



Do you
hear
your
memories?

Tatjana Varvitsiotis / Applied Project

Audio Installation
at the
Ethnographic Museum
in Pazin / Croatia
Summer 2026



MUSEUM

- Identity: traditions, music, language, food, work
- Human animals are in the centre of most exhibitions

PROJECT

- Connecting to nonhuman animals and environment
- Migration & Memory

MIGRATION

- six persons that had left Istria and recall sounds of nonhuman animals
- migratory birds & seasonal sounds

MEMORY

- auditory vs. visual
- past - present - future



Migration & Memory → connected through original places



WHAT NONHUMAN ANIMAL SOUND DO YOU RECALL?



Otus scops

DONKEYS Ada (Germany)

CICADAS Yolanda (New Zealand) & Pavle (Iceland)

SEAGULL Graciela (Germany)

SHEEP / DOGS Tatjana (Germany)

OWL Marija (Estonia)

HUMAN ANIMAL PART

&

NONHUMAN ANIMAL PART

Introduction & Texts / 6-7min

Transition & Sound collage / 2-3min

the project

visual vs. auditory memory

the speakers

memories: voice recordings

additional information

a friend's young donkey

owl from Baderna

cicadas from Jedro

sheep/dogs from central Istria

seagull from Pical

- for each nonhuman animal one or two unknown information that creates/strengthens the connection to nature
- transition: presenting the nonhuman animals and naming places

TEXTS/MEMORIES

ENGLISH

Intro -> Seagull (text) -> Donkeys -> Cicadas -> Sheep -> Owl -> T + SC

ITALIAN

Intro -> Seagull (text) -> Donkeys -> Cicadas -> Sheep -> Owl -> T + SC

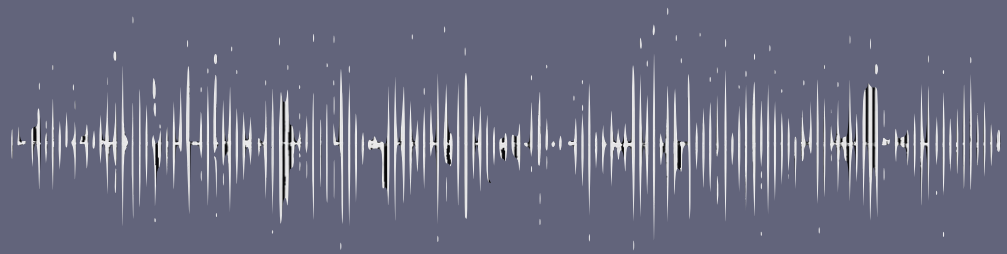
CROATIAN

Intro -> Seagull (text) -> Donkeys -> Cicadas -> Sheep -> Owl -> T + SC

GERMAN

Intro -> Seagull (text) -> Donkeys -> Cicadas -> Sheep -> Owl -> T + SC

- the order will vary, according to dramaturgical needs



MARIJA / THE SCOPS OWL

Marija remembers the sound of the Scops Owl, the short nocturnal call emitted every 2-3 seconds and audible up to 1km away.

She remembers how this sound accompanied her and her friends on their way home after meeting in the village.

She didn't know back then, that the Scops Owl, a migratory bird with the Latin name *Otus scops*, returns back to the same nesting site after the winter spent in tropical Africa. Given the fact that Scops Owl's life span reaches up to 10 years, perhaps the calling owl had watched Marija and her friends growing up over the years.

SOUND COLLAGE

- all nonhuman animals will be recorded in 2026
 - a friend's young donkey - anytime
 - owl from Baderna - spring/summer?
 - cicadas from Jedro - $> 25^{\circ}\text{C}$
 - sheep / dogs - spring/summer?
 - seagull from Pical - better in summer?
- sound collage will not follow the order in the previous text /edited?
- sounds might be integrated in the texts: sea waves from Poreč, wind (bura), birds...?



