

SATURDAY, NOV 19 · 1:30-4PM · FREE

A SYMPOSIUM OF PRESENTATIONS & PERFORMANCE

SURREY ART GALLERY PRESENTS SOUND THINKING 2016

# Resonant Things

SOUND AND OBJECTHOOD ON CANADA'S WEST COAST

PRESENTERS

**DB BOYKO**

**LEE HUTZULAK**

**JAY BUNDY JOHNSON**

**BRADY MARKS**

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE

**"CONTACTOPUS" BY  
LEE HUTZULAK WITH  
DAVE LEITH**

Surrey Art Gallery, 13750 88 Avenue  
in Bear Creek Park

[surrey.ca/soundthinking](http://surrey.ca/soundthinking)



Image credit: Illustration inspired by Jay Bundy Johnson's artwork,  
*Being still feels shows us who we are* (2016)



# SCHEDULE

1:30-1:35	Refreshments
1:35-1:50	Introduction: <b>Jordan Strom</b>
1:50-2:10	Music Performance: Contactopus, by Lee Hutzulak with Dave Leith
2:15-3:25	Panel presentations  Jay Bundy Johnson  Lee Hutzulak  Brady marks  DB Boyko
3:25-3:40	Panel Discussion/Q & A
3:40-4:00	Music Performance: Turntable and Contactopus with Lee Hutzulak and Dave Leith
4:00-5:00	Gallery open for further conversation and visits to current exhibitions and Open Sound projects

# RESONANT THINGS: SOUND AND OBJECTHOOD ON CANADA'S WEST COAST

Everyday objects talk to us all the time. Appliances hail us when they finish their tasks, doors emit sounds when they are left ajar, personal electronic devices let us know when it's time to perform actions, and toys entertain or soothe us with sound and song. What does it mean when so many of our formerly inanimate objects address us with so much noise? As in daily life, objects in art exhibits are frequently far from silent. Contemporary sculpture and art installations often incorporate sound as a central element.

With the rise of more compact and reliable electronic playback technology, the influence of interdisciplinarity in various avant-garde movements, including Surrealism, Fluxus, and Conceptual art and the common strategy of creating expanded media environments, the intersection of sound and sculpture became increasingly apparent in late twentieth century art practice. This year's Sound Thinking symposium examines some of the artists working in Canada – with a particular emphasis on the West Coast of Canada – and their respected object-oriented artworks that incorporated sound as crucial elements in their presentation and/or everyday objects as part of sound/music performances.

This symposium will consider the reasons for why so much of the sound sculpture and acoustically driven installations of the past half century have frequently been left out, and/or misrepresented in the dominant art and cultural histories. The discussion will also engage and reappraise some of the ideas, theories, and conversation that have intersected with sound/object based art practices in the 1960s and 1970s along with more recent ideas and histories that seek to situate sound art and other art that incorporates sound as a key aspect of their experience.

# BIOGRAPHIES

## **DB Boyko**

Since the 1990's Western Front New Music Director/Curator **DB Boyko**, has championed the vanguard of experimental music from noise to improvised jazz and multi-disciplinary collaborations. Programming highlights include the 2013 LP release of *Vaincu Va!* featuring UK saxophonist Evan Parker, the 2014 Alcan Rio Tinto award production of *Music from the New Wilderness* and the 88 Tuned Bongos series featuring innovative piano works. She has spearheaded various community projects including the youth program Sonic Playground, the VOICE OVER mind Choir and the Express Your Voice initiative that engages seniors in creative music.

## **Lee Hutzulak**

Lee Hutzulak has been performing, recording, and releasing improvised music since 1991, primarily under the name Dixie's Death Pool. While he is increasingly making electronic music these days as part of the band Moth Mouth, over the course of his career Lee has frequently made live and recorded music that has included sounds from acoustic instruments that have been modified with everyday objects, found sounds from field recordings, and sound effects that he creates live and in studio.

## **Jay Bundy Johnson**

Jay Bundy Johnson is a Vancouver-based sculptor and media artist. Since graduating from Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design in 1993, Johnson has participated in numerous gallery shows both public and private. His work is featured in collections throughout Canada, the United States and Europe. Johnson enjoys a vibrant teaching career at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts where, over the years, he has encouraged many hundreds of students in their artistry. At night, you may find him recording or performing with local music legends Mississippi Live or the mysterious Mac Pontiac. His electronic music compositions are available under the nom de plume Droneseed.

## **Brady Marks**

Brady Marks is a digital media artist, host of the Co-op Radio Soundscape Show and DJ. She holds a M.Sc. in Interactive Arts from Simon Fraser University (SFU) and a B.Sc. in Computer Science. She has defined her own role as that of "Cultural Prototyper," in which the working out and trying out of new cultural configurations are matched, supported or opposed with technological apparatuses. She works against the idea that technology determines culture, instead demonstrating how they are co-created.

## **Dave Leith**

Dave Leith is a multi-disciplinary artist and has an extensive background in photography, digital art and video, sound art and music, including recording and performing. His photography, digital art and video work been exhibited in Canada, Korea, and Sweden; his sound and music performed at numerous festivals such as Signal + Noise, Western Front, and numerous collaborative artist projects has been heard in Canada, Italy, United States, and New Zealand. In addition, he has a teaching background, in both music and visual arts.

## **Jordan Strom**

Jordan Strom is Curator of Exhibitions and Collections at the Surrey Art Gallery. He has curated solo exhibitions by Sarindar Dhaliwal, Cao Fei, Brendan Fernandes, and Ryoji Ikeda, among others. Recent group exhibitions have addressed South Asian song and dance (Spectacular Sangeet, 2013, co-curated with Naveen Girn), contemporary artist self-portraiture (Scenes of Selves, Occasions for Ruses, 2012), and the proto-cinematic (Vision Machine: Etienne Zack and Marianne Nicolson, 2012). Jordan has worked on previous curatorial exhibitions and projects for the Vancouver Art Gallery, Kamloops Art Gallery, Presentation House Gallery, Republic Gallery and Dadabase. From 2004 to 2008, Jordan worked as editor at Fillip, a journal of contemporary art. He holds a Master of Arts, Art History (Critical Curatorial Studies) from the University of British Columbia.

# NOTES

# ABOUT SOUND THINKING

Founded in 2008, Surrey Art Gallery's Sound Thinking symposium is an annual one-day event which brings together practitioners and professionals in the field of sound art. The symposium features leading sound artists, scholars and researchers in the field sound studies, along with visual artists who use sound as key components of their practice and musicians who experiment with the limits of music and sound. Past symposia have addressed subjects such as radiophonic space, the relationship between voice and technology, and background sound.

Sound Thinking is part of Surrey Art Gallery's Open Sound program, an exhibition program developed in 2008 to support the production and presentation of audio art forms as part of contemporary art practice. Open Sound 2016 presents the work of Jay Bundy Johnson, whose interactive audio-kinetic artworks are on display in TechLab exhibition space.

surrey  
art gallery

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engaging  
contemporary art

Information 604.501.5566

[www.surrey.ca/artgallery](http://www.surrey.ca/artgallery) | [www.surreytechlab.ca](http://www.surreytechlab.ca)

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