

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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"AUDIBLE IMAGERY: SOUND AND PHOTOGRAPHY"
AT THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

Audible Imagery presents the work of ten artists who explore interconnections between sound recording and light recording (photography), investigating ways in which sound and vision inform and shape perception and locate us in cultural, physical and social contexts. The exhibition open to the public on October 26 at The Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College Chicago, and will be on view through December 22, 2001.

Synaesthesia -the production of a mental sense-impression relating to one sense by the stimulation of another sense - is a concept explored by many artists in the exhibition. Chorus I (1988), by Christian Marclay (United States/Switzerland, born 1955), a cluster of black-and-white close-up pictures of mouths singing, can practically be heard; and Gebhard Sengmüller (Austria, born 1967) creates photographs of sterile and deserted facilities that erase audio tape, exploring the relationship of sound to its counterpart, silence. Ann Lislegaard (Denmark, born Norway 1963) and M.W. Burns (United States, born 1958) do not use photography at all, but rather invoke the power of sound as spoken word to alter space and conjure imagery.

Carsten Nicolai (Germany, born 1965) and Jay LeFor (United States, born 1971) use photography to visualize sound dimensionality, as a series of quasi-scientific experiments that endow sound with a physical presence. Carsten Nicolai photographs milk being agitated by different frequencies of sound; Jay LeFor photographs liquid as it swirls, pulsates, and pops, stirred by a sound recording of his brain waves. Gary Simmons (United States, born 1964) explores the relationship of photographic recording to memory.

Gary Simmon's Wake (2000) is a web-page project that combines well-known dance songs with images of old-fashioned ballrooms that probe how music and imagery can trigger memory. The corporal experience of perception is investigated in the work of Laurie Anderson (United States, born 1947). Anderson's Handphone Table-Remembering Sound (1979) is experienced by hearing sounds transmitted through one's forearms.

Takehito Koganezawa (Japan, born 1974) and Carsten Nicolai have collaborated on a video installation that randomly pairs ninety-nine images of a white room with ninety-nine tracks of electronic sounds. The unpredictability of the piece both illustrates and frustrates our need to reconcile image and sound in order to make sense of a given environment. Steina Vasulka (United States, born Iceland, 1940) makes sound into a tool

by using the audio signal from a video to edit and control the speed and appearance of video output.

Audible Imagery was organized by Karen Irvine, Associate Curator of the museum along with Corine Rose, Museum Educator and Whitney Bradshaw, formally Collections Assistant at MoCP. Christoph Cox, associate professor of philosophy at Hampshire College and a frequent contributor to *The Wire*, *Artforum*, and *Pulse!* magazines wrote the essay for Audible Imagery.

The opening reception for Audible Imagery will be held on Thursday, October 25 from 5 to 7 pm in the galleries of the museum. The reception is free and all are welcome.

Performances:

Derek Bailey and Casey Rice will perform on November 1, 2001 at 8 pm at the Getz Theater Columbia College Chicago, 72 East 11th Street. Tatsu Aoki and Chad Taylor will open for Bailey and Rice. General admission is \$10.00; students \$5.00. Tickets may be purchased through the museum beginning October 1, 2001.

Carsten Nicolai will perform for the first time in Chicago on December 7 and 8, 2001 at 10 pm at 60DUM, 2116 W. Chicago Avenue. Admission is \$10.00, tickets available at the door.

The exhibitions, presentations, and related programs of The Museum of Contemporary Photography are supported in part by grants from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Sara Lee Foundation. The Carsten Nicolai performance is partially supported by Lampo and the Goethe-Institut of Chicago, German Cultural Center. This ongoing series of exhibitions is sponsored in part by Apple Computer, Cumm Cavée Napa, and principally sponsored by American Airlines, the official airlines of The Museum of Contemporary Photography.

The museum is free and open to the public weekdays from 10:00 am until 5:00 pm (Thursdays until 8:00 pm) and Saturdays from 12:00 to 5:00 pm. It is located at 600 S. Michigan Avenue across from Grant Park. Phone 312.663.5554 for additional information. To contact the museum on the worldwide web, go to www.mocp.org.