

Festival
01/10/2010 - 06/10/2010

HYDROPHONIA Donostia

Hydrophonia is a sound art festival specifically devoted to the underwater soundscape. A sound universe which is completely unknown to our ears while at the same time strangely fascinating.

Coordination: Audiolab

Curator: Kim Cascone, Xabier Erkizia

Date: From 1 to 6 October

Venue: Aquarium, Donostia-San Sebastián

Guests: Michel André, Kim Cascone, Jana Winderen, Mike Rooke, Lee Patterson

Registration deadline: Until 20 September. Send your personal details along with a covering letter stating your interest to arteleku@gipuzkoa.net

Very often, the sounds of the various animals and environments appearing in pieces of sound art are labelled with terms that refer to the visual, such as sound portraits or aural cinema. And these labels simply reinforce the dominance of the visual over sound.

In this respect, ironically, sound field recordings continue to concentrate on what the listener sees rather than what he hears.

But if sound artists wish to break down or overcome this visual dominance, their recordings should be made in places where the listener cannot see, or where they cannot physically get to; places that are dark or hidden from sight, making the listener trust in their own imagination, in an exercise that we might call "anti-retinal sound".

And this phenomenon is exactly what happens on listening to the soundscapes that this festival makes reference to.

Over the course of 6 days, various artists, accompanied by scientists and engineers, will be presenting and describing their experiences of submerged listening, revealing realities far removed from our own, although not for this reason less relevant. We can expect concerts, recitals, lectures and workshops, but above all unique moments in sound and, literally, immersive listening sessions.

Organised by the Audiolab sound laboratory in the contemporary art production centre Arteleku, in collaboration with the Aquarium of Donostia-San Sebastián and ZoOo, the cycle of events organised by the environmental resource centre Cristina Enea.