

Press Release

Florian Hecker

27 May – 20 June 2010

Ikon Eastside

Ikon Eastside opens its 2010 programme with an installation of newly commissioned sound pieces by German artist Florian Hecker. This exhibition features a trail of four electro-acoustic works, each intensifying and questioning the visitor's perception of sound, body and space.

Comprising groups of speakers mounted on metal rods amidst white gallery walls, the structural aesthetic of the installation is in stark contrast to this intense sonic effect, creating a multimodal amalgamation of auditory and spatial perception.

Installed at the entrance of the gallery, the first work *Magnitude Estimation* (2010) uses the most recognisable sound, a human voice. Recorded in an anechoic chamber, the voice recites the loudness values of a given sound. These same utterances are emitted synchronously from another opposing loudspeaker, finally creating an auditory chimera while doubling the voice, the signification and the measurement of what one hears.

2 x 3 Kanal (2 x 3 Channel, 2009) consists of two separate 3-channel pieces which rotate simultaneously - one clockwise, the other counter clockwise - around the three speakers. A seemingly ever upward moving sonic structure alternates with a sequence of tones, illustrating Diana Deutsch's 'Tritone Paradox' (an auditory phenomena whereby simultaneous tones are heard as ascending by some people and descending by others).

Untitled (2010) involves progressively abstract sounds, appearing to emanate from a tiled section of the gallery wall. The installation culminates in *Auditory Scene (5 fold)* (2010) a five-channel work where the perceptual organisation of a sequence of tones changes according to the position of the visitor.

This exhibition is organised in collaboration with Chisenhale Gallery, London, co-commissioner of the work, and is supported by Sadie Coles HQ, London, Goethe-Institut, Meyer Sound Germany, Henry Moore Foundation, Galerie Neu, Berlin, Outset and Zero Cases UK.

Ends.

Notes to Editors:

IKON

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WEBSITE. www.ikon-gallery.co.uk
Ikon Gallery is a registered charity no. 528892

1. Exhibition opening Thursday 27 May, 6-8pm. Admission free, open to all.
2. Ikon Eastside is located 30 minutes walk from Ikon, 10 minutes from Moor Street Station and 5 minutes from Digbeth High Street. Ikon Eastside, 183 Fazeley Street, Digbeth, Birmingham B5 5SE. Tel. 0121 248 0708 www.ikon-gallery.co.uk
3. Ikon Eastside is open Thursday – Sunday, 1-5pm. Admission is free.
4. Since 2005, Ikon has been commissioning and programming work in Eastside, an ambitious expansion of Birmingham city centre with a focus on developing the creative industries. Moving between disused industrial buildings, Ikon has created unique exhibition spaces for large-scale works, video and events.
5. Ikon Gallery is a registered charity and receives core funding from Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council.
6. Further information and interview requests to Helen Stallard (PR for Ikon Gallery) on 0774 033 9604 or email h.stallard@ikon-gallery.co.uk



Florian Hecker

Installation at Chisenhale
Gallery, 2010

Commissioned by
Chisenhale Gallery, London
and Ikon, Birmingham

Courtesy Sadie Coles HQ,
London and Galerie Neu,
Berlin

Photo: Andy Keate