



## MAKING SILENCE SALIENT

*Making Silence Salient* reconfigures the notion of silence being the absence of noise by presenting it as a sound to be attentively heard. The works of sound art explore what is left in the auditory peripheral and assesses processes that can be inaccessible in typically ocular-centric works by excluding the visual narrative. The philosophy of silence being a form of sound is presented beyond auditory arts as it draws a parallel to the reality that silence is a kind of action and reaction—it cannot be recognized as something that is passively constructed. Disruptions of silence and the idea of logging (moments of) silence are inherent concepts within *Making Silence Salient* as they are key components to how we understand and engage with sound. The exhibition navigates this exploration by observing silence and interacting with it through various technological endeavours, offering a tangible component for patrons to witness.

### WORKS

#### ***Record Maker*** (2019)

13.5 x 14 x 15 in.

Modified record player, metal plate, 3D-printed mounts, ground vinyl records, microphone, servo motor, microcontroller

*Record Maker* is a modified turntable, tracing its needle along a bed of ground 12” vinyl recordings. The work registers the amplitude of the ambient sounds in the space and etches its own iteration of “grooves” that would be found on a traditional record. This piece challenges the original function of a record player by reversing its defined purpose of something to be heard and instead, operating to attentively listen and create its own record according to the sounds that it hears.

#### ***Notice of Disruption*** (2019)

10 x 8 x 6 in.

Modified receipt printer, construction-grade plywood, aluminum, acrylic paint, custom electronic circuitry

*Notice of Disruption* is a thermal printer mounted on a wall that is activated by a sound sensor, printing in real-time when a new sound enters the realm of silence. The work interrogates the notion of silence as being devoid of sound and instead records based on the idea that silence is to be attentively heard—a privilege only granted to sound. This is done through logging moments of silence, or rather ‘muted sounds’, and starting anew when a disturbance in the auditory sphere is noted.

#### ***Transfiguration*** (2018)

9 minutes and 46 seconds

Video

*Transfiguration* investigates ways to represent silence and its echoes. The movements of the figure ripple and disperse, a parallel to moments of silence punctuating interactions with oneself or others. The reality of silence resonating on a deeper, more intimate level, than other kinds of sounds is a fact much of us are privy of especially since it has the capacity to convey a myriad of sentiments. Silence finds its way into conversations about forgiveness, proclamations of love, or instances in which your heart simply needs to rest—granting us comfort, an abundance of pressure, or respite, among other feelings we have yet to discern.

The video was shot by method of a video feedback loop, where the artist shot a projection of the live view of the camera as it simultaneously records what it is capturing.

## ARTIST

**Christopher Dela Cruz** is a Filipino-Canadian artist whose works investigate the relationships between objects and technology, alongside interests of interculturalism and individuality. His primary medium of work range from sound, sculpture, video, installation, to photography and has been actively collaborating with artists and musicians within the Toronto community. His most recent work, “Long Distance Relationship” was exhibited as part of the main programming of the Independent Projects group for Nuit Blanche Toronto and Long Winter at the Tranzac Club in 2018. He currently lives and works in Toronto as the audio director of “Festival Italiano di Johnny Lombardi” at CHIN Radio/TV International.

## CURATOR

**Rashana Youtzy** is a writer and curator at the University of Toronto, conducting research in art history, critical theory, and philosophy. The primary focuses in her inquiries involve how investigations in identity are manifested and our constant desire to communicate this endeavor of understanding ourselves and the world around us. This includes analyzing cultural collisions, the confrontation of time, while also exploring themes beyond literary and visual culture.

*We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude for Gallery 1265 for giving us the space and opportunity to exhibit these works, as well as the generous contributors, assistants, and volunteers in making this show possible.*

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