



Research > MEMORABILIA. COLLECTING SOUNDS WITH... Kees Tazelaar

MEMORABILIA. COLLECTING SOUNDS WITH... seeks to break through to unearth and reveal private collections of music and sound *memorabilia*. It is a historiography of sound collecting that reveals the unseen and passionate work of the amateur collector while reconstructing multiple parallel histories such as the evolution of recording formats, archiving issues, the collecting market and the evolution of musical styles beyond the marketplace.

Each episode in the series is accompanied by an additional programme featuring an exclusive music selection by each of the collectors.

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Music selection by Kees Tazelaar.

Kees Tazelaar is a composer and head of the Institute of Sonology in The Hague. His interest in the history of electronic music and the way its media have evolved has led him to work on numerous projects involving the restoration and recovery of key pieces from twentieth century electronica, particularly works by Dutch pioneers such as Dick Raaijmakers, Gottfried Michael Koenig and Jan Boerman. www.keestazelaar.com

MEMORABILIA. COLLECTING SOUNDS WITH...

Kees Tazelaar

This mix, clocking in at over two hours, is a retrospective snapshot of the musical legacy of the Institute of Sonology. It alternates classic pieces, recent works and unreleased gems from the Sonology archive.

01. Summary

The first electronic music studio in the Netherlands was founded in 1956 at Philips Research Laboratories in Eindhoven. This studio moved to the Utrecht University in November 1960, and was then called STEM (Studio voor elektronische muziek, but 'stem' also means 'voice'). Gottfried Michael Koenig became artistic director of STEM in 1964. Instead of just a studio, STEM became a large institution for production, research, education and preservation of electronic music that had a pioneering role in the development of voltage control techniques, algorithmic composition, digital sound synthesis and electronic composition theory. In 1967, STEM was named Institute of Sonology.

Frits Weiland, who was a staff member at STEM practically from the beginning, immediately understood the importance of setting up an archive. This analogue tape archive now is one of the main archives of electronic music, and contains master tapes from compositions produced at Philips starting in 1956, until the late eighties, when analogue recording techniques gradually disappeared.

Since I started to teach analogue studio techniques at the Institute of Sonology in 1993, I have felt a great responsibility for this archive. An important aspect of that responsibility is to have and maintain a set of top quality tape recorders that are capable to play back the material from the archive.

Digital transfers and reconstructions of early electronic music compositions have led to remarkable CD-releases with works by composers such as Henk Badings, Dick Raaijmakers, Tom Dissevelt, Edgard Varèse, Gottfried Michael Koenig, Luctor Ponse, Ton de Leeuw and Jan Boerman. However, the music selection for contains many unreleased treasures from the archive too.

Kees Tazelaar, February 2013

02. Playlist

- 00:00:04 Ton de Leeuw, 'Study'
- 00:03:40 Sergio Luque, 'Y fue que le pareció conveniente y necesario'
- 00:08:20 György Ligeti, 'Pièce électronique Nr. 3'
- 00:10:25 Daniel Teruggi, 'Spaces of Mind 4'
- 00:12:51 Gottfried Michael Koenig, 'Funktion Grau'
- 00:16:45 Johan van Kreijl, 'Voices of the Boat'
- 00:23:50 Ton Bruynèl, 'Resonance I'
- 00:30:08 Furt, 'Plint'
- 00:34:31 Dick Raaijmakers, 'Canon – 1, Super Augere'
- 00:38:44 Kees Tazelaar, 'Sternflüstern'
- 00:47:11 Jan Boerman, 'Alliage'
- 00:52:33 Jaap Spek, 'Impulses'
- 00:57:04 Wouter Snoei, 'Consequence'
- 01:03:40 Raviv Ganchrow, 'Shotgun Architecture'
- 01:08:21 Luctor Ponse, 'Nacht'
- 01:15:39 Ramón González-Arroyo, 'dMnStR'
- 01:25:00 Paul Berg, 'Mandolin'
- 01:31:47 Gottfried Michael Koenig, 'Terminus II'
- 01:35:25 Babis Giannakopoulos, 'Instances'



[Studer tape recorders. Photo: Roc Jiménez de Cisneros, 2012]

01:40:27 Dick Raaijmakers, 'Canon – 5, Super 'Dis-Moi...'
01:46:05 Konrad Boehmer, 'Aspekt'
01:53:47 Richard Barrett, 'Adrift'
02:04:34 Jan Boerman, 'Kompositie 1979'
02:07:33 Kees Tazelaar, 'Depths of Field No. 1'
02:13:26 Edgard Varèse, 'Poème électronique'

03. Related links

Kees Tazelaar's personal web page
www.keestazelaar.com

Podcast: MEMORABILIA. Collecting sounds with... Kees Tazelaar. Part I
rwm.macba.cat/en/research/memorabilia_kees_tazeelar/capsula

Institute of Sonology in The Hague
www.sonology.org/UK/frameset-uk.html

Virtual reconstruction of the 'Poème électronique'
www.edu.vrmmp.it/vep/index.html

Images from the Philips Pavilion of 1958
www.google.com/search?q=Philips+Pavilion&hl=en&btnG=Search+Images&biw=1024&bih=543&sei=EOD_UJ_ZH12zhAeTrIDoCw&tbm=isch

1999 article on magnetic tape preservation
mixonline.com/mag/audio_master_preservation

Resources for conservation professionals
cool.conservation-us.org

A guide to tape baking
www.sonicraft.com/Tape_Baking.html

A short history of sound recording media
web.archive.org/web/20040612082709/http://www.tvhandbook.com/History/History_recording.htm

04. Credits

Music selection by Kees Tazelaar. Mixed by Roc Jiménez de Cisneros and Rubén Patiño. Edited with Sound Studio.

05. Copyright note

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