Dipl.-Ing. Sam Erpelding

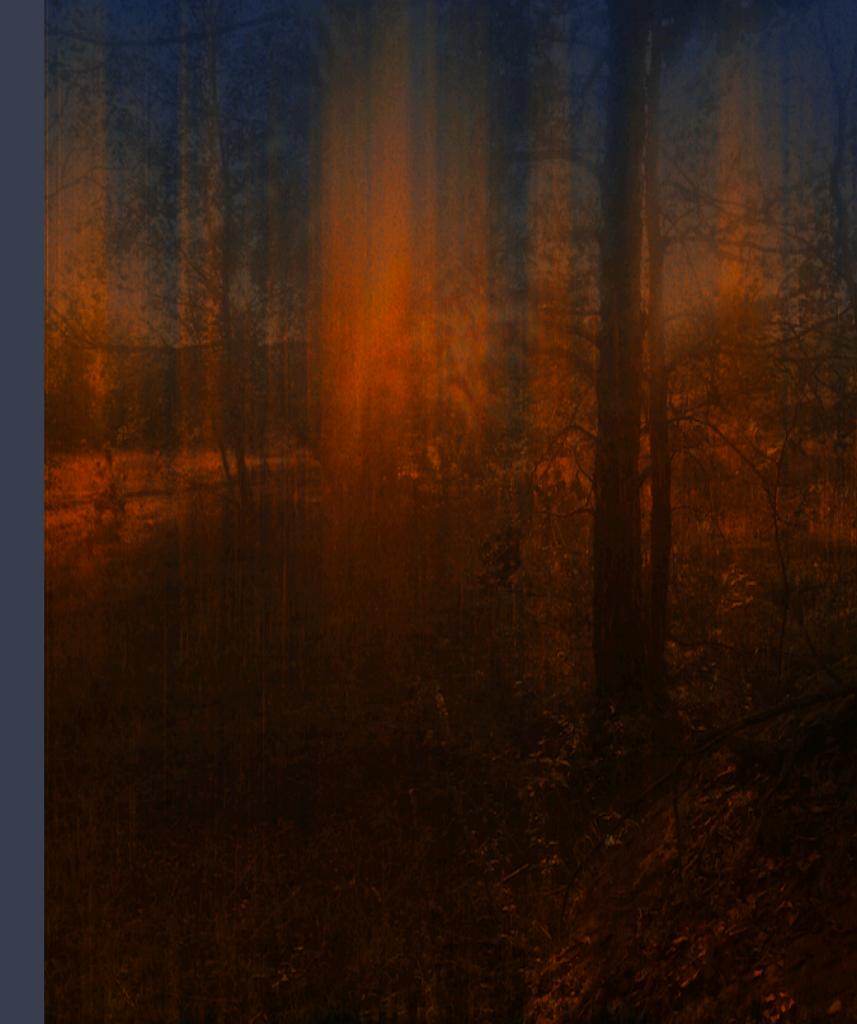
ECOACOUSTIC RESEARCH

AND ITS EXPRESSION THROUGH ECOLOGICAL SONIC INTERMEDIA

Species extinction in natural spaces and ecoacoustic composition

Ao. Univ. Prof. Mag. Andreas Weixler

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jana Petermann



INTRODUCTION:

ECOACOUSTIC ARTISTIC RESEARCH

- Ecological Sound Art // electroacoustic composition // multimedia installation
- Relationship between soundscape quality // biodiversity (urgent ecological issues)
- Measure & compare: presence of anthrophonies // biodiversity
- Present auditory and non-auditory patterns of a landscape
- A clear lack of effective communication of ecological findings to the public (Farina et al. 2017)
 - Artistic approach to process ecoacoustic findings in a sonic-visual artwork
 - Gain new perspectives on musical properties in composition inspired by ecological artistic research



