

## ORGANIZERS

**Zeynep Bulut** (ICI BERLIN)  
**Claudia Peppel** (ICI BERLIN)  
**Brandon LaBelle** (BERGEN ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN)

The human body is not one solid object. Knowingly or unknowingly, it vibrates with multiple other bodies and surfaces. Without any necessary physical contact, it matches its resonant frequencies from a distance. Involved in a constant reciprocity with its sonic environment, the human body perpetuates the fundamental principle of acoustic resonance: holding a multitude of similar frequencies neither as precisely same nor as perfectly different. Acoustic resonance draws a particular proximity between one's physical location and phenomenal extension to another.

Imagine this resonance as a landscape of acoustic tension, a horizontal spectrum of multiple modalities of sounds, which do coincide with one another but which do not necessarily become one. The very act of hearing holds the acoustic tension. When we hear a sound, we are simultaneously moved to and positioned in a place. What happens if acoustic tension is heightened, if we pay close attention to the intensity and volume of sound? What would be the material effects of such sonic embodiment in everyday life? What kind of subjectivity does it enact? What kind of an epistemology does acoustic tension evoke, mirror and transform? And how do our resonant bodies function in understanding the self's relation to its external world? The symposium will explore these questions by marking three landscapes of acoustic tension: sensory ecologies of hearing, materialities of voice, language and speech, and affective states of sound.

The first landscape, sensory ecologies of hearing, will indicate the ecological, phenomenological, cultural and aesthetic approaches to auditory perception. In light of these approaches, notions of sound, silence, noise and soundscape will be contested. The second landscape, materialities of voice, language and speech, will articulate the sonic, spatial and performative aspects of the human voice and nonverbal language. Drawing on the voice as such, the discursive limits of speech and language will be revisited. The third and last landscape, affective states of sound, will discuss how technologies of sound in cinema, radio and multimedia performance mobilize technologies of the self, while generating modes of perceptive thought and feeling.

The symposium Resonant Bodies – Landscapes of Acoustic Tension will also include an exhibition of works investigating the territories of sound, music, environment and language, and their intersections. The exhibition can be visited during the symposium in the ICI Library.

The exhibition includes works by Marianthi Papalexandri-Alexandri & Pe Lang, Alessandro Bosetti, Annette Stahmer, Georgia Rodger, Marcelina Wellmer, Christof Migone and Elana Mann & Juliana Snapper; soundscape projects by Peter Cusack, Lisa Bielawa, Ece Pazarbaşı, and Boris Baltschun & Serge Baghdassarians; and a listening station with the generous contributions of various artists.

ICI Kulturlabor Berlin  
ICI Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry  
Christinenstr. 18/19, Haus 8  
D-10119 Berlin  
Tel: +49 30 473 72 91 10  
www.ici-berlin.org  
U-Bhf Senefelder Platz (U2)

