



PHIL MAGUIRE

MUSICIAN / IMPROVISOR / ARTIST / CURATOR

philmaquire.com / pm@philmaquire.com

Phil Maguire is an experimental musician, improviser, and artist. Malfunction permeates his music, utilising sine tone oscillators, noise, found sound, and obsolete audio technology to create intimate, engrossing sonic environments. Embracing low-cost ethics, Phil's primary instruments range from microcomputers and battered cassette recorders, to open-source software and plundered online audio. Emptiness and simplicity are at the heart of his work, exploring timbral shifts, background noise, and personal identity/ies.

This work extends into composed instrumental music, via text scores and instructions. These works have been performed by the likes of Garth Knox, Juice Vocal Ensemble, and Mark Sanders.

In late 2016 Phil founded verz, a multimedia project curating quiet music and sound art. Primarily a record label and concert series, the project explores the 'what' and 'why' of quiet music, and supports electronic music, contemporary composition, improvisation, and sound art. In 2017, verz also ran as a radio show on Resonance Extra.

Phil performs extensively in the UK scene and internationally, and his work is frequently featured on national and international radio. Recent performances include Sonorities Festival, FIME (BR), De Ruimte (NL), Electric Spring Festival (UK), and Union Chapel (UK). He performs solo, and in groups with musicians including Phil Durrant, James L. Malone, Eleanor Cully and Richard Sanderson. Phil also performs electronics in Galvanize Ensemble, Arcadio, and electroacoustic trio RaaMM.

selected performances & installations (solo unless stated)

2017	LIMBO Art Space verznights (curator/performer) Electric Spring Festival Flat38 Gallery Opening	Margate London Huddersfield Margate
2016	sonADA Festival Sonorities Festival Lightworks Festival BBC Radio 3 Hear and Now Shackle Affair Union Chapel	Aberdeen Belfast Grimsby London Amsterdam (with Shackle) London (Arcadio)
2015	Strange Umbrellas #10 Happenstance Suspense Festival Festival Internacional de Musica Experimental Happenstance	London Liverpool (Galvanize Ensemble) London // Margate (Sort of Theatre) Sao Paulo London (Galvanize Ensemble)
2014	Happenstance FIRSTS Festival Electric Spring Festival	Gillingham // Halifax London (Sort of Theatre) Huddersfield

works

2015-7	bothy ballads	text situations both absurd and mundane
2017	brak ferric empty damage sluimer monosphere defekt fabrik. strooken oRgel probst i structuur	computer tones, cassette field recordings alto flute/baritone saxophone/computer/drums - Ensemble Entropy & Mark Sanders studies for empty cassettes, tape recorders, and contact microphones found tape ambience, DSP artifice chance-operated lowercase sine tone and noise (multiple variations) cassette recorder studies degrading cassette loops noise wash computer and found sound improvisation strangled waveshapes
2016	aural documents #1 /souch/dron/hum/ pieces for blank cassette there will be no miracles here. husk_rust	recordings of damaged audio equipment for vocal trio, AM radio, and objects - Juice Vocal Ensemble text situations utilising blank cassette tapes sine tones, noise, found sound, objects - premiered on BBC Radio 3 works made using source material by outsider artist Marcel Gumms
2015	this this elephants	sine tone, noise, and found photograph performances solo fretless electric guitar and FX
2014	(vww →) danbeag (series) eriskay loveunit	string instrument and samples - Garth Knox field recordings, noise, software synthesisers noise, found sound, amplified circuitry
2013	.haul / S verz: pieces for electric guitar	fixed media installation suite noise improvisations

selected collaborative projects

2016-	Free improvised electronics	solos/duos/trios
2016	Arcadio	Latin-electronica collective.
2015	Claire Orme & Phil Maguire	Multimedia artworks with artist Claire Orme
2013-	Galvanize Ensemble	Happenstance. Supported by Arts Council England
2013-5	Sort of Theatre Company	Soundtrack for 'Buttons'. Presented at FIRSTS and Suspense Festivals

residencies

2014 Galvanize Ensemble / Dean Clough, Halifax.
LV21, Gillingham. Workshop and performance with students from University of Kent SMFA

discography

2017	brak	cassette, Soft Error
	empty damage	cassette, falt
	sluimer	digital, self-release
	defekt fabrik.	cassette, self-release
	oRgel	digital, self-release
	strooken	digital, self-release
	solo computer music	cassette, verz
2016	structuur	digital, self-release
	aural documents #1	CDr, verz
	husk_rust: adapted recordings	digital, verz
	this this	CD, Linear Obsessional
2015	th at ti me wh en	digital, self-release
2014	soom STORAS	digital, self-release
	sml hnd / dctfl hnd	cassette, drone warfare tapes
2013	verz: pieces for electric guitar	digital, self-release

education & research

2013-4 University of Huddersfield
MA (Research): Synaesthesia and association in audio/visual composition.
Condensed version published in CeReNeM Journal #5

2009-12 Brunel University
BMus (Hons) Music
1st Class. Griffin Prize for Music, School of Arts University Prize

press

“Everything about aural documents #1 is clean and exact; a precise negotiation of noise, time, space and silence, architecturally arranged into a structure of symmetry, right angles and impeccable counterbalance ... Vivid and irrefutable.”
ATTN:Magazine

“Wholly abstract and non-human noise ... Maguire’s exceptionally modest set-up makes the average laptop with its weighty OS, software bloat, and hundreds of MP3 files look like the excesses of a Rick Wakeman multi-keyboard array.”

“Virtually impossible to second-guess what directions Maguire might wish to be taking us, yet while we’re here under this steel canopy it seems the most natural place on earth.”
The Sound Projector

“A popping, whirring, stuttering thing”
The Quietus

“Surging pulsations and electrical whistles coming on like Christian Fennesz getting heavy with a ZX Spectrum”
We Need No Swords

“The static of hard wired electricity navigating empty fields and lonely roadways; the longing of distant lovers across the world; the sine waves of incomplete thoughts feelings fighting each other over which shall prevail.”
Tiny Mix Tapes

technical rider

Technical requirements vary depending on performance. Below is a general rider for a ‘traditional’ concert setting with a PA:

- 4 Channel mixer onstage. High quality - Mackie or similar
- Stereo sound system with wide frequency range and good bass response (min. 40Hz)
- Stereo monitors onstage
- Two 4-way power strips, with appropriate adapters for equipment from the UK
- One table. Sitting height, approx. 1m x 2m, plus chair
- Table placement can be flexible to suit venue and event
- Single colour lighting, fixed, at a low level. White is preferred
- Any projections to be agreed with the artist

travel & accommodation

- Appropriate rail or airfare from London, roundtrip, including transfers from destination to hotel/venue
 - Booked by the artist, reimbursed immediately by organiser
- One hotel room with high speed internet