

## Ear to Ear

Thursday 14 February – Friday 1 March 2013

Preview: Monday 18 February, 6 pm – 8 pm

An Exhibition by Robert Squirrell  
and Thomas Hall



Opening up a space for the ear and the voice, *Ear to Ear* offers an invitation to its audience to become immersed in sonic space. It challenges the dominance of the visual in both the world of contemporary art and the modern day art and design school.

This exhibition features immersive sound works by Robert Squirrell and Thomas Hall as well as a collection of playbacks and screenings curated by Rob Flint, on behalf of the Listening Group\*.

### ***Sirens* by Thomas Hall**

Hypnotic and enchanting *Sirens* is an immersive aural and visual experience, resonating the allure and seductiveness of the mythical sea deities. Enticed into the installation by an ever changing musical arrangement of voices the viewer is surrounded by imposing sculptural forms, evoking impressions of being trapped in the hull of a boat or caught in the clutches of a pair of hands. Each experience is unique to the individual viewer.

### ***Inharmonic Accelerator* by Robert Squirrell**

An interactive sound installation in the form of a spiral maze exploring ideas related to the Large Hadron Collider - CERN, particle physics, circularity and what it might sound like. Curious about our understanding of the universe, the work sonically explores a physical experience of play in an immersive surround sound environment.

Thomas Hall and Robert Squirrell are both members of Engagement Party, an artist led group working individually and collectively with notions of active engagement, interaction and play.

\*Listening Group is an informal meeting of students and staff. It is intended to be a place for focusing attention to art-works that foreground sound and active listening.

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### **Visiting the Bonington Gallery**

The Gallery is open to the public and free to attend.

Monday – Friday, 10 am – 5 pm

[www.ntu.ac.uk/boningtongallery](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/boningtongallery)

The Bonington Gallery, Nottingham Trent University, Dryden street, Nottingham, NG1 4GG  
[boningtongallery@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:boningtongallery@ntu.ac.uk) 0115 848 8268

Image: Robert Squirrell & Laura Allen

# Associated events

## **Playback screening: The Face of My Voice**

Wednesday 20 February 2013, 6 pm

The Bonington Gallery

A selection of artist's works, performance documentation and film, radio and TV excerpts introduced by Rob Flint.

This event takes its cue from descriptions of the face, and 'faciality' in the writing of French philosopher's Deleuze and Guattari, with concepts of sound and of the voice is encountered in psychoanalysis, (particularly the 'acousmatic voice' of Michel Chion and 'object voice' of Mladen Dolar.)

This collection of works and clips will look at the way the acoustic experience of the voice relates to the visual experience of the face, and how a dislocation of that experience has been explored by a range of artists and entertainers.

Presented as a 'screening' this will also include image-less works in playback form.

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## **Cinematic sound work: 37 Years**

Monday 25 February 2013, 6 pm

The Bonington Gallery

Is it possible to use cinema as a space for listening more than looking? Can we rest our eyes from the visual 'noise' of the screen in order for the ears to 'focus' more clearly on the language of sound?

From Walter Ruttmann's imageless film *Weekend* (1930) to Derek Jarman's, *Blue* (1993), there have been a number of attempts to use the cinema as a space for listening as opposed to looking.

37 Years explores this potential by plundering extracts of diegetic sound from 37 winning films of the Oscar 'Sound Effects Editing' category, 1963 to 2009. Abandoning direct dialogue and music score, the captured sounds of foley, environmental atmos, off-screen dubbing and sound effects are used as compositional material, in a sound film without image.

An auditory journey unfolds allowing listeners to create their own narrative, to be guided by their perceptions and responses to the soundtrack.

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## **Playback event: I am sitting in a Room, Alvin Lucier**

Wednesday 27 February 2013, 6 pm

The Bonington Gallery

Alvin Lucier is an American composer of experimental music and sound installations that explore acoustic phenomena and auditory perception.

On Wednesday 27 February the gallery will host a playback of Luciers extraordinary audiotape work from 1969, *I am sitting in a room*. This work both describes and demonstrates a transformation of voice into acoustic residue through the process of re-recording.

Please note: A strict start time of 6 pm will be observed in order to ensure that the audience can experience the work as a whole, with minimum interruption.