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Rue du Grand Prieuré

Level 1 / room 18

The singularity of this room is due to its “French style” ceiling, entirely covered with painted decoration. The beams are populated by hybrid characters, fantastic animals, vegetal or stylized motifs, cannons, riders on their horses... In the center of each was painted the coat of arms of the Grand Prior Pierre d’Esparbès-Lussan, the first Grand Prior installed in Arles between 1602 and 1621.

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A museum that listens

Sound has risen to the rank of fine arts, as photography and video did in their time. It is to reflect this evolution that a Sound art department was created in 2007 within the Réattu Museum. The first of its kind in France, developed in partnership with phonurgia nova, its ambition is to deal with plastic and radiophonic approaches to sound in an unlimited dialogue with painting, drawing, sculpture, or contemporary photography. This Listening Room, which results from it, implements an exclusively audio programming. Its name is borrowed from a famous painting by René Magritte. Educational workshops are attached to it. Since 2018, the CNAP has been supporting this approach.



MUSÉE RÉATTU
ARLES FINE ARTS MUSEUM

Listening room 2023

- July
Pascale Brischoux
- August
Lotte Nijsten & Gillis Van der Wee
- September
Lisa Mark, Daniel Martin-Borret
- October
Antoine Richard
- November
Anne-Julie Rollet & Anne-Laure Pigache
- December
Eleanor McDowall & Michael Segalov

Sound images?

Arles, a city of *still images* thanks to photography, *animated images* thanks to the cultural industries that are developing there, *drawn images* thanks to its drawing festival, but also of *suggested images*, thanks to the Phonurgia nova association, pioneer of sound art with which the museum has maintained a fruitful collaboration for 20 years. The “Listening Room” is one of the results of this partnership, a sound projection

space housed in the heart of its permanent collections. It invites to break the moorings with the visual world, to immerse yourself in listening. The artists gathered from July to December, have caught the attention of the jury of the Phonurgia nova awards 2022, an international competition born in Arles in 1986, in the shadow of photography, encouraging to work with and by sounds, on the radio but also in using new online media ●



Listening room 2023

July 2023

Pascale Brischoux

Évènements
17'07, Cineke & ACSR (Belgique)

Pascale Brischoux received the *fiction prize* for this play. It is a day of riot as we have known, and as we could know. A sweltering city with no wind and people gathers towards the port. Fear, panic but also joy. Pascale Brischoux is the narrating voice that tells us about the event that grabs us.

She studied directing at INSAS. After working as an assistant director for the cinema, she is now a director for television and radio.

August 2023

Lotte Nijsten & Gillis Van der Wee

Obscuur
17'37, ACSR (Belgique)
Prix Pierre Schaeffer discoveries 2022

Beneath the surface there is a world of hidden sounds. How can we bring it to the surface? In these hidden spaces, if you listen carefully, you can hear the rhythms and flows of the city resonate. Obscure questions the urban underground and the practice of listening in a visual world.

Gillis Van der Wee focuses on the fragile relationship between sound and music. He works notably as a freelance sound designer and composer for films and theatre. His work has won prizes at Bozar and the Semaine du Son. Lotte Nijsten is a documentary filmmaker interested in the relationship between humans and natural landscapes. In 2020, her play Noella was nominated for the prize Europa in Berlin.

September 2023

Lisa Mark

_JA (NEIN). NEIN.
4'57, autoproduction (Suisse)

To say NO means strength. But not all who say YES are weak. Some decisions are difficult, and a YES may be easier to say, even if one feels inner resistance. Through the human expression of the voice, but also by means of various sound synthesis processes (mostly programmed in MAX/MSP) and compositional strategies of electronic music, the composition refers to the imposed ambiguity and uncertainty of the words YES and NO.

Lisa Mark lives and works in Bern. In her artistic practice, she is primarily concerned with the sounds of everyday objects, from which she creates mostly sound installations and compositions.

Daniel Martin-Borret

_J'arrive pas
7'57, autoproduction (France)

Can we say everything? Yes ? So it's okay, the piece may be listenable, even if, after using the darkest recording of reality, something doesn't work, and that's what I wanted to format, this incompatibility of registers. This morning when I wake up, I hear our helplessness there, as in a breath.