AND WHAT IS YOUR AUDITORY MEMORY?

share memories / evaluate the installation / tourist, local?
printed paper (A6), pen, box

POSTCARD

with Gracielas photo and full text in two languages / CRO+IT & E+G

WRITTEN MATERIAL

sources, footnotes, for people with hearing impairment? languages?

EVALUATION

how long will the installation last? practicability (staff)? opinions?

TIME TABLE

now: recordings of memories

February: introduction & texts at LEONARDO (1 day in, with coach?)

spring: design and texts with museum staff

spring/summer: field recordings ($>25^{\circ}\text{C}$)

June: LEONARDO sound collage & finalization (1/2 day?)

end of June/July: installation

PANELS: title (C+I+E+G) / names of participants / contours of ears

DO YOU HEAR YOUR MEMORIES? HÖREN SIE IHRE ERINNERUNGEN?

DA LI ČUJETE SVOJA SJEĆANJA? SENTE I SUOI RICORDI?

MEMORIES & TEXTS

Pavle Estrajher (Iceland)

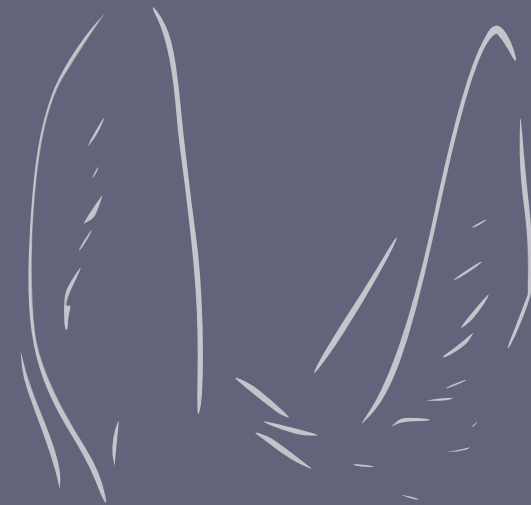
Marija Legović (Estonia)

Graciela Mureta (Germany)

Yolanda Ritoša-Hunter (New Zealand)

Ada Soldatić-Rösch (Germany)

Tatjana Varvitsiotis (Germany)



Do you hear your memories?



Hören Sie Ihre Erinnerungen?

At noon, when the sun scorches the stone and vineyards, crickets raise their tireless chorus – tiny, vibrating, as if the world itself were playing. Their rhythm is the pulse of summer, monotonous and eternal, filling the air with flickering warmth. From the sea comes the cry of seagulls – piercing, spread out like the arch of the sky, sometimes rough, sometimes drawn out, like a greeting to the wind and the distances. Together, seagulls and crickets create the melody of Istria: some sing about the sea and freedom, others about the land and its heat. It is the sound of the homeland – at once restless and peaceful, rooted in the stone, in the wave, in the heart that remembers:

Mittags, wenn die Sonne Stein und Weinberge versengt, erheben die Grillen ihren unermüdlichen Chor – winzig, vibrierend, als würde die Erde selbst spielen. Ihr Rhythmus ist der Puls des Sommers, eintönig und ewig, und erfüllt die Luft mit flackender Wärme. Vom Meer kommt der Schrei der Möwen – durchdringend, ausgebreitet wie der Himmelsbogen, mal rau, mal langgezogen, wie ein Gruß an den Wind und die Ferne. Gemeinsam erschaffen Möwen und Grillen die Melodie Istriens: Manche singen vom Meer und der Freiheit, andere vom Land und seiner Wärme. Es ist der Klang der Heimat – ruhelos und friedlich zugleich, verwurzelt im Stein, in der Welle, im Herzen, der sich erinnert.

Graciela Mureta



OPEN QUESTIONS

Title: "do you hear" or "can you hear"?

Should I present myself and the project?

How much information about the participants?

Written material? (sources, additional information or complete text)

Evaluation or comment?



Thank you for lending me your ears



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