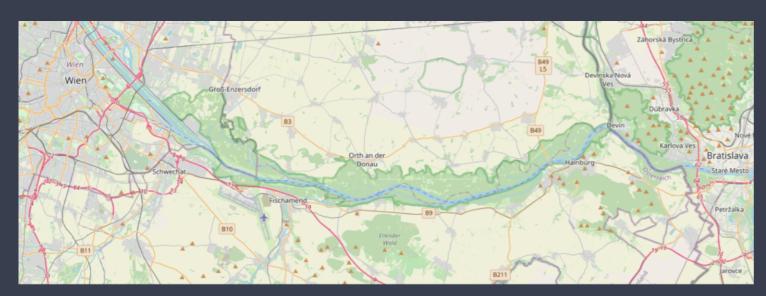




RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How can sonic intermedia artwork raise awareness for ecological issues and ecoacoustic findings?
- How can artistic sonic intermedia represent the relation between soundscape quality, habitat ambiance and biodiversity?
- How can multichannel audio systems represent the spatio- and spectro-temporal dynamics of acoustic communities?
- How can sound recordings be used to capture ecological diversity (biodiversity, functional diversity, structural diversity) and anthropogenic influences on ecosystems?

RESEARCH SITES



Rirchdorf Bezirk Steyr-Lond Bezirk Steyr-Lond Bezirk Kirchdorf Nationalpark Kalkalpen

Donau-Auen National Park

Kalkalpen National Park

- Compare Natural with human-altered landscapes
- Representative habitats (flooded forest, Beech forest, etc.)
- 1 Year // 4 Seasons // 5 days // 24h continuously (May 2022 April 2023)
- Assistances for ecological investigation:
 Dr. Jana Petermann and Master student Eyleen Engel BSc

ECOLOGICAL DATA COLLECTION:

<u>Inclusion of the fauna/flora of selected groups of organisms:</u>

- plants species ID / estimation cover
- insects traps / nets
- birds visual / auditory recording
- amphibians auditory recording
- mammals (incl. bats) auditory recording

Metadata:

General informations: GPS coordinates, Temperature, Time,
 Humidity, Habitat structure, Light (w/m²; Lux), etc.

ACOUSTIC DATA COLLECTION:

LONG-TERM PASSIVE ACOUSTIC MONITORING (PAM)



© Wildlife Acoustics Song Meter Micro

- 2 devices simultaneously (Natural / human-altered landscape)
- 24h Continuous audio data for statistical analysis [Acoustic Indices]
- 24bit; 96 kHz

ACOUSTIC DATA COLLECTION:

ACOUSTIC SHORT-TERM SAMPLING (STS)



- First-Order Ambisonics (Monacchi 2017)
- M-S Stereo (Krause 2002)
- Sound Pressure Level (Farina 2014)
- Soil Recording Hydrophone (Maeder 2019)
- Underwater Recording Hydrophone (Krause 2002)
- Contact and Lavalier Recording (Krause 2002)
- Acoustic Bat Surveys Bat detector/identifier (Wildlife Acoustics 2022)
- In situ Listening tests Subjective Soundscape Assessment (Schaefer 1977, Oliveros 2005, Krause 2021)

DATA ANALYSIS:

ECOACOUSTIC AND SOUNDSCAPE ANALYSIS

- Acoustic Indices (ACI, ADI, BIO, NDSI, etc.)
- Ecological Indices (Evenness, Diversity, Functional Diversity)
- Visualisations (statistics, spectrogram, etc.)
- Manual and Automated Detection and Identification (Species Composition)
- Soundscape Analysis (Schaefer 1977)
- Soundscape Quality (Subjective Soundscape Assessments)
- Biodiversity Quality and Anthropogenic Presence

DATA INTERPRETATION:

ELECTROACOUSTIC COMPOSITION

- Interpretation and Sonification of Acoustic and Ecological Indices (Franinović et al. 2013)
- Soundscape Components and Soundscape Assessments
- Soundscape Interpretation as compositional guideline (Krause 2002)
- Spectromorphology and Spatiomorphology Interpretation of Listening Experiences (Smalley 1997)
- Spatialisation for Acousmatic Reproduction Systems (Farina et al. 2017)

DATA REPRODUCTION:

ECOACOUSTIC COMPOSITION AND SOUND SCULPTURES

Case studies and Experiments

- Audio Papers and Radio Artworks (Groth et al.)
- Sonic intermedia Live Performances with Audience Research

