



19-23
August 2015
Singapore

Sound is a medium that acts as a glue between the senses. Hearing is deeply intertwined with vision and movement. Beyond that, researchers and artists are mapping out cross-modal associations with touch, smell, feel, and taste, leading to new and fascinating multimodal designs and experiences, as well as a veritable coral reef of artworks.

Soundislands Festival 2015 and the Si15 Symposium started as two separate ideas and have gradually intertwined. The core theme of both, “~sound:senses”, expresses the clash between sonic arts and sciences of psychology. The tilde grapheme (aka 'swung dash') indicates a formulaic dependency or function, and the colon specifies a co-variation between variables. Our focus is on the interaction effects between physical sound and human senses. You might ask: "OK, but what does the interaction denote, what's on the other side of this function?" And we must reply: "You are!"

Much remains unknown as to how sensory integration works. Yet artists rely on psycho-physical research, i.e. the science of stimulus-sensation, to optimise designed experiences. Throughout history, technical means were developed to extend human capacities in all sensory modalities, both receptive and expressive: recent enabling technologies include film, games, virtual reality, data perceptualisation (e.g. visualisation, sonification, physicalisation...), and immersive, smart architecture. Contemporary art represents a stream of possibilities, yet beneath a surface of flamboyance, some artworks might have sprung from confident intuition rather than theoretically grounded and empirically validated research.

~sound:senses

The art-science loop needs to be closed. Can designers profit from a deeper involvement in the perceptual sciences? Can researchers use art and design more convincingly as hypothesis-generators or test-beds for experiments? Can artists tell better stories by distinguishing between innate sensory interactions and culturally acquired yet subconscious interaction experiences? Can a line be drawn between normal and pathological 'synaesthesia'?

Sound artists and musicians have always been inclined towards intermediality (cf. ancient rites, dance, opera, cinema). The first computer artworks were musical compositions. In numerous fields of application, sound integrates with other media, often in a supportive yet essential capacity. Sound and music have provided fertile grounds for research in perceptual psychology and computer science. The fluency of sound, its invisible and intangible nature – and because it can only happen inside time – might be key to an understanding the human condition: brain, body and soul.

Soundislands Festival /Si15 builds on the Si13 Symposium. Thanks to partnerships with ArtScience Museum and the National Art Council, we are able to make a bold statement this year. Nanyang Technological University has sustained its commitment to our work by providing core funding from the Centre For Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at NTU and further support from the School of Art Design Media and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. We are proud that Si15 keynote speakers and artists have received assistance from the Italian Cultural Institute and the New Zealand Art Council. We have also received endorsements from the Asia Computer Music Project and the International Computer Music Association. Thank you all!

We wish all concertgoers, exhibition visitors, symposium attendants, and contributing artists and researchers, a warm welcome to the Si15 Soundislands Festival, and hope that you will have a great time!

PerMagnus LINDBORG
Suzy STYLES Joyce Beetuan KOH
Stefano FASCIANI Dirk STROMBERG
Ross WILLIAMS Honor HARGER
Naotoshi OSAKA Lonce WYSE
Sara LENZI Stephen LIM
Mark WONG Randall PACKER



Find us at
<http://www.soundislands.com/si15>

Wednesday

WhenWeCollide@ArtsHouse

630pm

Opening Reception
Installation

730pm

FASCIANI KOH STROMBERG
PERTOUT SHIN LINDBORG

PERFORMANCE

800pm

Daniel
BELTON

Thursday

Proceedings@NTU

900am

STEFANIA SERAFIN

Keynote

1000am-500pm

New Interfaces For Multimodal Expression
Performing With Technology (demos)
Music Perception And Cognition

PERFORMANCE@ASM

800pm

Ryoji
IKEDA

Friday

Proceedings@NTU

900am

CHARLES SPENCE

Keynote

1000am-500pm

Multimodal Perception Sound Art &
Music Aesthetics Perception (posters)
Sensoriality Of 3rd pace (panel)

PERFORMANCES@ADM

600pm CIGILIANI FLETCHER GIANNOUTAKIS
HE LESLIE O'BRIAN POLLARD

700pm

Black
ZENITH

Saturday

BrunchMusic@FoodMuseum

1100am

HAYKAL SPICER TSE

Conversations@ASM

200pm

BELTON HARGER LINDBORG
KOH SERAFIN SPENCE STYLES

PERFORMANCE

500pm

CLUBbleu

Showcases@ASM

100-700pm

Artists Scientists Installations
Demos Interactive Web

200-400pm

Making Unusual Sounds in
Unusual Ways Workshops
FASCIANI STROMBERG

Sunday

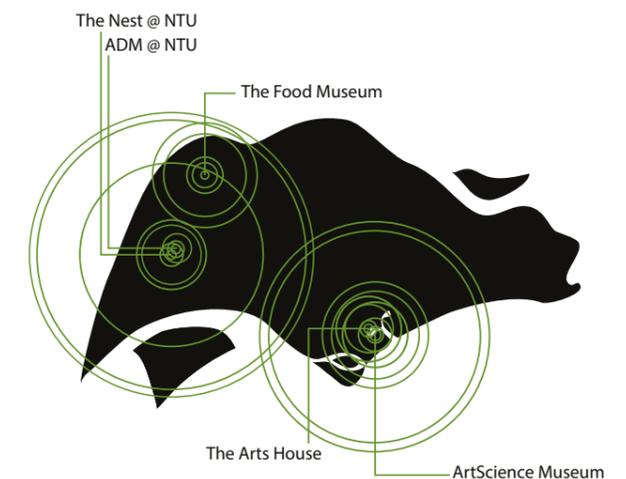
PERFORMANCES

500pm

GuitarFace Competition

530pm

Young Composers STROMBERG



How to get there

School of Art, Design and Media - NTU

81 Nanyang Drive, 639798

The Nest, Innovation Centre - NTU

16 Nanyang Drive, 637722

ArtScience Museum

6 Bayfront Ave, 018974

The Arts House

1 Old Parliament Lane, 179429

The FoodMuseum

100 Neo Tiew Road, 719026