Funded by VolkswagenStiftung



Symposium

13 – 15

June 2013

# Resonant Bodies

Landscapes of  
Acoustic Tension

THURSDAY, 13 JUNE 2013

**SECTION 1:**  
SENSORY ECOLOGIES OF HEARING

- 10:00 – 10:30 Welcoming: Christoph Holzhey (DIRECTOR ICI BERLIN)  
Introduction: Zeynep Bulut (ICI BERLIN)
- 10:30 – 11:30 **Morning Keynote**  
Veit Erlmann (UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN)  
**String Theory – Media Discourses of Tension**
- 11:30 – 11:45 **Coffee break**
- 11:45 – 13:15 Brandon LaBelle (BERGEN ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN)  
**Restless Acoustics**
- Gascia Ouzounian (QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST)  
**The Devil Sheds a Tear.**  
**The Difficult Birth of Spatial Audio**
- Holger Schulze (HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITY BERLIN)  
**The Sonic Corpus.**  
**A Materialist Anthropology of Sound**
- 13:15 – 14:45 **Lunch break**
- 14:45 – 16:15 Helga de la Motte-Haber (TU BERLIN)  
**Sound Art and Music.**  
**A Challenge to Sensory Ecology of Hearing**
- Lisa Bielawa (COMPOSER/ARTISTIC DIRECTOR)  
**Airfield Broadcasts: A Spatialized Symphony on Tempelhofer Feld (Berlin) and Crissy Field (San Francisco)**
- Alex Arteaga (THE BERLIN UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS)  
**Emerging Environments and Auditory Experience: Making Sense by Listening**
- 16:15 – 16:45 **Coffee break**
- 16:45 – 18:15 Peter Cusack (THE LONDON COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION)  
**Berlin Sonic Places**
- Alessandro Bosetti (ARTIST)  
**Wörterberge. A Wandering Lexicon of the Alps**
- Andra McCartney (CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, MONTRÉAL)  
**Listening to Traffic with Guts and Antennae**
- 18:15 – 18:45 **Coffee break**
- 19:00 **Evening Keynote**  
Allen S. Weiss (NEW YORK UNIVERSITY)  
**Landscape and the Limits of Sonic and Visual Representation**

FRIDAY, 14 JUNE 2013

**SECTION 2:**  
MATERIALITIES OF VOICE,  
LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

- 10:00 – 11:00 Nina Eidsheim (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES)  
**Reconsidering the Figure of Sound: Singing and Listening as Vibrational Practice**
- Annette Schlichter (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE)  
**Freeing a Natural Voice?**  
**Vocal Pedagogy and the Materialization of a Sounding Subject**
- 11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee break**
- 11:00 – 12:00 Jann Pasler (UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO)  
**Leon Azoulay and the Early Phonograph: The Problematics of Transcription and Translation**
- Mara Mills (NEW YORK UNIVERSITY)  
**Text-to-Speech: Early Experiments**
- 12:00 – 14:00 **Lunch break**
- 14:00 – 15:30 Zeynep Bulut (ICI BERLIN)  
**Anatomy of the Voice in ?Corporel**
- Annette E. Stahmer (MUTHESIUS KUNSTHOCHSCHULE KIEL)  
**Trembling**
- Christof Migone (UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MISSISSAUGA)  
**Vox Unpopuli**
- 15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee break**
- 16:00 – 18:00 **Artist Talk/Performance**  
Dieter Schnebel & Maulwerker Ensemble  
(with the participation of Steffi Weismann, Ariane Jeßulat, and Katarina Rasinski)
- 18:00 – 19:00 **Coffee break**
- 19:00 **Evening Keynote:**  
Mladen Dolar (UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA)  
**What Does Voice Tell Us About Materialism?**

SATURDAY, 15 JUNE 2013

**SECTION 3:**  
AFFECTIVE STATES OF SOUND

- 10:30 – 11:30 **Morning Keynote:**  
Doris Kolesch (FU BERLIN)  
**Touched by Voice**
- 11:30 – 12:00 **Coffee break**
- 12:00 – 13:00 Jason Stanyek (UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)  
Benjamin Piekut (CORNELL UNIVERSITY)  
**Tensile Form, Digital Death**
- Salomé Voegelín (THE LONDON COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION)  
**The Pathetic Trigger of Sound Draws Us Into a Sonic Fiction**
- 13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch Break**
- 14:30 – 15:30 Anja Kanngieser (GOLDSMITHS, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)  
**Suspending Time: The Affective Voice of Revolutionary Imaginaries**
- Louis Manuel Garcia  
(MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT)  
**Thickening: The Musical Modulation of Affect and Emotional Entrainment**
- 15:30 – 16:30 Giorgio Biancorosso (THE UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG)  
**Double Agents and the Poor Man's Orchestra: Music and the Aesthetics of the Self in Chunking Express (1994)**
- Sander van Maas  
(UTRECHT UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM)  
**»Einstein on the Beach«:**  
**The Eigenfrequenz of a Discrete Machine**

**Concluding Remarks**