Daniel Martin-Borret presents himself as a happy occidental man. At 57, he lives in the Cévennes in great moral and material comfort, while taking care of his carbon footprint, his blood test, and his balance sheet. Recently, surgical medicine has made him a very nice guy, according to the postmaster.

October 2023

Antoine Richard

_Là où se rejoignent les rivières
56', MA scène nationale (France)

A creation halfway between documentary and fiction. It has its source in Montbéliard, a city in which many rivers have been diverted, buried, channeled... Thanks to an unexplained rise in water levels, it summons a landscape of voices of inhabitants, whose intimate stories go back to the surface as the city disappears underwater.

Creator and sound producer for radio and theater (notably for Caroline Guiela Nguyen), Antoine Richard approaches the territories of the intimate and strives to create unique sound forms that decompartmentalize genres.

November 2023

Anne-Julie Rollet & Anne-Laure Pigache

_Espace Ici
35', Les Harmoniques du Néon (France)

This piece received the *Phonurgia Nova Speech Archives* prize. She was created in a retirement home, in Joyeuse, in Ardèche. The two authors have set up a studio there, that is dedicated to listening, recording and sound creation. They walked in the corridors, in the rooms, seeking to speak with great respect and this is the feat of this achievement: a mixture of inventiveness, humor and precious, careful listening. "Here, we take care of words as we take care of people" (Pascale Tison).

With voices of: Arlette, Michèle, Christian, Florence, Elodie, Christelle, André, Françoise, René, Huguette, Mariette, John, Nadine, Jean-Pierre, Roger, Marie Louise, Bruno, residents and caregivers of the EHPAD JOS JULLIEN in Joyeuse.

Coproduction :

Format - or the creation of a dance territory. With the sustain of the Ardèche Department, the DRAC Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Regional Health Agency as part of the regional Culture and Health program, led by Interstices and by the Communes Community of Pays Beaume-Drobie and the city of Joyeuse.

SOUND ART:

This prize rewards approaches that dig into the sonic depth of the radio medium, question its recording devices, or question the limits of our attention faculties.

SPEECH ARCHIVES:

This prize encourages the transmission of the "said", seeks to "grasp the living word".

SOUND FICTION:

This prize distinguishes works which, using fiction, question our contemporary myths.

FIELD RECORDING:

This Prize questions our relationship with "other living things": birds, insects, mammals. It rewards authors of soundscapes captured or invented from scratch. What places and landscapes tell us when we explore them with microphones?

PIERRE SCHAEFFER DISCOVERIES:

This prize highlights authors under the age of 30, who are charting a unique course in the ocean of sounds.

December 2023

Eleanor McDowall & Michael Segalov

_Time flies
27'36, Falling Tree (Grande Bretagne)
Prix Découvertes Pierre Schaeffer 2022

Over 700 clocks may adorn the walls of their Cheshire home, but as Roman and Maz Piekarski contemplate their futures, neither can understand where all the time has gone.

For more than 30 years, the brothers have dedicated their every waking minute to building and sustaining Cuckooland - the world's largest collection of antique cuckoo clocks. With neither having married, nor had children, tracking down, restoring and preserving their treasured timepieces has been a never-ending labour of love - a lifetime's work.

Once a busy tourist destination, changing tastes had already seen footfall declining. And since the onset of the pandemic, the gates to their museum and home - a 19th century schoolhouse perched by the side of the A556 - have been shut. Covid has only compounded the brothers' ever-present predicament - with nobody poised to take stewardship over their prized possessions, what happens when they no longer have the capacity to continue as the custodians of Cuckooland? They may be slowing down, but time isn't. And as their clocks' constant ticking reminds them, it's running out.

First broadcast 9th May 2022, BBC Radio 4. Original music composed by Jeremy Warmesley.



Phonurgia Nova reveals talents that advance the practice of sound as media and art.

Established in Arles since 1986, the association accompanies authors for their professionalization and participates in their promotion on the airwaves of European radio stations. More than 250 creators follow its sound writing training every year. www.phonurgia.fr

