

(Image: Second Generation Electronic Keyboard—found along a country road next to a field of soybeans, North America. A key feature of any synthesized sound, digital or otherwise, is that it lacks all sympathetic resonance, i.e., it is utterly unresponsive to other sounds played around it, including its own. Imagine a child vicariously coming to think that this is just, well—, the way of sound...)

Retronyms? With every step we take away from the wisdom of Nature's way, the more difficult it becomes to clearly see what we have lost or left behind. Acoustic guitar, organic tomato, and—as a possible future, n a t u r a l human being... And once the crucial sensitivity threshold is crossed and we can only with difficulty distinguish the artificial, industrial mimics from their originals, what then? Imagine sitting at a restaurant table, and a guy asks you, "Hey, the girl at the end of the bar, is she...?"