

JOEL CAHEN |

E: joel@newtoy.org | <http://www.newtoy.org> | T. +44 7908374952

Sound artist, composer, educator and producer of experiential art

ARTIST STATEMENT:

I am interested in using the portal that art work offers for the liberation and activation of the participant's imagination by encouraging interactivity with the environment and objects within it and by stimulating the audience's resources of curiosity and intelligence. I am particularly interested in the contextualising powers of sound on the attribution of meaning to an experience. This contributes to my interest in psychogeography and dramaturgy as studies of people's experience of public space and an art production.



I am also interested in polyphony, abstract sound collages and cacophonies. These access the listeners' cultural references, associations and memory and through breaking these forms, elevate their sound perception beyond the linearity of sonic progression to a holistic daydream state that envelopes the multitude of juxtaposed information.

BIO:

Based in London, my professional background is in sound design and music for stage and screen productions as well as new media. I am also a curator and organiser of experiential art works. My current interests interrogate the affect of sound in various spaces (physical, cultural and the body) and how art can expand the notion of private and public identities.

Among my projects are: Wet Sounds, an underwater concert project that sonifies both wet and dry areas of the swimming pools; Scrap Club, the public Destructivist activity; productions for Interzone Theatre, audio based geo-locative experiences in public spaces of the city and a series of online and on-site workshops, activities and events dedicated to Listening Arts called We're All Bats.

I am a co-founder and artistic director of the England registered charity Liquid Vibrations with Adele Drake (Founder of Drake Music) which provides training sessions for Musical Hydrotherapy for staff at Special Needs schools and institutions in the UK. Musical Hydrotherapy is the practice of supporting people for underwater listening at hydrotherapy pools.

For 10 years (2006-2016) I have had radio show on London's Resonance 104.4fm, art radio station exploring improvised abstract sound collages. Other musical projects here.

Recently, following a series of residencies and grants, I have developed Audileum, a Mixed Reality interface for integrating live performance and VR.

My work has been presented at Red Bull Music Festival, ISEA, AV Festival, ATP, Helsinki Festival, The Royal Neurological Hospital, and various symposia, music and art festivals worldwide and covered by BBC Television, France 2, Discovery Channel, The Guardian and many more international outlets.

Full CV with list of teaching experience, education, paper presentations, artist talks and residencies is available here.