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PRESS RELEASE

Artist: Hildegard Westerkamp

Event: The Way of Listening

Type of event: Soundwalk

Location: San Romano, City of Mercato Saraceno (FC)

Date: 27 June 2010

Meeting point: the square of the church of San Romano

Hours: from 10.00 to 11.30 am

Route: Church of San Romano - Via Mulino di sopra - Along River Borello - Gorgo of Spicchio *

* Gorgo of Spicchio: A pond dug by the swirling waters, dominated by rock and wild vegetation.

Organization: The Rad'Art Project - Association Arteco

In collaboration with: Association Aidoru, the City of Mercato Saraceno

And: FKL (Forumklingschaft) and WFAE (World Forum for Acoustic Ecology)

The Rad'Art Project is supported by the Emilia-Romagna Region and the Province of Forli-Cesena.



Provincia di Forli-Cesena

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[Press Release]

Under the program dedicated to the **sound research** of **The Project Rad'Art**, Arteco Association offers a **Soundwalk** conducted by the German-Canadian composer **Hildegard Westerkamp**, to be held on the route of the old road between San Romano and Linaro, in the Municipality of Mercato Saraceno, June, Sunday 27th, 2010, from 10.00 to 11.30 am.

Description

A "soundwalk" is a tour in which pays special attention to listening environment around us and can be run anywhere: parks, countryside and cities, even in an enclosed space, such as a supermarket, a library or a cathedral. We can also engage in a session listening to the train station or waiting in a doctor's office. Soundwalking is to give hearing a predominant role, wherever we are.

The soundwalk may be done alone or with friends or in small groups. Can be done with eyes blindfolded, letting ourselves be guided by others ... does not matter what form the soundwalk take: its aim is to rediscover and reactivate our sense of hearing, for too long neglected, so that we have done little to build around us a good quality of acoustic environment.

From "Soundwalking" by Hildegard Westerkamp. Victoria B.C. 1974

Brief biography of Hildegard Westerkamp

Hildegard Westerkamp was born in Osnabrück, Germany in 1946 and emigrated to Canada in 1968. After completing her music studies in the early seventies Westerkamp joined the World Soundscape Project under the direction of Canadian composer R. Murray Schafer at Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Vancouver.

Her involvement with this project not only activated deep concerns about noise and the general state of the acoustic environment in her, but it also changed her ways of thinking about music, listening and soundmaking. Her ears were drawn to the acoustic environment as another cultural context or place for intense listening.

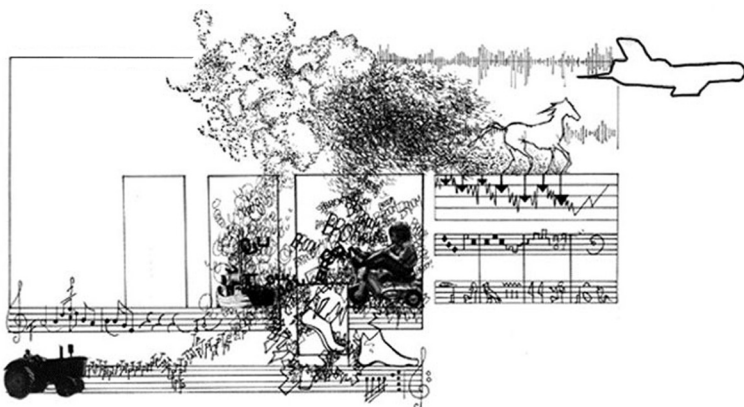
The founding of Vancouver Co-operative Radio during the same time provided an invaluable opportunity to record, experiment with and broadcast the soundscape.

One could say that her career as a composer, educator, and radio artist emerged from these two pivotal experiences and focused it on environmental sound and acoustic ecology. In addition, composers such as John Cage and Pauline Oliveros have had a significant influence on her work.

Excerpts of Hildegard Westerkamp's compositions have been included in the soundtrack of *Elephant and Last Days*, two films by Gus van Sant. CDs of both soundtracks have been released in France by mk2 music.

He has taught courses in acoustic communication at the University of Simon Fraser (1981-91) in Vancouver (BC) and holds conferences and workshops on the soundscape around the world.

She is a founder member of the World Forum for Acoustic Ecology (WFAE, 1993) and was editor of *Soundscape Bulletin* between 1991 and 1995. She is now a component of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Soundscape - The Journal of Acoustic Ecology*, published by the WFAE to which the association FKL (Forum Klanglandschaft) is associated.



Score by Hildegard Westerkamp

Courtesy: www.mediatelepos.net/archives/8037