

TRANSCULTURES INFO RELEASE



Sound art festival

The 8th edition of the sound art festival CITY SONIC, organised by TRANSCULTURES, is scheduled from August 27 to September 12 in Mons (Belgium), with a circuit of sonic/interdisciplinary art works in the centre of the city. From the 3rd to the 18th of September at ISELP (Institute of research for visual arts) in Brussels with the exhibition *Sonopoetics (from word to image, from poetry to sound)*.



City Sonic was launched in 2003 by Transcultures (Centre for electronic and sound cultures) together with the city of Mons, and is a special event dedicated to innovative/sonic/artistic approaches. Featuring a poetic itinerary inter-multidisciplinary works (sound, video, plastic arts, architecture, digital arts ...) in the heart of this nice Wallonia city. The sound circuit features **installations, lounge rooms and performances** in 5 locations starting from the Grand Place. About 50 artists are taking part in City Sonic#8 : **Diane Landry** (Québec) with *Flying school (automation umbrellas with motor-cycle accordions)*, **Laura Colmenares et Todor Todoroff**, with *Lungs [the breather]*, (a pool of virtual jellyfish and sounds created by the breath of the visitors), *Binary waves* by Brussels multimedia architects **Lab[au]**, *2*540 KHZ* (looping compositions transmitted by radio-transmitters and played by several tube-radios) by **Mika Vanio** (Pan Sonic), **MU**, sound artists linking Paris, Mons and Tunis with geolocalisation device *Sound Delta* at Grand Place or **Musicomaton** (interactive sound booth) by Brussels duet **Anteloop**

During the opening night of the festival on **August 27**, **Todor Todoroff** (Brussels electronic music composer) and **Dominica Eyckmans** (viola, dance) will premiere *Dances with viola*, at Théâtre Royal, an interactive piece mixing dance, electronic music and interactivity. It will be followed by *Livescape* (Mons), an

audio-bio-visual concert using invented wood instruments, sonic salads and chickens.

City Sonic also offers sound art workshops for the youngsters (« **Sonic Kids** » - Sept. 11th), acoustic performances and poetry readings in private gardens (**Sonic garden party** – Sept. 5th) in collaboration with Festival Cap Sonic organised by Le manège.mons. This edition will also present installations and performances by young Tunisian artists in the framework of the European project E-FEST (co-organisers Echos electrik, Transcultures, Gummi Gumi, Goethe Institut in Tunis); a double CD **Essmaa** (field recordings by Aymeric de Tapol treated by Leafcutter John, DJ Olive, Scanner, Christophe Bailleau, Lodz, Discipline, DJ Elephant Power, Paradise Now and many more) is released on the French label Tsuku Boshi, with an outdoor closing event of the festival called *Essmaa live sessions* (Sept 12th)

This Summer, City Sonic is also part of **Diagonales: sound, vibration and music in the collection of the National Centre National of plastic arts**, a nomadic event (in various art centres, museums.. in France and in the Benelux). In Mons, the theme for Diagonales is the relation between rock culture and sonic plastic arts featuring major works by **Christian Marclay** (*Guitar drag video, sleeves collage,..*), **Steven Parrino**, Raymond Pettibon (drawings), **William Eggleston** (*Graceland* portfolio), **Robin Collyer**, **Malachi Farrell** (interactive installation), **Pipilotti Rist** and **Sadie Benning'** (Le Tigre) music and post feminist videos.

City Sonic#8 also in Brussels

Also in the framework of City Sonic and *Diagonales*, City Sonic presents an exhibition on sound poetry **Sonopoetics (from word to image, from poetry to sound)** at **Institut Supérieur du Langage Plastique (ISELP)** in Brussels, from 3 to 18 September 2010. It features major works (collages, scores, mixed paintings,...) by **Bernard Heidsieck** (a selection of scores, vinyls, collages,...), **Henri Chopin (pionners of «poésie sonore» in France)**, **Maurice Lemaître**, **Gil Joseph Wolman** (associated to the lettrisme avant-garde in the 50's), **John Giorno** (New York pop poet, with a series of drawings) **and Brion Gysin** (painter, writer, sound poet, and performance artist, collaborator of William S. Burroughs) and an installation/ tribute to Henri Chopin by young British artist **Tris Vonna-Michell**.

Sonopoetics also present **sound pieces** (with new mixes of sound poetry pieces by labels **Erratum**, **Sub Rosa**, **Frank Smith**/Atelier de Création Sonore-France Culture and artist/critic Jacques Donguy) and **archival videos by Brion Gysin** (live with French musician **Ramuntcho Matta** in the 80s) and **Hanzel & Gretzel** (featuring **Lee Renaldo/Sonic Youth**, **Gerard Malanga**, **Ira Cohen**,...), a lecture by French artist/critic **Jacques Dongy** on sound/digital poetry and a film on Bernard Heidsieck by Françoise Janicot (*Carrefour de la chaussée d'Antin* - 1972) on September 8th.

Radio Sonic

City Sonic will also have its own web radio **Radio Sonic** (in collaboration with Radio Campus, Brussels) featuring special interviews, sound pieces, jingles..by artists invited in Mons, 24h live from 25 to 27th of August and also later on www.citysonic.be.

PRACTICAL INFO

- CITY SONIC - Mons :

27 August > 12 September 2010 in Mons.

12 am > 6pm, closed on Monday

Beginning of the circuit : Salle Saint Georges, Grand' Place. **Free entrance**

Opening on August 27, start at 6 pm : Maison Folie, 2 rue du gouvernement - 7000 Mons

- Sonopoetics - Bruxelles

ISELP (Institut Supérieur pour l'Etude du Langage Plastique),

3 > 12 September - opening on September 2, from 6 pm. Free entrance

31, Boulevard de Waterloo - 1000 Brussels, Belgium

info : +32 (0)25 04 80 70 www.iselp.be

Free guided visits every Sunday in Mons – start at 2pm, Salle Saint Georges (Grand'Place)

- About Mons : www.mons.be

- Conception & organisation: TRANSCULTURES

Curator : Philippe Franck

in collaboration with Anne-Laure Chamboissier (for « *Diagonales* » in City Sonic)

Production City Sonic Mons: Communauté française de Belgique, Ville de Mons, Transcultures, CECN/le Manège.mons, Musiques Nouvelles/le Manège.mons, TechnocITÉ.

Partners of City Sonic 2010 : CNAP, E-FEST (avec le soutien du programme européen Culture 2007-2013), Conseil général des Arts et des Lettres du Québec, Délégation du Québec à Bruxelles, Ambassade de France à Bruxelles, La médiathèque (Mons), La loterie nationale.

Partners « sonic emergences »/art schools : ESAPV Mons, ENSAV La Cambre/Bruxelles, ENSA Bourges, Villa Arson-ENSA Nice, ESAD Strasbourg.

Media partners: Mouvement, MCD, Let's motiv, Jazz@round, Radio Campus, Radio UMH, Télé MB, Digitalarti

- PRESS CONTACT: Sophia Wanet, City Sonic communication manager

e-mail : citysonics@gmail.com

cell: + 32 (0) 485 78 51 79



TRANSCULTURES

Site des Abattoirs, 17 rue de la Trouille 7000 Mons – Belgium

cell : +32 (0)65 59 08 89

e-mail : contact@transcultures.be