



## SOUND THRESHOLD

### musica e suono attraverso il paesaggio

a project by Daniela Cascella and Lucia Farinati

16th July and 28 September 2008

a parallel event of Manifesta 7, Trentino-South Tyrol, Italy

How does one transcend the picture postcard effect that the alpine landscape calls to mind? How does one shatter representational conventions and two-dimensional ways of thinking and seeing? How can one capture the very breath of a landscape? Sound and music are the media through which *Sound Threshold* has chosen to confront these questions. Through performances, sound installations and field recordings, *Sound Threshold* explores the visual, natural, literary and acoustic landscape of the Trentino region in conjunction with the latest research in the fields of ecology, technology and archaeology. *Sound Threshold* is informed by the multi-faceted relationship between music, sound and landscape outside the gallery and museum contexts – furthermore it outlines possible routes for future cross-disciplinary production in cooperation with the most important scientific research centres in Trentino.

In parallel with MANIFESTA 7 (European Biennial of Contemporary Art hosted this year in the Trentino-South Tyrol region) four exclusive events will take place at Monte Bondone, near Trento, and at Monte San Martino near Lake Garda. Produced for *Sound Threshold* by the Edmund Mach Foundation – the Centre for Alpine Ecology at Monte Bondone and the Museum of Riva del Garda, in collaboration with Paneveggio Park and the Archaeological Heritage Office of the Autonomous Province of Trento, the events are supported by Autonomous Province of Trento, APT Trento – Bondone – the Valley of the Lakes, the Arts and Environment Office of Bondone and Riva del Garda town council.

*Sound Threshold* kicks off on 16 July at the Centre for Alpine Ecology at Monte Bondone (CEALP). The project will feature the sound recordist CHRIS WATSON and the musical groups BLIND CAVE SALAMANDER and FOVEA HEX.

Following a period of residence at Monte Bondone and Paneveggio Park, Chris Watson has been invited to explore the acoustic phenomena of Trentino and capture the atmospheres and sounds of the alpine environment. A series of sound recordings made in situ, resulting in the CD *Cima Verde*, present the soundscapes uncovered by Watson, which capture the change in seasons from winter to spring, the different degrees of altitude, the reawakening of sounds on the cusp between night and day and the alternating and mixing of audio signals that characterise different natural habitats.

*Cima Verde*, co-produced by Fondazione Edmund Mach and LoL Productions, will be launched on Wednesday 16 July 2008 at CEALP, and is the first project commissioned to Watson by an Italian organisation. *Cima Verde* is also the title of the surround sound installation, created from the recordings gathered during Watson's residency at CEALP for *Sound Threshold*, which will be presented at MANIFESTA 7 from 19 July to 2 November. The installation will be part of *Auditory Epode*, curated by Adam Budak with Tobi Maier (Manifattura Tabacchi, piazza della Manifattura 1, Rovereto, every day from 10 am to 7 pm, Fridays till 9 pm [www.manifesta7.it](http://www.manifesta7.it)).

On the same day (16 July 2008) at sunset, two concerts will take place at the Terrazza delle Stelle (the open-air observatory situated on the plateau of Monte Bondone, at an altitude of 1.565 metres): Blind Cave Salamander, a project by Fabrizio Modonese Palumbo and Paul Beauchamp, and Fovea Hex, a group conceived by Irish singer Clodagh Simonds, constantly fluctuating between melody and abstraction, tradition and experimentation.

The second part of *Sound Threshold* will relocate on 28 September 2008 to the archaeological site of the Sanctuary of Monte S. Martino, in the southern part of Trentino, just a few kilometres from Riva del Garda. With their project *Elgaland-Vargaland*, the Swedish artists, musicians and 'agitators of ideas', LEIF ELGGREN and CARL MICHAEL VON HAUSSWOLFF, will capture the multiple literary references of *mitteleurope* emanating from travel writings inspired by Lake Garda and its shadowy landscape. Envisioning the creation of a kingdom beyond nation states, the Kingdoms of *Elgaland-Vargaland* (KREV) comprise all those areas of flux and border - geographical, mental or digital. In Monte S. Martino, through the very elusiveness of sound, KREV will navigate the uncharted imaginary spaces of a threshold.

