interest both to ‘old-timers’ and relative newcomers to the field of empirical musicology.

The next issue of EMR will be a special issue compiled by guest editors and Fabia Franco and Ian Cross. This special issue will contain a collection of papers and commentaries based on presentations given at the second British Psychological Society seminar on ‘The Music of Language, the Language of Music’, which took place at the University of Cambridge in December 2010.

REFERENCES
