A technological history of 同人音楽 / Dōjin Music: as an offline distribution of music files

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Introduction

- STS (Science and Technology Studies)

User Studies:

Focusing on the role of users
in the development of technology.

The idea of "shaped and by shaped".

Dōjin Music
and technology of music file

▶ Dōjin Music [同人音楽] Market is one of important circuits for offline distribution of music files.

▶ Sharing the same context about the use of PC.

What is Dōjin Music?

- The term "Dōjin" [同人] may be literally translated as "coterie" in English. (Akinori Ideguchi)

- Using the term "Dōjin" to explain a sense of "amateur". (Sharon Kinsella)

- "Comic Market"

What is Dōjin Music?

▶ The close relationship between Dōjinshi [同人誌] culture and the male Otaku context.

▶ Dōjin Software [同人ソフト] at "Comic Market".

Amateur game programs for PC.
Units of Dōjin Software often includes a music composer.

Chemool

- ▶ He started to sell Dōjin Softwares of "Firecracker" from 1990 in Comic Market.

Dōjin Music and PC games for the Otaku

▶ Dōjin Software is one of the root of today's Dōjin Music market.

Ideguchi pointed out the transition of "Genre Code" of Comic Market.

▶ The relationship Dōjin Music

Dōjin Music and
PC games for the Otaku

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Dōjin Music and
PC games for the Otaku

Another aspect of Dōjin Music

- Focusing on media technologies

  The social environments which have been supported the appearance and expansion of Dōjin Music community.

  Dōjin events, DTM, Recordable CD, the internet

- Dōjin Music has a relationship with another music culture based on the use of PC…

Dōjin Music and Techno Music

▶ Techno Music had started to get more popularity from the early 1990s in Japan.

▶ Some of amateur Techno Musicians had found PC as tools to make Techno Music instead of expensive electronic instruments.

▶ PC Techno Musicians considered Dōjin Music market as the appropriate space for their distribution.

Hally

- He organized "Kamishimo Records" in 1995 and started to distribute music files online.

  Their music files could be played back only on X68 series (not much popular PC).
- He also made cassette tapes and sold them in Comic Market.

Hally

Nerdcore Techno

▶ Hardcore Techno + Nerd = Nerdcore

The characteristic of Nerdcore Techno is much use of sampling phrases from Otaku contents.

▶ Those sampling styles were often supported by a specific music file format, MOD.
Its driver softaware could be got basically for a free.

DJ Sharpnel

Conclusion

▶ I would argue that Dojin Music should be seen as a cross point of ways how amateur musicians had tried to use new media technologies for music distribution.

▶ Transnational relationship…?

鬼畜少女組
kichiku no girl (?)