

Marcus Leadley: The Language of Aural Space

The Language of Aural Space: Environmental Sound, Human Being and Experience

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In: Motje Wolf (Ed.)

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to be interested in discussing the ideas involved. One person, on finding out about the written score became intrigued by the idea that the work might be about 'the gaps between words'. Another, to whom I explained the random nature of playback, said the work reminded her of an ancient Greek saying about a river never being the same twice. Plutarch reports this quote from Heraclitus as, "you cannot step into the same river twice" (Haxton, 2003, p. 95). Mapping this idea onto the work potentially reveals a trajectory that takes us toward Nietzsche, discussion of the eternal return and toward Heidegger, modern existentialism and postmodern cultural theory.

So, all in all, one afternoon spent on a beach provided me with plenty of food for thought and I decided that there was a line of enquiry and a potential methodology for a PhD. Six months of research and the questions now driving the enquiry are:

- ! In what ways has increasing complexity in the environmental soundscape changed our aural awareness and perception of the everyday?
- ! Does a move from

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