

Phil Maguire

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Phil Maguire (b. 1989) is an artist and composer from Scotland working with sound. Maguire produces music and sound works for synthesiser and computer that explore emptiness and emergence, of self and of machine. These works are informed by his experience composing, performing, and presenting works across the gamut of Minimalism.

These works place timbre under the microscope; examining fine details of sound over extended durations. Informed by intuitive use of feedback, chaos, and chance, these sounds are simultaneously static, yet always in motion.

Works by Maguire are released on various independent labels including Dinzu Artefacts, Confront Recordings, 845 audio, and Cloudchamber Recordings.

Maguire performs extensively in the international scene. Recent performances include Klub Gromka (Slovenia), Paviljoen Ongehoorde Muziek (Netherlands), and Café Oto (UK). Recorded works are frequently presented at festivals and on radio stations globally. These include Radio CASo (Argentina), BBC Radio 3 (UK), L A D I G (Italy), and Dublin Digital Radio (Ireland).

Maguire also composes music for theatre, and produces video and photographic works. He performs in Galvanize Ensemble, and has regular collaborative projects with Anne La Berge, Tim Olive, Matthijs Kouw, and Bill Thompson, among others. He is a PhD candidate in Music at University College Cork, supported by a university Excellence Scholarship.

Between 2016 and 2022 Maguire ran verz, a label, concert series, and radio show for experimental music and sound. He lives and works between London, UK, and Cork, Ireland.

Education

2022 -

University College Cork

PhD Music Composition – Practice-led research

Supervisor: John Godfrey

Co-supervisor: Dr. Jeffrey Weeter

College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences Excellence Scholar (PhD)

2013 – 2014

University of Huddersfield

MA (Research) - Perception and free association in audio/visual composition (Portfolio of works)

2009 – 2012

Brunel University (London)

BMus (Hons) Musical Performance, 1st Class

Experimental electronic music performance

Griffin Prize for Music & University Prize, School of Arts

Residencies

2020 iklectik Off-Site (Maguire/La Berge) – Supported by Volsap Foundation and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs

2019 Elektronmusikstudion Stockholm

2014 Galvanize Ensemble – LV21, Dean Clough – Supported by Arts Council England and RvW Trust

Commissioned works

2020 [Site V](#), multimedia work with Anne La Berge
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Volsap Foundation, and iklectik Off-Site (London)

2017 [ferric](#), Ensemble Entropy with Mark Sanders
Violin, baritone saxophone, alto flute, percussion, electronics

2016 [/souch/dron/hum/](#), Juice Vocal Ensemble
Voices, radio, objects
Performed at Kings Place, London, and recorded for Juice's 'Snow Queens' album (Resonus Classics)

2015 [elephants](#), Rich Perks' Fretless Architecture
Fretless electric guitar & fx

2014 [\(vww →\)](#), Garth Knox
Viola & audio files

Workshops & masterclasses

2020 Royal Birmingham Conservatoire – guest composer seminar

2016 Splendor Academy, Amsterdam – electroacoustic improvisation workshop with Anne La Berge/Shackle

2014 Galvanize Ensemble – composition workshop with University of Kent music students

(underlined text = hyperlink)

Discography (solo unless stated)

- 2022 [zeeschuim](#) – CD, Cloudchamber Recordings
[rainsweet stillness](#) – CD, Minimal Resource Manipulation
- 2021 [iterator](#) - Digital
[isometry](#) (with Matthijs Kouw) – CD, verz
[ijzer en staal](#) – CD, verz
- 2020 [Bairds of Gartsherrie](#) – Cassette, Beartown
[Invoer](#) (with Tim Olive) – CD, 845 audio
[zeemijl](#) - CD
[stillekamer](#) – Digital, FD
[ruimte](#) (with Bill Thompson) – Digital, verz
[two cities](#) (Maguire/La Berge) – Cassette/video, verz
- 2019 [wilt](#) – Cassette, Sounds Against Humanity
[mode](#) - CD/digital
[three cities](#) (Maguire/La Berge) – Cassette, verz
- 2018 [folamh, endless](#) – Cassette, hemisphäre の空虚
[\[bitdrip\]](#) – Digital, Impulsive Habitat
[monosphere](#) – Cassette, TVEI
[Working Title](#) (with James L. Malone) – CD, Confront Recordings
[fower / fowk](#) – Cassette, Dinzu Artefacts
- 2017 [brak](#) – Cassette, Soft Error
[Empty Damage](#) – Cassette, falt
[sluimer](#) – Digital
[defekt fabrik](#) - Cassette
[strooken #1 & #2](#) - Digital
[oRgel](#) – Digital
[solo computer music](#) – Cassette, verz
- 2016 [structuur](#) – Digital
[aural documents #1](#) – CD, verz
[husk_rust: adapted recordings](#) – Digital, verz
[soom STÓRAS](#) - Digital
- 2015 [this this](#) - CD
- 2014 [smll hnd / dctfl hnd](#) – Cassette, Drone Warfare Tapes
- 2013 [pieces for electric guitar](#) - Digital

