

Chris Watson

Biography

A sound recordist with a particular and passionate interest in recording the wildlife sounds of animals, habitats and atmospheres from around the world. As a freelance recordist for film, tv & radio, Chris Watson specialises in natural history and documentary location sound together with track assembly and sound design in post production.

1. Productions

He has released 3 solo CDs for Touch:

Outside The Circle of Fire [1998, TO:37]

Stepping into The Dark [1996, TO:27]

Weather Report [2003, TO:47]

and he has collaborated with Swedish sound artist BJNilsen on two CDs:

Storm [2007, Tone 27]

Wind [2001, Ash 6.5]

and one album, Star Switch On [2002, Tone 18], features recordings based on his work by AER, Biosphere, Fennesz, Hazard, Philip Jeck, Mika Vainio as well as two original recordings by Chris.

Stepping into The Dark won an Award of Distinction at the 2000 Prix ARS Electronica Festival in Linz, Austria

Reviews of these CDs can be found at http://www.touchmusic.org.uk/archives/reviews_chriswatson/

2. Television & Radio

TV

The Life of Birds for BBC TV - BAFTA Award for Best Factual Sound 1998 [David Attenborough]

The Life of Mammals for BBC TV 2001/2 [David Attenborough]

Talking with Animals for BBC TV 2001 [Charlotte Uhlenbroek]

Big Cat Diary for BBC TV 1998-2002 [Simon King/Saba Douglas-Hamilton/Jonathan Scott]

Life in the Undergrowth for BBC TV - BAFTA nominee for Best Factual Sound 2005 [David Attenborough]

Life in Cold Blood for BBC TV 2008 [David Attenborough]

Spring watch, Autumnwatch, Bill Oddie's Wild Side [all BBC TV]

Radio

A Swallow's Journey for BBC Radio 4 - Sony Radio Award Nominee 2002

A Small Slice of Tranquillity for BBC Radio 4 2003

Soundscape for BBC Radio 4 2004

The Oak Tree for BBC Radio 4 2006 - featured in BBC Radio's Pick of the Year

Sounds of the Galapagos for BBC Radio 4 2006

Soundscape: The Sea Swallow for BBC Radio 4 2006

Water Song for BBC Radio 4 2006

The Oak Tree for BBC Radio 4 2006

Nature: Starling Roost for BBC Radio 4 2007

The Reed Bed for BBC Radio 4 2007

TouchRadio

The Galapagos Islands - an audio diary 2006 and 2007

3. Installations & Artwork

Sound design workshop at CCA, Kitakyushu 2004

Tortuga Bay Installation, Ultima, Oslo 2005

Weather Report performance Hibiki, Osaka 2005

Installations and talk at the BA Festival, York 2007

Installation for a radio art festival at Academy der Künste, Berlin 2007
Sleppet: Grieg Centenary, Norway 2007
The British Library, London 2007
Whispering in the Leaves Installation, AV Festival, Sunderland 2008

Brief history profile

1972 to 1981: Cabaret Voltaire
1981 to 1984: Tyne Tees Television; sound recordist and founder member of The Hafler Trio
1985 to 1987: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; sound recordist and other projects
1987 to 1993: freelance sound recordist
1994 to present: partner with Hoi Polloi Film & Video