## PROGRAMME - 16 JULY 2008

Centro di Ecologia Alpina – Terrazza delle Stelle  
Viote di Monte Bondone, Trento, Italy  
CEALP +39 0461 939555

4 pm

Centro di Ecologia Alpina di Monte Bondone  
**CHRIS WATSON (UK)**  
*Cima Verde* CD launch

7.30 pm

Terrazza delle Stelle, Viote del Monte Bondone  
**FOVEA HEX** (IRL / UK / USA)  
**BLIND CAVE SALAMANDER** (I / UK / USA)  
open-air live performance

**free admission**

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[www.cealp.it/soundthreshold](http://www.cealp.it/soundthreshold)

## HOW TO GET THERE

### by car

A22 (Brennero) motorway, exit Trento; state road 12 of Abetone and Brennero from Verona or Bolzano; state road 47 (Valsugana) from Venice; state road 45 bis - Gardesana Occidentale from Brescia and Lake Garda, SP 85 – Monte Bondone from Trento

### free shuttle bus

booking highly recommended, please call the tourist offices:

T. +39 0461 216000

T. +39 0461 947128

[informazioni@apt.trento.it](mailto:informazioni@apt.trento.it)

[vaneze@apt.trento.it](mailto:vaneze@apt.trento.it)

[www.apt.trento.it](http://www.apt.trento.it)

[www.montebondone.it](http://www.montebondone.it)

departures from Trento Palazzo della Regione, piazza Dante. 3pm and 6pm

departures from VIOTE MONTE BONDONE. 5pm and 10pm

In case of rain the concert will take place in an indoor venue. For further details please check the [www.cealp.it/soundthreshold](http://www.cealp.it/soundthreshold) website or call +39 0461 939555

## NEXT EVENT

### SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2008

hours to be confirmed

SANTUARIO DI MONTE SAN MARTINO, RIVA DEL GARDA

*Elgaland-Vargaland*

**CARL MICHAEL VON HAUSSWOLFF / LEIF ELGGREN (Sweden)**

[www.elgaland-vargaland.org](http://www.elgaland-vargaland.org)

produced by Museo Civico Riva del Garda

[www.comune.rivadelgarda.tn.it/museo](http://www.comune.rivadelgarda.tn.it/museo)

T. +39 0464 573869

## BIOS

**Chris Watson** is one of the most unique and versatile figures on the British experimental scene. In 1972 he was one of the founders of the seminal new wave group, Cabaret Voltaire, and in 1981 one member of the cult project in experimental music, The Hafler Trio. Watson's interest in the multiple inflections of the sounds of nature has led him to work as a sound recordist in numerous documentaries for the BBC, an activity that both supports and informs his sound recordings published on CD.

[www.chriswatson.net](http://www.chriswatson.net)

[www.touchmusic.org.uk](http://www.touchmusic.org.uk)

**Fovea Hex** is the project of Irish singer **Clodagh Simonds**, who has chosen to work alongside such illustrious names as Brian Eno, Andrew McKenzie (The Hafler Trio), Colin Potter (Nurse With Wound) and Robert Fripp to produce a trilogy of EP's, *Neither Speak Nor Remain Silent* (Die Stadt, 2005-2007). Fovea Hex have already achieved cult status, and last year they took part in the Donau Festival curated by David Tibet (Current 93) and in a series of concerts curated by David Lynch at the Cartier Foundation in Paris.

Clodagh Simonds: voice, piano, laptop

Laura Sheeran: accordion, voice

Cora Venus Lunny: violin, viola, voice

Julia Kent: cello

Michael Begg: electronics

Colin Potter: sound, electronics

[www.janetrecords.com](http://www.janetrecords.com)

[www.diestadtmusik.de](http://www.diestadtmusik.de)

[www.myspace.com/foveahex](http://www.myspace.com/foveahex)

**Blind Cave Salamander** is a project by Fabrizio Modonese Palumbo and Paul Beauchamp - an unusual mix of electronica, strings and guitars, drones and field recordings; a collection of finely wrought sounds that at times lean towards hypnotic lullabies (Julia Kent, cellist with Antony & the Johnsons and Current 93, is a fellow contributor) and at others towards abstraction.

Paul Beauchamp: electronics

Fabrizio Modonese Palumbo: electro-acoustics

Julia Kent: cello

Michael Begg: electronics

[www.blindcavesalamander.com](http://www.blindcavesalamander.com)



**Sound Threshold** explores the relationships between site and sound. It commissions and produces cross-disciplinary projects and partnerships with research organizations working beyond conventional gallery and museum contexts.

Sound Threshold investigates the idea of threshold as an extended metaphor of boundary, frontier, track, border and difference - not only visual traces but also natural elements, literary references, acoustic phenomena.

Sound Threshold was established in 2007 by Daniela Cascella (music critic, Rome) and Lucia Farinati (curator, London).