



Specials > DREAM MACHINE

The *Specials* podcasts focus on projects by artists and curators who have some kind of connection to the Museum's programming and the MACBA Collection. Lawrence Abu Hamdan's work was exhibited in the group show *Transfigurations. Curatorial and artistic research in an age of migrations* in June 2014.

PDF Contents:

- 01. Summary
- 02. Related links
- 03. Credits
- 04. License

By Lawrence Abu Hamdan

Lawrence Abu Hamdan's work frequently deals with the relationship between listening and borders, human rights, testimony, truth and law, through the production of audio-visual installations, graphic design, sculpture, photography, workshops and performance. His work with sound and its intersection with politics originate from his background in DIY music. His work was submitted as evidence at the UK asylum tribunal where the artist himself was called as an expert witness. His solo exhibitions include *The Freedom of Speech Itself* (2012) at Showroom, London, *The Whole Truth* (2012) at Casco, Utrecht and most recently *Tape Echo* (2013-2014) at Beirut in Cairo and as part of *Positions* at Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven. His works have been part of group exhibitions at Tate Modern London, M HKA Antwerp, the Beirut Art Center and The 2012 Taipei Biennial. Abu Hamdan's writing can be found in *Forensis* Sternberg press, *Manifesta Journal* and *Cabinet Magazine*. Abu Hamdan curated events at the *Reitveld Academie* in Amsterdam and at *Batroun Projects* Lebanon. He is part of the *Forensic Architecture* team at Goldsmiths College London where he is a PhD candidate and lecturer.

RECEIVED PRONUNCIATIONS

Notes From the *Aural Contract Audio Archive*

Since 2010, the entire discography of Lawrence Abu Hamdan's research into the contemporary politics of listening and the role of the voice in law has been gathered under the title *Aural Contract Audio Archive*.

01. Summary

This sound archive consists of audible extracts of works and interviews by Lawrence Abu Hamdan together with specific fragments of juridical listening and speaking collected from a wide range of sources including the trials of Saddam Hussein and Judas Priest, UK police evidence tapes, films such as *Decoder* and readings from texts like Italo Calvino's *A King Listens*. Listeners can access this collection of tracks articulated through listening-seminars and voice-activated audio installations in which individual components of the archive are pooled, extracted and turned into longer audio essays, texts and investigations. The narratives folded into these 3-minute segments expand and combine, generating narrative compositions and essays that weave through the content of this archive and plunge listeners into the heart of a discussion about the relationship between listening and politics, borders, human rights, testimony, truth and international law.

02. Related links

Lawrence Abu Hamdan's website
www.lawrenceabuhamdan.com

Interview in Frieze Magazine
www.frieze.com/issue/article/lawrence-abu-hamdan/

Video: Lawrence Abu Hamdan in conversation with Anthony Downey
www.vimeo.com/41199835

Exhibition: *Transfigurations. Curatorial and artistic research in an age of migrations*
www.macba.cat/en/ephemeral-exhibition-

03. Credits

Text and voice: Lawrence Abu Hamdan. Directed by Lawrence Abu Hamdan. Recorded in Reaper audio editor with a Focusrite soundcard.

04. License

2014. This podcast is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License.