# SOUND IN SPACE

Held in conjunction with the exhibition *Soundings: A Contemporary Score*, MoMA Studio: Sound in Space is an interactive environment open to all ages that explores sound as a material and as a spatial, sensory, and immersive experience. Visitors are not just viewers but are listeners who activate their experience through awareness of the interplay between environment and sonic form. The Studio offers drop-in activities and workshops, talks with collaborating artists, and a range of interactive artists' projects that explore how the innovations of technology and the re-envisioning of our physical ability to make sound change the way we communicate and find creative expression. Participating artists include Joe McKay, Angel Nevarez and Valerie Tevere, Carmen Papalia, Scott Snibbe, and Christine Sun Kim.

## **OCT 3-NOV 24**

#### THU, SAT, SUN 1:00-5:00 PM FRI 1:00-8:00 PM

The Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman Education and Research Building, mezzanine

All programs are free and open to all ages on a first-come, first-served basis, unless otherwise noted. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

MoMA.org/MoMAstudio



MoMA Studio is made possible by a partnership with Volkswagen of America.

## **CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS**

Joe McKay is Assistant Professor of New Media at Purchase College, Purchase, N.Y. He has an undergraduate degree from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, Canada, and an MFA from UC Berkeley. In 2000 McKay participated in the Whitney Independent Study Program, New York. He has exhibited his work at VertexList, Brooklyn; the New Museum, New York: Berkelev Art Museum: San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art; Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase, N.Y.; Postmasters Gallery, New York; La Casa Encendida, Madrid: and the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa. McKay works in several different mediums: photo, video, programing, performance, websites, games, and sculpture. joemckaystudio.com

Angel Nevarez and Valerie Tevere's interests lie in the formation of mobile, performative, and discourse-based social spaces. Their current projects investigate contemporary music, dissent, and public fora, reflecting on political agency through transmission and song. Venues for so exhibitions and projects include the Staten Island Ferry, New York; WUNP, unitednationsplaza, Berlin and Mexico City; and Henry Art Gallery, Seattle. Nevarez and Tevere have also shown their work. lectured, and performed at the New Museum, New York; Creative Time, New York; viafarini, Milan; HDLU-Mestrovic Pavilion, Zagreb; Centre d'art passerelle, Brest, France: Museu da imagem e do som, São Paulo; and the Radio Lab at Bauhaus University, Weimar, among others. Recent fellowships include a 2008–09 Creative Capital fellowship and a 2009 Art Matters grant. From 2001 to 2008 Nevarez and Tevere worked under the collaborative name neuroTransmitter. In 2009 they were in residence at the International Artists Studio Program in Sweden (IASPIS). Stockholm. Nevarez is an artist, musician, and DJ and a lecturer at the MIT visual arts program, Boston, Tevere is Associate Professor of Media Culture at the College of Staten Island, City University of New York. nevareztevere.info

**Carmen Papalia** is a social practice artist who designs experiences that allow those involved to expand their perceptual mobility and claim access to public and institutional spaces. Often requiring trust and closeness, these engagements disorient the participant in order to introduce new modes of orientation. Each project that Papalia undertakes is a temporary system of access, a gesture that contributes to a productive understanding of accessibility. His work makes visible the opportunities for learning and knowing that become available through the non-visual senses. **carmen.papalia@gmail.com** 

Scott Snibbe is a media artist, filmmaker. and entrepreneur whose work spurs people to participate socially, emotionally, and physically. His creations are influenced by animation and Surrealist film and often mix live and filmed performances with real-time interaction. Snibbe's artwork is in the permanent collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art and The Museum of Modern Art, New York. His larg scale interactive projects have been incorporated into concert tours, Olympic Games, science museums, airports, and other major public spaces and events, and he has collaborated with musicians and filmmakers including Björk and James Cameron. Snibbe's work is produced through his two companies: Snibbe Interactive, creating interactive exhibits and events; and Snibbe Studio, producing apps for mobile devices. He has taught, published numerous articles and academic papers, and received numerous grants and awards. snibbe.com