Live Recordings

- 2021 [feeling you are someone living somewhere](#)
Hundred Years Gallery, London, 27/06/21
- 2018 [live at culture lab](#)
Newcastle University, 02/07/18 - verz x ame tour with Sonic Luz
- 2017 [Phil Maguire & Phil Durrant @ verznights #001](#)
Hundred Years Gallery, London, 22/04/17
[structuur @ Electric Spring Festival](#)
Huddersfield, 24/02/17
- 2016 [De Ruimte](#)
Amsterdam, 17/08/16

Video Works

- 2022 [two trees](#)
- 2021 [leaf](#).
- 2020 [Site V](#) (Maguire/La Berge)
Commissioned by Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Volsap Foundation, iklectik Off-Site
[viitasaari](#) (Maguire/La Berge)
Featured on 'two cities'
[de stenograaf](#)
- 2014 [nialas rud \(nach é seo rud ar bith\)](#)
[dánbeag #3](#)
- 2013 [\(\)](#)
[14AB2](#)

Theatre Projects

- 2019** **Wireless Operator**
Silksheen Productions
- 2013-5** **Buttons**
Sort of Theatre Company
- 2012** **Organised Crime Theatre Company**
Pornography (Simon Stephens)

Installations

- 2022** **two trees**
Hundred Years Gallery, London
- 2020** **Site V** (Maguire/La Berge)
iklectik Off-Site - online exhibition space
- 2018** **monosphere**
APT Gallery, London
- 2016** **monosphere**
Huddersfield
- 2015** **message #00000**
[dis]place exhibition, London
- 2014** **14AB2**
Electric Spring Festival, Huddersfield

Selected Live Performances (solo unless stated)

- 2022** **Klub Gromka, Ljubljana** – Cloudchamber Recordings label showcase
Unit 44, Dublin – Reception Concerts
Café Oto, London – Galvanize Ensemble
- 2021** **iklectik, London** – duo with James L Malone
- 2020** **Splendor, Amsterdam** - Maguire/La Berge – verz x Moving Furniture Records
City University London - Galvanize Ensemble & Fretwork
- 2019** **Café Oto, London** - Jurg Frey – Electronics and Loudspeaker Pieces (Distant Colours, Circular Music No. 6)
Literary & Philosophical Society, Newcastle - Galvanize Ensemble & Fretwork
Paviljoen Ongehoorde Muziek, Eindhoven - Maguire/La Berge, album launch
- 2018** **Helsinki & Tampere, Finland** - verz x TVEI short tour
Sluice Project Space, London - Without Appeal – open studio & live sound installation
London, Huddersfield, Newcastle - verz x ame tour with Ryoko Akama & Sonic Luz
Dronica Festival, London
L A D I G, Naples - Fixed media
- 2017** **Electric Spring Festival, Huddersfield**
Ensemble Entropy with Mark Sanders, London
Sonic Imperfections, London
- 2016** **Sonorities Festival** - Black Box, SARC, Belfast
Lightworks Festival, Grimsby - Fixed media
sonADA Festival, Aberdeen
BBC Radio 3 – Hear and Now Live - Royal Festival Hall
- 2015** **Festival Internacional de Música Experimental, Sao Paulo**
Colchester Arts Centre - Performance of 'elephants' by Rich Perks
[dis]place, London - Gallery exhibition and performance with Claire Orme
Strange Umbrellas #10, London
Suspense Puppetry Festival - With Sort Of Theatre
- 2014** **Galvanize Ensemble – Happenstance** - LV21, Gillingham
Electric Spring Festival, Huddersfield - Audio/visual performance, Phipps Hall
Sight, Sound, Space, Play - De Montfort University, Leicester
- 2013** **Galvanize Ensemble – Hack the Barbican**
Calling the Tune Festival - The Old Vinyl Factory, Hayes
- 2012** **Music Orbit, Shoreditch Town Hall**
WAM Festival, Reading
Music Orbit @ Brighton Fringe Festival
- 2011** **Café Oto, London** – with Phill Niblock

press

“Perhaps the most satisfying point of connection is that blast furnaces operate using a method of continuous production, which requires them to run for months, even years without stopping. This is beautifully rendered in a sound that drapes itself upon the base of consciousness, exerting just enough movement to retain active engagement yet sufficiently static to abet thoughts of the infinite; the possibility that these hums, locked into a cycle of non-endings and non-beginnings, will persist in steadfast parallel to time itself.”

ATTN:Magazine on **Bairds of Gartsherrie**

“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

“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 on **this this**

“Surging pulsations and electrical whistles coming on like Christian Fennesz getting heavy with a ZX Spectrum”

We Need No Swords on **this this**

“The standouts, though, are Phil Maguire’s **/souch/dron/hum/**, a virtuosic play on onomatopoeic wind sounds and fx...”

Choir and Organ Magazine

“...each and every sound present on Rainsweet Stillness, each speck or smudge, is one of abstract, personalized, indescribable beauty.”

Harmonic Series on **rainsweet stillness**