

Joel Cahen

Sound artist, sound designer, producer, curator, educator

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Based in Kent, 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 how art can expand the notion of private and public identities mainly through the affect of sound in various spaces (physical, cultural and the body). I am also continuously exploring the spectrum between perception of patterns and chaos.

Among my ongoing projects are: [Wet Sounds](#), an underwater concert project that sonifies both wet and dry areas of the swimming pools; [Scrapclub](#), the public Destructivist activity; 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 pioneering England registered charity [Liquid Listening](#) which pioneered Musical Hydrotherapy practice in Special Needs schools and institutions in the UK. Musical Hydrotherapy is the practice of supporting people for sub-surface listening at hydrotherapy pools.

My work has been presented at Red Bull Music Festival in Moscow and Montreal, ISEA, AV Festival, All Tomorrow's Parties, Helsinki Festival, Tate Modern, Brighton Festival, Adelaide Fringe (Award winner of 2018 festival), Latitude Festival, The Royal Neurological Hospital, and various symposiums, music and art festivals worldwide and covered by BBC Television, France 2, Discovery Channel, The Guardian and many more international outlets.

Full Discography [here](#).

Recent albums: 2022 [Depths](#). 2021 [PlutonOvarian – The Duty of Pleasure](#). 2019 [Music for Floating](#). 2018 [Aquadelique](#).

July-Aug 2023 [We're All Bats Dover](#) – A curated selection of Listening Arts workshops and activities in Dover, UK. Funded by Arts Council England.

Nov 2022 [Depths](#) – Video edit and music collaboration with Shaymaa Shoukry, Cairo based dancer and choreographer. Commissioned by Farnham Malting.

Oct 2022 [Wave Field Synthesis project](#) for AOE dance studio, Chatham.

Apr 2022 [We're All Bats Resonansi](#) – A selection of online workshops partnering with Indonesian sound art collective Muarasuara. Commissioned by British Council.

2021-2022 [Everything At Once Forever](#). A series of 12 hour long cacophonies / abstract mash ups for Camp Radio.

2012 – 2020 Several productions for an app I designed [Interzone Theatre](#) (discontinued), audio based geo-locative experiences in public spaces of the city. *The Oneironaut* (Commissioned by METAL, Southend), *The Hero With Seven Faces* (for Re:art the Urban, Zurich), *The Panopticon* (for Camden Theatre Festival), *In Four Minds* (For Sonorities Festival, Belfast), *The Grinder* (London Clerkenwell), *Chronomotive* (commissioned by Watermans Art Gallery, Brentford).

2006-2016 A [radio show](#) series on London's Resonance 104.4fm, art radio station, exploring improvised abstract sound collages

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SELECTION OF OTHER WORKS

Alice. 2022. Internationally touring | Sound design for Jasmin Vardimon's acclaimed dance production.
Arcadia. 2020. Iwasaki Museum, Tokyo. | Sound for dance performance by Dominique Baron-Bonarjee
We're All Bats Walthamstow. 2019. Various venues | A curated selection of Listening Arts workshops and activities in Waltham Forest, London.
Voluptuous Panic. 2019. video | Sound for dance video by Dominique Baron-Bonarjee
History of Sound Art. 2013. Whitechapel Art Gallery, Fierce Festival | A sound piece artistic interpretation of the history of sound art, mixed from a piece by J Milo Taylor.
Cacophony. 2011. Westminster Art Library | Multichannel live mix and speaker installation in the bookshelves.
No Name Thousands, Regardless, Fracture Line. 2006-2009. Various venues in Finland and London | Music for dance work by Sonja Jokinemi
7000 Dirhams. 2007 – 2015. various performances Tate Modern, Athens Biennial, Morocco tour | Live audio visual work
Sound pieces for photos by Charles Gatewood. 2009. Gallery 23, Shoreditch. Commissioned by Switch Theatre.
Prospero's Library. 2010. Moscow Book Fair, Moscow | Abstract sound collage music piece.
NonFerrous Prostitution. 2006. E+VA Limerick, Ireland NonFerrous Prostitution | Live audio visual puppetry work
Spaxoid Cube. 2003-2005. Area 10 London, TRO Berlin, Werkbeck Berlin | Surround Sound audio visual walk-in structure.
The Derelict Sensation. 2003. St. Pancras Hotel London | Sound installations

TEACHING AND WORKSHOPS

Liquid Listening 2010- ongoing | Charity co-founder, Musical Hydrotherapy training session to staff at special needs schools.
Story to Sound 2010 – ongoing | Independent workshops for sonifying imaginative stories – multiple locations
The London Film School 2009 – ongoing | Tutor of location sound recording and audio post production courses
London College of Communication 2010 – 2020 | Visiting lecturer of location sound recording and sound design techniques
University of the Arts, London 2016 – 2020 | Teaching modules for site specific sound, field recordings and MIDI
Met Film School Autumn 2016 | Teaching Adobe Audition and location sound for documentaries.
Sound post production for film 2016 | Practical and theoretical tuition, Entube Centre, Doha, Qatar.

RESIDENCIES

Wave Field Synthesis composition. 2022. AOE Dance Studio Chatham.
Sound theatres and game engine. 2016. Sound and Music, CMMAS, Mexico, University of Huddersfield.
Surround sound narratives. 2010. Steim, Amsterdam
Sound to Dance improvisation. 2010. L.Mono, Bilbao, Spain.

TALKS

Sonic Impact – The Psychology of Sound. 2022. Panel. The Design Museum, London
Musical Hydrotherapy. 2015, 2016. Paper and presentation. International Symposium for Music Education, Special Needs conference, Edinburgh and Sound Connections conference.
Music Therapy Advances in Neuro-disability. 2014. Paper and presentation. Royal Neurological Hospital, Putney
Perspectives on Sound Based AR for Theatre. 2013, 2014. Paper and presentation. ESSA Functional Sounds Conference Berlin, Germany and Locus Sonus 8th Symposium – Audio Mobility – Aix en Provence, France

PUBLICATIONS

Musical Hydrotherapy

- Creative Therapies and Technology Edited by Dr Stephanie Brooke (2017)
- Sounding Board, the Journal of Community Music. Issue 16.3/16.4 (2017)
- PMLD Link journal (2016)
- Voices online journal (2014)

Perspectives on AR Audio for Theatre

- Wi, Journal for mobile media Vol 9. No.2 April 2015

Destructivistas

- Revised edition published in Material Worlds blog (2016)

Tech Art – The Effects of Code and Network Systems on Music and Art

- Published by Intellect Journals 6.2 | Tecnoetic Arts, A Journal of Speculative Research 2008

EDUCATION

1997-1999 HND equivalent in **Audio Engineering** from SAE, School of Audio Engineering.

June 2004 **BA (Hons) Sound Design** from The London Institute, London College of Communications.