

Idwals Lament : the Valley Peacocks

A proposal from Benoit Maubrey for Soundlands' Bangor Sound City
Audio Peacocks in the Cwm Idwal Valley

A herd of electroacoustic birds wander into the Valley.

This mobile and multiacoustic ensemble wear costumes equipped with samplers, amplifiers, speakers and batteries.

Their autonomous instruments allow them to interact with the natural amphitheater-like environment of the Cwm Idwal Valley.

The individual performers' sounds echo and reverberate with each other throughout the landscape.

Their voices are transformed into the lonely cries of a strange species breaking against the mountain peaks: Idwals lament echoes across the valley and reverberates on the lake's surface.

web link: http://www.benoitmaubrey.com/?page_id=1857



AUDIO PEACOCK

an environmental Sound Costume



AUDIO PEACOCK: a wearable electronic instrument constructed out of polycarbonat equipped with loudspeakers, amplifier, battery, and sampler. This mobile electroacoustic instrument is shaped into a peacock's fan-like plumage and is highly directional -- projecting the sound into a space like an oversized radar dish. Much in the same way that the courtyard peacock "strutts his stuff" in front of a pea-hen and imposes with his awesome cry, so does the Audio Peacock stalk his architectural domain -- using sound as a scalpel that cuts through air and sculpts it, transforming it to into his new realm.

An Audio Peacock can either amplify and alter its own voice or electronic instruments using a microphone, sampler, and filters (loop + pitch), play pre-recorded sounds, or receive live sounds via transmitter/receiver.

Audio Peacock is not a permanent performance-event, it is a mobile sound installation that occurs sporatically over a period of time: much as its distant courtyard cousin this "sound bird" animates its revier by letting out its calls at odd moments and surprising us by making us "hear" the silence.

web link: <http://www.benoitmaubrey.com/?p=718>

It was in 1995 when I moved to a small village outside of Berlin that I was introduced to the neighbor's peacock and decided to adapt its sonic qualities into my work.

The prototype was built in Baitz/Brandenburg, 4 audio costumes followed and were completed at Lieux Publics, the French national centre for artistic creation in public spaces in Marseille in 1996.

In the performance Forest Peacock (June 2005) we performed in an "Urwald" (a primeval forest) outside the city of Saarbrücken. Over a period of 5 hours small groups of listeners/visitors were herded by, gleening the sounds, and listening like lucky ornithologists to a timid species. I was struck by the acoustic effects of the forest and natural environment (trees create formidable echoes). Video link FOREST PEACOCK (4:12 min) : <https://vimeo.com/107583181>

During a sculpture symposium in Hainich National Park near Erfurt (2009), we wandered through a wheatfield with spectators listening from a distance. In the hills of Burgundy (l'Été des Arts en Auxois-Morvan 2012) I climbed up the hang of a hill and let out my "sonic bursts" among the hills, my sole competitor was that of a churchbell about 3 km distance.

More recently in the bird sanctuary near my home I performed near the bird sanctuary in Belziger Landschaftswiese, not far from the home of the local Grosstrappen birds (Great Bustards = large quails that can fly). SAFARI PEACOCK video link (5'24"): <https://vimeo.com/101509042>

During the SOUND CITY DAYS in Kosice/Slowakia (European Capital of Culture 2013) the "bird" perambulated through the city streets with its lonely cries.

Video link (5'12"): <https://vimeo.com/112001447>



General information :

Web Site (Performances): <http://www.benoitmaubrey.com/?cat=6>

Press reviews web link:

http://www.benoitmaubrey.com/?page_id=65

web link ("pioneer of electroacoustic wearables"): <http://www.knotwe.com/benoit-maubrey/>

Video documentation:

SAFARI PEACOCK video link (5'24"): <https://vimeo.com/101509042>

FOREST PEACOCK video link (4'13"): <https://vimeo.com/107583181>

AUDIO PEACOCKS web link: <http://www.benoitmaubrey.com/?p=718>

AUDIO PEACOCK/ Sound City Days 2014 video link (5'12"): <https://vimeo.com/112001447>



CV : Benoît Maubrey/Die Audio Gruppe (selection)

