

Vertical Hearing

Anke Eckardt
Sound Studies
Universität der Künste Berlin
Germany
ae@staella.org
<http://www.ankeeckardt.com>

In: Motje Wolf (Ed.) Proceedings of Sound, Sight, Space and Play 2009
Postgraduate Symposium for the Creative Sonic Arts
De Montfort University Leicester, United Kingdom, 6-8 May 2009
<http://www.mti.dmu.ac.uk/events-conferences/sssp2009>

Abstract

Vertical Hearing is an ongoing project focusing on the analysis of spatial perception on the vertical plane. The project consists of two parts, theoretical research based within sound anthropology and artistic work. My theoretical research can be located within the fields of 'phenomenology' and 'anthropology of the senses'. Within scientific research, psychoacoustic hearing tests are undertaken in laboratories. Expanding upon this, my project explores which additional categories influence 'Vertical Hearing' in public space, in the contemporary urban environment of everyday life. Thus far I have listed six categories:

- Psychoacoustic Phenomena.
- Dynamics / Movements In Public Space.
- Hierarchy Of Sounds.
- Acoustical Properties Of Space.
- Perspectivity Of The Individual.
- Cultural Forming.

My artistic work expands upon the research to *Vertical Hearing* by presenting the subject matter as a tangible experience and addressing another parameter: synaesthetic perceptions. The sound sculpture " ! ", which currently exists as a prototype, will be realised for the first time in the House of World Cultures (Haus der Kulturen der Welt) in Berlin in August 2009.



FOTO: © HOLGER KIST