Christine Sun Kim holds an MFA in Sound/ Music from Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y., and an MFA from the School of Visual Arts. New York. She has exhibited and performed in venues such as Art Lounge Dibang, Seoul; Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien, Berlin: Recess Activities, New York; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y.; and TCB Art Inc., Melbourne. Sun Kim has received numerous awards. among them a Mellon Tri-College Creative Residency at Haverford College, Lower Merion, Penn.: a Youth Insights Artist Residency at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; and an Emergency Grant from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, New York. She was recently awarded a TED2013 Fellowship. christinesunkim.com



Follow us on Twitter @MoMATalks and on Tumblr at MoMAtalks.tumblr.com to get an inside look at our programs and process. For a schedule of MoMA Studio activities and to access the MoMA Studio SoundCloud page, please visit MoMA.org/ MoMAstudio.

## **INTERACTIVE ARTISTS' INSTALLATIONS**

#### JOE MCKAY Light Wave

Light Wave is a game that consists of twentythree floor lamps and two pedestals arranged in an arch formation. Players use foam hammers to hit the pedestals, sending a signal through the lamps. The harder the pedestal is hit, the faster the signal travels from end to end. If a player times it correctly, he or she can return the signal and prolong the rally. The speed quickens each time the signal is hit until there is a winner, and the game resets.

### Tweetagraph

Tweetagraph, a telegraph wired and programmed to send messages to Twitter via Morse code, playfully reminds participants that "digital" does not necessarily mean new. Tweetagraph uses an Arduino open source hardware board to interpret the signal from the telegraph and Processing open source programming language to translate the code to text and communicate through Twitter.

#### ANGEL NEVAREZ AND VALERIE TEVERE An Exothermic Revolution

Rhythmic and tonal forms collide with the cardiovascular system in this new work by artists Angel Nevarez and Valerie Tevere. Participants are invited to ride a stationary bicycle to control the speed of the sound emanating from a limitededition LP record (featuring tracks related to strength, mobility, and exercise) revolving on the attached turntable.

#### SCOTT SNIBBE & LUKAS GIRLING GLASS MACHINE from the app REWORK\_(Philip Glass Remixed)

The music of classical composer Philip Glass contains complex mathematical patterns, but their formation can be hard for non-musicians to understand. *GLASS MACHINE* distills the factors needed to re-create 1970s music by Glass and makes it accessible to people without formal musical training through a direct visual interface.

In this app for iPad, the distance from the dots to the center of the circular graphic projection corresponds to the notes; longer lines correspond to higher notes. By moving and pinching the colored discs, one can create an infinitude of combinations of notes and polyrhythms. Users can also change the tempo, filter, and instrument.

GLASS MACHINE is available in the Apple App Store as part of *REWORK\_(Philip Glass Remixed)*, a 2012 album/app project celebrating Glass's seventy-fifth birthday. The album contains eleven remixes of Glass compositions by many artists.

#### Listening In: The Social Space of Sound WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 6:00 PM

PUBLIC PROGRAM

THEATER 2. 11 WEST 53RD STREET

The exhibition Soundings: A Contemporary Score features the work of sixteen contemporary interdisciplinary artists who explore the relationships between sounds, objects, and environments-how we listen and how the spaces in which we listen impact our experiences. This related program addresses the materiality of sound, touching on the ways in which sound can shape our physical, collective, and social experiences; our framework for understanding our environments: and how the medium of sound is positioned to challenge familiar ways of thinking. Participants include Philip Brophy, writer, composer, and film director; Christoph Cox, Professor of Philosophy, Hampshire College, Amherst, Mass., and a faculty member at the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y.; Branden Joseph, Frank Gallipoli Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University, New York; and Johanna Fateman, musician, writer, record producer, and member of the band Le Tigre. Moderated by Barbara London, Associate Curator, Department of Media and Performance Art, and organizer of the exhibition.

Tickets (\$15; \$10 members and corporate members; \$5 students, seniors, and staff of other museums) can be purchased online, at the visitor information desk in the main Museum lobby, or at the film desk after 4:00 p.m.