(2014) MarzMusik Festival (Berliner Festspiele), Kosice(Slovakien) European Cultural Capital , (2013) Skulpturen-museum Glaskasten Marl, 2012 ZKM/Karlsruhe, SOUND ART., STATT FARBE: LICHT Bauhaus Museum/Dessau. 2010 TonSpur Expanded: /Vienna, Zero1 Festival, San Jose Biennale, San Jose Ca. (2008) MOSTRA DES ARTES SESC/ Sao Paolo, MUSICA EX MACHINA/ Bilbao, (2007) IM AUGEN DES KLANGS/Joseph Beuys Archive Moyland, INGENUITY/ Cleveland, Digital Arts Week/ Zurich, (2006) Sidelines Festival/ NYC, SIGGRAPH /Boston, Robo-dock Festival/Amsterdam, Taiwan Digital Arts Festival, (2004) Sonoric Atmospheres/Ostseebiennale der Klangkunst, AUDIO IGLOO Singuhr-Hörgalerie/Berlin, Lowlands Festival/Holland, LEM Festival/Gracia Territoria Sonor/Barcelona(2002), AUDIO BALLERINAS, Location One/NYC, Hamburger Bahnhof, Museum fuer Gegenwartskunst/ Berlin, (2001) KunstMuseum/Wolfsburg, New Haven Festival for Arts and Ideas, Seoul Performing Arts Festival, Medi@terra/Athens, Musee des Arts et Industrie/Saint-Etienne, FETA Festival/Gdansk, (2000) Monaco Dance Dan-ses Forum, Tollwood Festival/Munich, Postdamer Musikfestspiele, (1999) IDAT(International Dance and Techno-logy Conference)Phoenix/Arizona, Danzdag Kulturhus Aarhus/Denmark, Les Nuits Savoureuses de Belfort, (1998) MALTA Festival/Poznan, Stockton Riverside Festival/UK, International Symposium for Electronic Arts/Chicago, (1996)Sound Art Festival/Krakow, (1997) ICC-NTT Tokyo, ISEA/Chicago. SONAMBIENTE Sound Art Festival/Ber- lin, 38eme Rugissants/Grenoble, (1995)Sound Art Festival/Hannover, (1994) International Symposium for Electronic Art/Helsinki, (1993) MEDIALE/Hamburg, BECK Forum/Munich, ULTIMA Festival/Oslo, (1992)Cleveland Perfor- mance Festival/Ohio, TISEA/Sydney, (1991) European Land Art Biennale Cottbus/Germany, (1990) Festival les Arts au Soleil, AERONEF/ Lille, Sound Symposium St. John's/ Newfoundland, 1989 Festival PERSPECTIVES/Saarbrücken, (1988) Festival des Arts Electroniques de Rennes/France, „Parcours Sonores“ Musée de La Villette/Paris, Festival of European Street Theatre, Aurillac/ France, (1996)STEIRISCHE HERBST Graz,/Austria,

Awards: Prix Ars Electronica 1991 Honorable Mention, European Award for Street Theatre/Holzminden 1995, Franklin Furnace Fund for Performance NYC 2006, Palmarès du 35e Concours Internationaux de Musique et d'Art Sonore Electroacoustiques de Bourges 2004 and 2009, Grand Prix International Video Danse 2002 (Mention Specia- le). Marler Video and Sound Installation Prize 2008 and 2013, Skulpturenmuseum Glaskasten Marl.

Bibliography:

LEONARDO, Vol.28, No.2, pp.93-97, 1995, Audio Jackets and Other Electroacoustic Clothes.

BENOIT MAUBREY/ DIE AUDIO GRUPPE, catalog 1985.

Die Audio Gruppe 1982-1998, catalog 1989.

-- PERFORMANCES WITH ELECTROACOUSTIC CLOTHES, DVD 2007.

-- KLANG und BEWEGUNG, Berichte aus der Musikwissenschaft, Shaker Verlag ISBN 3-8322-2270-7-

-- Techno Textiles: Revolutionary Fabrics for Fashion and Design (9780500280966): Sarah E. Braddock, Marie O'Mahony,

References (letters available):

Steve Dietz , Founder, President, and Artistic Director of Northern Lights. MN. Founding Director Artistic Director of the 01SJ Biennial. See more at: <http://northern.lights.mn/about/staff/steve/#sthash.vndDhDnV.dpuf>
email: stevedietz@yproductions.com

Jaime Austin, Curator and Director of Programs for ZERO1: The Art and Technology Network and the lead curator of the 2012 ZERO1 Biennial. T 408.606.6800; F 408.716.8844; 439 S. 1st Street,; San Jose, CA . jaime@zero1.org

Melissa Urcan President and Chief Executive Officer

LERATA, Laboratory for Experimentation and Research in Art, Technology, and Architecture P.O. Box 70083, Los Angeles, CA. 90070

213-761-8061 (o) 310-622-6965 (c) www.lerata.org urcan@lerata.org

Contact:

Benoît Maubrey/ Die Audio Gruppe

Baitzer Bahnhofstr.47, 14822 Brück OT Baitz

tel: +49-33841-8265 mobile: +49-177 349 6354

mail@benoitmaubrey.com general web site: <http://www.benoitmaubrey.com/>