



Helen Ottaway

Helen Ottaway is a musician and composer, and Frome resident for 22 years, who has been invited to curate **LISTEN: A Season of Sound Art** taking place in Frome from the 20 July until Sound Walk Sunday on the 1 September, 2019. In this episode, interviewed midway through LISTEN, Helen explains how it came to fruition, its breadth of events taking place, and how she particularly wanted to include a listening walk and a geo-located sound walk. Helen herself, has been involved in creating sound art outdoors and is keen to include more walking in her future work. 21'24" 10MB

Notes from the podcast interview by **Andrew Stuck**: Recorded in August 2019 beside the River Frome. Published in August 2019 on <http://www.talkingwalking.net>

LISTEN: A Season of Sound Art: <https://www.listensoundart.co.uk/>

Sound Walk Sunday: <https://www.museumofwalking.org.uk/our-events/sound-walk-sunday/>

Sound art: <https://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-britain-tate-modern/soundwork/sonic-trails/sound-art>

Scanner aka Robin Rimbaud: <http://scannerdot.com/>

Sound artist Kathy Hinde: <http://kathyhinde.co.uk/>

Errollyn Wallen <http://www.errollynwallen.com/> studied music at Goldsmith's (as did Helen) <https://www.gold.ac.uk/music/>

Helen's own website blog: <https://helenottaway.blog/> and on Bandcamp: <https://helenottaway.bandcamp.com/>

Mel Day, is an artist <https://www.melday.co.uk/drupal8/Home> as well as one of the Programming Group of Artists at Black Swan Arts, Frome: <https://www.blackswanarts.org.uk>

Frome, and its river: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Frome,_Somerset

Satsymph are Ralph Hoyte (a poet), Phil Phelps (audio engineer and musician) and Marc Yeats (composer): <https://satsymph.co.uk/>

Frome Walking Memories based on an ten year Oral History project on working in Frome <https://satsymph.co.uk/projects-and-events/frome-walking-memories> and <http://homeinfrome.org.uk> for the community group whose oral history collecting was used and whose members contributed to the project.

A walk celebrating workhouse and social reformer, a 19th century Frome resident Emma Sheppard - led by 3 writers: <https://www.discoverfrome.co.uk/event/the-emma-sheppard-walk/>

All Festival artists have contributed to a play list curated by Michael Ormiston <http://www.soundtransformations.co.uk/>, himself the UK authority on overtone, harmonic or 'throat singing' https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Overtone_singing



Michael Ormiston and partner, Candida Valentino are running a workshop at LISTEN on Sound Meditation with Himalaya Singing bowls. <https://www.discoverfrome.co.uk/event/sound-meditation-with-himalaya-singing-bowls/>

“Music wanting to be played” <https://www.a-n.co.uk/events/listen-music-wanting-to-be-played-by-david-daniels/> is an Exhibition by animator David Daniels (who also designed the logo and print for the LISTEN Festival) <https://vimeo.com/user1381012>

Artmusic <http://www.artmusic.org.uk/> was formed by Helen as means to qualify for an Arts Council grant - funding from the Arts Council is now also made to individual artists. <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding> Artmusic continues to develop collaborative, participatory and site-specific work.

Lachrymae composed by Helen, was made in collaboration with visual artist, Rowena Pearce, and sound designer, Alastair Goolden, originally as a gallery piece. <https://www.artsadmin.co.uk/projects/lachrymae>

Ted Hughes’ translation of Ovid’s “Metamorphoses” <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metamorphoses> - Lachrymae is based on the story of story of Phaethon

Alastair Goolden and Helen worked with Soundbeam <https://www.soundbeam.co.uk/> to create environments where sounds were triggered / caused by people’s movement.

It was subsequently taken outside for The Shimmy (part of the Wandsworth Festival) in Wandsworth Park <http://thebrickbox.co.uk/projects/wandsworth-arts-festival-fringe/> and latterly for Inside Out Dorset Festival in Dorset <https://www.insideoutdorset.co.uk/>, where Lachrymae was installed in Chapel Coppice, Ashley Chase <https://www.dorsethistoricchurchestrust.co.uk/index.php/our-churches/28-weymouth-deanery/12-abbotsbury-hidden-chapel> near Abbotsbury, Weymouth (and is available on the Artmusic website <http://www.artmusic.org.uk/projects/lachrymae/>).

Inside Out Dorset and Dorset Landscape Partnership <https://www.dorsetaonb.org.uk/our-work/south-dorset-ridgeway/landscape-partnership> commissioned Satsymph to geo-locate works around the South Dorset Ridgeway including Lachrymae <http://satsymph.co.uk/projects-and-events/interpretation/south-dorset> Lachrymae is also to be found on the Sound Walk Sunday directory of walking pieces: <https://www.museumofwalking.org.uk/walkingpiece/lachrymae/>

Lachrymae was part of LISTEN performed outside in the Blue House Gardens in Frome.

Helen has recently been on a residency in Sri Lanka - <http://www.suramedura.com> working and composing with and for musical box <http://www.theftr.co.uk/the-moon-and-musical-box/>

Luke Jerram’s Museum of the Moon <https://www.lukejerram.com/museum-of-the-moon/> - for which Helen composed a musical box and voice piece for the Dorset Moon in Sherborne Abbey. Vocals were performed by Melanie Pappenheim.

Helen is working on a new composition for a Requiem which will incorporate composition, installation and walking.