## **TALKS AND WORKSHOPS**



#### Artist Talk: Scott Snibbe and Lukas Girling in Conversation SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 3:00 PM

EDUCATION CLASSROOM B, CULLMAN MEZZANINE

Media artist and filmmaker **Scott Snibbe** and his collaborator **Lukas Girling** discuss their work and its relationship to sound in space, with a particular focus on *GLASS MACHINE* from the app *REWORK\_(Philip Glass Remixed)*, which is featured at MoMA Studio.

Photo: Scott Snibbe and Philip Glass, by Noah Bennett Cunningham



includes political content. In protest karaoke, a song might refer to a particular historical moment, but it may also help us reconsider a political situation in the present, giving the work a resonance greater than that of a typical pop song. Originally commissioned in 2008 as part of the project Democracy in America: The National Campaign, by the art organization Creative Time, *APS: Karaoke with a Message* is a chance for you to sing songs of protest.

Photo: Angel Nevarez and Valerie Tevere, Another Protest Song: Karaoke with a Message, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, Queens, New York, 2008, by Meghan McInnis



#### Artist Talk: Joe McKay SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 3:00 PM

EDUCATION CLASSROOM B, CULLMAN MEZZANINE

Artist **Joe McKay** discusses his work and its relationship to sound in space, with a particular focus on *Light Wave* and *Tweetagraph*, his interactive installations featured at MoMA Studio.



#### Artist Workshop: A Choir of Glances with Christine Sun Kim THURSDAY AND SATURDAY,

NOVEMBER 7 AND 9, 3:00–5:00 PM

EDUCATION CLASSROOM B AND CULLMAN MEZZANINE

**Christine Sun Kim**, who uses performance and technology to explore her relationship with sound and spoken languages, leads a workshop with members of the public that investigates various states of sound, silence, gesture, and communication as they exist and transform through physical interaction and technology. Ideas workshopped during the first portion of the afternoon will culminate in a group performance at the end of the session.

Photo: Christine Sun Kim, Face Opera, 2013, by Conrado Johns

#### Artist Workshop: Ear-Cleaning Tour with Carmen Papalia

#### Another Protest Song: Karaoke with a Message FRIDAYS, OCTOBER 11 AND 25, 5:30–8:00 PM DURING MOMA FREE FRIDAY NIGHTS

THE ABBY ALDRICH ROCKEFELLER SCULPTURE GARDEN, EAST SIDE. RAIN LOCATION: CULLMAN MEZZANINE

Another Protest Song: Karaoke with a Message looks to the potential of the karaoke songbook for political enunciation. As the 2008 US presidential elections were approaching, artists **Angel Nevarez** and **Valerie Tevere** became interested in providing a space in which users might feel comfortable getting on a soapbox and professing their political interests and dislikes. In an era of televised competitive singing and innumerable karaoke bars, everyone is a singer, and song choice says a lot about the performer, especially if the song Photo: Joe McKay, Light Wave, courtesy the artist

#### Artist Talk: Angel Nevarez and Valerie Tevere in Conversation with Karen Tongson THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 12:30 PM

EDUCATION CLASSROOM B, CULLMAN MEZZANINE

**Karen Tongson**, Associate Professor of English and Gender Studies and Seminar Director, University of Southern California, Dornsife, joins artists **Angel Nevarez** and **Valerie Tevere** in a conversation about their work and its relationship to sound in space, including a discussion of karaoke cultures and prevailing paradigms of originality and imitation in aesthetics and critical theory, subjects Tongson explores in her forthcoming book project, *Empty Orchestra: Karaoke. Critical. Apparatus.* 

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2:00 AND 4:00 PM

MEET IN CULLMAN MEZZANINE, MoMA GALLERIES AND MUSEUM SPACES

Ear cleaning is the practice of gaining awareness of the state of a soundscape by temporarily plugging one's ears before listening. Participants in these ear-cleaning tours, wearing earplugs, are taken by artist **Carmen Papalia** to a number of noticeably different acoustic environments. There they remove their earplugs and are led through focused listening exercises.

These two Artist Workshops are free, but tickets are required. They may be acquired in the Cullman Building lobby on the day of each program. Please visit MoMA.org/MoMAstudio for details.