Call for papers and participation

FLUID STATES FLUID SOUNDS
Amager and Roskilde University
Denmark, 18 – 21 June 2015
FLUID STATES – FLUID SOUNDS

The academic paper often focuses on a text manuscript directed at our cognition and reason. Inspired by recent approaches of activist philosophy (Massumi 2010) situated, embodied knowledge (Haraway 1998, Manning 2008) site-specific performance (Pearson 2010) and spatial performance (Hannah 2008), we wish to introduce an alternative conference and site-specific format for academic conferences.

With FLUID STATES – FLUID SOUNDS we propose a conference format taking the bodily, situated and affective modes of research into play. By merging anthropologies of sound with site-specific audio-performances we explore new ways of investigating places and urban spaces. Underlining listening, sensing and experiencing as part of research processes, we wish to combine art and knowledge. FLUID STATES – FLUID SOUNDS is not only an exploration of how to gain knowledge through site-specific audio performance, it is also a conference that transforms academic knowledge into performances, and performances into aesthetic knowledge.

The conference consists of three parts:

**Day 1**
Keynote presentations and performances by international sound artists and researchers

**Days 2+3**
Audio production where participants produce their own academic audio papers

**Day 4**
Presentation and transmission of audio papers. As this format is easily transmitted across oceans, borders and disciplines, the audio papers produced during the conference will be transmitted to the other PSi conference platforms.

**KEYNOTES**
The conference keynotes are academics and artists working with site-specificity and sound as an artistic and/or academic practice, and will engage with the island of Amager through sound and site-specific performances. Confirmed speakers are

* Prof. Holger Schulze on anthropology of sound as research method
* Prof. Brandon Labelle on sound and the site-specific
* Sound artist (tba)

The keynote presentations will take place in specific locations on the island of Amager, which houses a third of Copenhagen’s population.
Amager offers beaches, a former industrial harbour, Nordic food culture [Noma], recreational harbour baths, shopping malls, cultural activism on Prag’s Boulevard, social housing, allotments, the Freetown Christiania, the Danish Broadcasting Corporation, Copenhagen Airport Kastrup, nature and wildlife resorts, working class culture, Riviera-like villas, the newly constructed and often criticized neighbourhood Ørestad featuring star architects such as BIG [the VM Mountain, 8-tallet] and Jean Nouvel. 

**SUBJECT OF MATTER: SITE MATTERS**

With a variety of contrasting sites, Amager offers the perfect setting for audio performances, sound recordings and site-specific investigations. We welcome audio papers and performances that engage with these sites and their inherent knowledge, conflicts and potentials in inventive and experimental ways.

The format is open to research engaging with topics such as fluid states, site-specificity, aesthetic/artistic research and learning, cross-disciplinarily, sound art and sounds studies. Whereas the overall topic is relatively free, the format is restricted to be suitable for site-specific audio productions.

The conference is particularly relevant for researchers and PSi members interested in new research formats, artistic knowledge production and performance. For the audio paper presentations, we encourage cross-disciplinary and collective investigations as researchers and artists are encouraged to collaborate.

After the conference, all audio papers will be collected, peer reviewed, edited and published as an audio volume in the academic journal Seismograf/DMT [seismograf.org/pr]. The volume will document how researchers and performers experiment and cross the boundaries between artistic performance and knowledge production. By producing their own audio lectures during the seminar, participants will not only have the chance to talk about sound, art and urban ecologies – they will also have to perform it aesthetically in the form of the audio paper.

**PARTICIPATION**

FLUID STATES – FLUID SOUNDS is open to researchers, sound and performance artists associated with PSi and beyond. The seminar welcomes everybody working with practice-based research, research through sound and design, artistic research and creative, artistic knowledge production in general. As a participant, you can contribute in two ways:

* Through an audio paper produced and presented during the conference
* Through a site-specific sound performance exploring the multiple sites on the island of Amager.
Formal guidelines:
Audio papers: 500 word abstract outlining the research theme and concept for the production. Deadline for abstracts is 1 December 2014. If the abstract is accepted, the full manuscript, including reflections on the audio paper’s aesthetic, methodological and/or theoretical framework must to be submitted by 1 June 2015.

Site-specific performances: 500 word project description including an artistic, methodological and/or theoretical motivation. Budget and financing plan has to be included as well. Sketches, sound samples and graphics are welcome via Dropbox.

For both the audio papers and site-specific performances, we encourage collective and cross-disciplinary presentations. Ideally, the presentations will be artistic research collaborations merging site-specific performances with audio papers.

All applicants must also include a 200 word biography.

Deadline: 1 December 2014.

PRACTICALITIES
The number of audio paper participants is limited to 25. Performance artists in residence are limited to 3. All proposals (papers and performances) will be peer reviewed and selected by the organizing committee.

Audio paper participants must preferably bring their own audio recorder and a laptop for sound editing. A written playbook for the paper and the concept for the audio production must also be prepared.

Performance participants may apply for local funding to cover production costs.

PROGRAMME
18 June:
Keynote presentations and performances in various locations on Amager

19 June:
Production and post-production of audio papers

20 June:
Production and post-production of audio papers

21 June:
Presentation of audio papers and audio transmission of papers and performances across the North Atlantic

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