



field recording, in all its forms, has been through incredible creative growth in the last few decades & yet its essential power to engage us in the act & art of listening remains inextricably linked to its subtle simplicity, its ability to make us listen ever more closely to the world in which we move by making us stop for a time....

a quiet position | locale: an upstairs landing, kettle's yard, cambridge, england

my ears are becoming accustomed to this building. I can hear the traffic outside filtering through the windows, sending a slight vibration through the floorboards.

I spend my time sitting in different rooms listening. On occasion members of staff have disturbed the otherwise subtle, audible ebb and flow of each space.

In front of me, on the landing between two spaces there's a green glass jar on the floor, into which I've placed two small lavalier microphones. First, i'm reminded of the signature sound of filtering this way - the tone created by the air reverberating around the glass walled space - and then, with time, the specifics of this location and this jar begin to draw me in. I think about this jar, why it was placed here in this particular spot. I think about how the former owners of this house surrounded themselves with visual art and all kinds of crafted objects and yet were no doubt unaware of the fascinating sounds inside them or on their surfaces. I think too about all the visitors to this now public space and, as is often the case, I find myself wanting to share these discoveries, to pass the headphones to someone and watch their face registering, hopefully, a sense of surprise and pleasure. Then again I like the privacy too, the sense of being enveloped.

...for now, I'm alone in this space, at this time and so every sound I hear is with me and then replaced by another. I press record to capture something of these particular moments.... jez riley french

jez riley french - 'an upstairs landing, england'

jen boyd - 'ballard'

*field recordings from a friend's back yard next to the train tracks along Puget Sound.
Recorded using binaural and contact microphones.*

radio cegeste - 'attempt at the non-linearity of a nest, 4'

recordings of an empty nest belonging to the north island robin, pitoitoi, captured with both open air and contact mic, in early april 2012 on kapiti island, a native bird sanctuary 3 miles of the coast of the north island of new zealand. these transmitted back via mini fm transmitter to the nest, in situ. nest investigated for its materiality, and treated percussively, as an instrument. transmission also recorded onto audio tape, which was then placed into the nest for one month. project takes some cues from scientific studies determining the acoustic properties of nest orientation using microphones placed in empty nest cavities, as well as the strongly defended material/territorial areas of pitoitoi themselves, and the notion of the nested radius of small-scale transmission within a biosecure island space.

duncan whitley - 'array no.13'

*edited from two stereo recordings at Rampisham in Dorset, 26.05.11.
drawn from fieldwork on the site as part of a collaboration with Ivon Oates,
'Wavelength: Documenting Rampisham Transmission Centre'*

cedric peyronnet - 'kdi-dctb-229-b'

*if listened closely will reveal a very slow evolution : slow changes in the background,
in the rythmicity of the foreground while the stream sound always the same and
never the same. Sounds like it was and will always be there.
Recorded in a tiny valley around Puy-De-Pailler, 2011-08-20*

amanda belantara - 'winter near the forest'

*recordings made in Aomori City, Japan in the depths of an unusually cold and snowy winter.
snow being swept off tall pine and cedar trees by the wind, sometimes tall stacks of snow
falling to the ground from the tree branches while snow blowing is going on in the distance,
mochi (sticky rice cakes) roasting on a kerosene heater in an old Japanese house with feet
shuffling by in slippers, echoing city sounds and the sea heard near the harbour.*

signe liden - 'hitra'

*Hitra is a Norwegian island north of Trondheim where I spent some weeks field recording
together with my Nordic Sound Art class during 2011. Next to the old building where we
stayed, a floating bridge squeaked every time a wave hit it. There were days and
nights with a lot of waves and a lot of squeaking and in one of them, I decided to
record the bridge on water and try to turn its wailing into something...something...this.
Recorded with contact mics and a DPA 4060.*

dawn scarfe - 'marsh reeds'

*recorded February 2012, Walthamstow Marshes, London, using binaural microphones
and two Listening Glasses placed in the reeds*

elin øyen vister - 'Hljóðið af skóginum Ytribær'

(Ytribær forest, dawn chours in May, Hrisey in Eyafjordur, Iceland)

Ytribær is a small farm on a private nature reserve on the stunning island of Hrisey, situated in Eydafjordur on the northernmost tip of Iceland. Ulla Knudsen and her family has been harvesting Eider down in the reserve for the past 60 years. Her late husband experimented with growing a small pine forest on the land, as Iceland has very little of it. The recording is a dawn chorus in early May from the outskirts of the small forest. There are around 40 species of birds in the reserve and this spring atmosphere included species such as Ptarmigan and Common Snipe. The other worldly sound present can be attributed to the male Common Snipe, which performs a 'winnowing' display during courtship, flying high in circles and then taking shallow dives to produce a drumming sound by vibrating its tail feathers. This sound has been compared by others to the bleating of a sheep or goat; hence in many languages the Snipe is known by names signifying Flying Goat, Heaven's Ram, in Scotland by Heather-bleater and in Finnish the name taivaanvuohi, sky goat. recorded with Stereo AB 4060 DPA mics in a double windshield

a coda | jez riley french - 'guesthouse, stockholm'

www.jezrileyfrench.co.uk

www.jenboyd.org

radiocegeste.blogspot.com

www.shotgunsounds.com

www.ingeos.org

www.amandabelantara.com

signaliden.com

www.dawnscarfe.co.uk

childofklang.wordpress.com



all work p&c the artists 2012
engraved glass | a quiet position 2012

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