Final Ecoacoustic Artworks

- Final compositions (physical release)
- Audio Papers (additionally to conference papers)
- Sound sculptures and Exhibit installations (National Park Centre)

PRE-STUDIES:

FIXED-MEDIA & RADIO ARTWORK

EcoSons Étude I - Mëllerdall / De Biesbosch Soundscape Compositions

https://dankwart.bandcamp.com/album/ecosons-tude-i

EcoSons Étude II - wintershades

Ecological Radio Artwork [Radio Ara, Radia.FM]

https://dankwart.bandcamp.com/album/ecosons-tude-ii

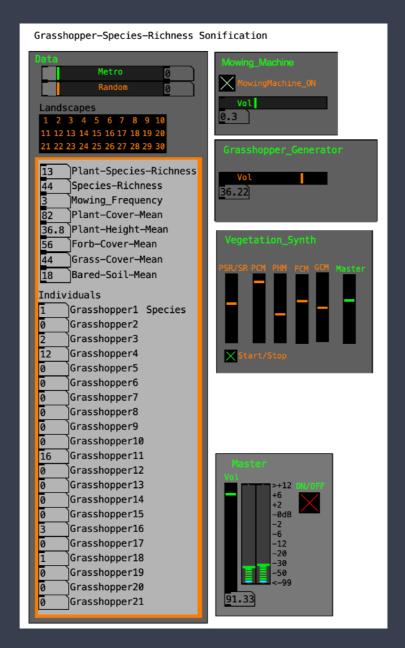
PRE-STUDIES:

SONIFICATION SYNTHESIZER

Grasshoppers 1.1

Sonification of mowing impacts and grasshopper communities.

Do grasshopper communities differ between extensively and intensively cultivated meadows? (mowing frequency, species richness, etc.)





Preview of the Synthesizer

PRE-STUDIES:

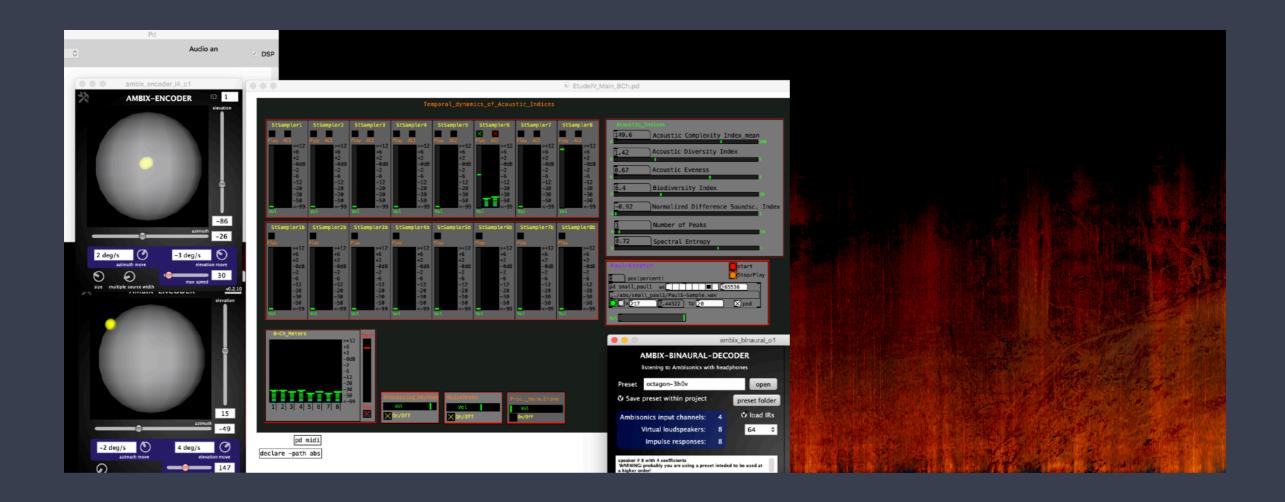
LIVE PERFORMANCE

EcoSons Étude III & IV

Sonification and Spatialisation of acoustic indices // audio-visual Live Performance

Earthday Festival 22.04.22 -15h — Online Concert

<u>earthdayartmodel.org/</u>



IN COOPERATION WITH















