

The sounds of 60 things given to me

Project description

01.07.2014

The work *The sounds of 60 things given to me* is based on the following score/text:

The year you turn 60,
invite 60 persons to give you a thing.

Do a recording, or do a performance,
focusing on the sounds of the 60 things.

The work is a further development of my previous works and CD publications: *Mårådalen Walk* (1994) containing recordings of footsteps; *Mountain Listening* (1998) containing five sonographical portraits of people listening; *Music for Large Mountain and Vibraphone* (2002), a juxtaposition of the sound of a vibraphone and the sounds of the mountain; *Listening Ahead – Marimba & Town Hall* (2010), a juxtaposition of the sound of a marimba and the sound of the Oslo Town Hall, and *Burraborangian Stones* (2011) containing recordings of the Burraborang landscape with the subtle addition of the soft clicking of stones.

The main focus in these works is listening and the development of attention. In *The sounds of 60 things given to me* I want to direct the attention to aspects in our immediate environment we usually do not pay attention to. I want to pick out the sonic qualities in things we usually do not consider as sound producing; things we more or less use daily, and therefore neither see or listen to.

We use the word *thing* as a general term for objects we have no word for or do not know the name to. This namelessness makes it easier for us to overlook and forget. By clarifying special properties, I want to show the individual qualities and uniqueness in each object.

To receive a gift involves an obligation. When we receive a gift, we feel we have to give something back. To immediately throw away a gift, even if we find it quite ugly, is considered impolite. One way to appreciate a gift is to pay attention to it. This is why *The sounds of 60 things given to me* project will incorporate things I have been given as a gift.

The work *The sounds of 60 things given to me* will have the duration of 60 minutes. The sound of each thing is presented within the duration of 60 seconds.

Like my earlier works, this work also is based on the fact that; *all we direct our attention to, changes its character.*