

Connecting and belonging through sound

Pete Stollery

petestollery.com

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We begin to hear before we are born, four and a half months after conception. From then on, we develop in a continuous and luxurious bath of sounds: the song of our mother's voice, the swash of her breathing, the trumpeting of her intestines, the timpani of her heart. Throughout the second four and a half months, Sound rules as solitary Queen of our senses: the close and liquid world of uterine darkness makes Sight and Smell impossible, Taste monochromatic, and Touch a dim and generalized hint of what is to come.

Birth brings with it the sudden and simultaneous ignition of the other four senses and an intense competition for the throne that Sound had claimed as hers. The most notable pretender is the darting and insistent Sight, who dubs himself King as if the throne had been standing vacant, waiting for him.

Ever discreet, Sound pulls a veil of oblivion across her reign and withdraws into the shadows, keeping a watchful eye on the braggart Sight. If she gives up her throne, it is doubtful that she gives up her crown.

foreword to Michel Chion's *Audio-Vision* (1994) by Walter Murch

Museums for Disappearing Sounds

At the age of forty I have many sound memories which are no longer to be heard (milk bottles, steam whistles, bicycle bells, horseshoes being tossed against a metal spike). Everyone will have such a list. We listen back and notice how much has slipped away unperceived. Where? Where are the museums for disappearing sounds?

R. Murray Schafer *The Tuning of the World* (1977)

COVID-19 Sound Map

<https://bit.ly/covid19soundmap>

National Parks Sound Map

SOUND MAP:

<https://bit.ly/nationalparkssoundscapes>

FURTHER INFO AND UPLOAD:

<https://bit.ly/npsoundscapespublic>

Audio Spaces: Sound Maps

WEB:

<https://audio-spaces.com/>

MOBILE:

Search for **Audio Spaces: Sound Maps**
in App Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android)

M & L Sound Map

<https://padlet.com/hwomedia/media-and-learning-community-sound-map-aye1xodir5sdh3pi>

Further Links

More sound map projects by PS:

<https://www.petestollery.com/soundart>

Sound of the Year Awards:

<https://soundoftheyearawards.com/>

Cities and Memories, Ways of Listening:

<https://citiesandmemory.com/listening/>