

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, May 17, 2022



Follow your ears on a Soundwalk

Vancouver New Music presents two free Soundwalks coming up May 29 and June 5

Vancouver, BC – Vancouver New Music and the **Vancouver Soundwalk Collective** present two free Soundwalks this spring. On Sunday, May 29 at 2pm, join Jorma Kujala for a different take on Mount Pleasant's colourful murals. The week following, participants will be invited to listen to Vancouver's lively West End in a Soundwalk led by Jamie Dolinko (Sunday, June 5 at 2pm).

Led by members of the Vancouver Soundwalk Collective, these Soundwalks are silent group walks led along a planned route to experience a location's ambiance and underlying rhythms. All too often the sounds of the environment pass by unnoticed because of our uncanny ability to shut them out. A Soundwalk invites participants to actively listen, opening ears and consciousness to the complex orchestration that the environment is composing at all times. It is a musical-sonic adventure that reveals the banal to be extraordinary!

<https://newmusic.org/spring-soundwalks-2022/>

Listening to Paint Dry

Led by Jorma Kujala

Sunday, May 29, 2022; 2pm

Meeting Location: NE corner of East 8th Avenue and Kingsway, south side of Mount Pleasant Community Centre

FREE

Registration not required, but recommended as capacity is limited. Register at

Eventbrite: <https://soundwalk-listening-to-paint-dry.eventbrite.ca>

Mount Pleasant is an eclectic mix of painted spaces and places that continue to shake and shape, physically, mentally, and emotionally. Over the past century, this area's small and large-scale construction has been a bellwether of social, cultural, economic, colonial and political forces that have cemented themselves onto these unceded lands. In recent years, it has also been awash with the Vancouver Mural Festival's colourful contributions.

Paint is a critical component in construction and art creation, and its processes of drying, hardening and curing are integral to its longevity. This soundwalk continues historical, cultural and socioeconomic explorations from earlier soundwalks, by listening to paint dry, by listening to the pulses of this community, as well as probing places where we too may have hardened

and cured. Between the layers of neighbourhood paint, we will tune in to growth that develops when discovering something new, when rediscovering essential and elemental experiences that may have been forgotten. Blended with the sounds of traffic, people, commerce and construction that whitewash our urban environment, we will listen for equally important echoes of this neighbourhood, the less obvious auditory renderings of absence as well as presence that form this poetics of space.

PUMP UP THE VOLUME

Led by Jamie Dolinko

Sunday, June 5, 2022; 2pm

Meeting Location: A-maze-ing Laughter, a bronze sculpture by Yue Minjun, located in Morton Park, 1800 Morton Ave. (Davie Street at Denman Street)

FREE

Registration not required but recommended as capacity is limited. Register at [Eventbrite: https://soundwalk-pump-up-the-volume.eventbrite.ca](https://soundwalk-pump-up-the-volume.eventbrite.ca)

The last 2 years have been a time to listen from afar, to observe what's been heard, and to notice what's been missing.

As we move into a transitional pandemic phase and begin to reacquaint ourselves with our neighbors and surroundings, for this Soundwalk, led by Jamie Dolinko, we will explore the bustling neighborhood west of Denman Street in Vancouver's West End.

Soundwalking is an excellent opportunity to concentrate on the moment and return to the present. We'll experience a constant soundtrack that presents itself both naturally, intentionally, and in certain cases annually, and have an opportunity to pay attention to the often overlooked but persistent soundscape that accompanies us at all times.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Artist and Vancouver Soundwalk Collective member **Jamie Dolinko** has been leading soundwalks in Vancouver with Hildegard Westerkamp, Jorma Kujala, and others for 5 years. After studying sound with Nobuo Kubota at the Ontario College of Art in Toronto, and receiving an M.F.A. from the School of Visual Arts in noisy New York, she is currently living and making art in Vancouver. Dolinko is eternally grateful for her proximity to Stanley Park and the tranquility and solace it provides, especially throughout these pandemic times.

Jorma Kujala's academic and interdisciplinary art practice includes painting, mixed media, collage, drawing, as well as his soundwalking research as coordinator of the Vancouver Soundwalk Collective. His work is informed by the interchange between the social and the studio, and he researches networks of shared knowledge, identity, memory, and social interaction that emerge when culture, communication, and social forces intersect. His work also investigates perceptions of truth, repetition, re-creation and re-enactment, as well as the bodily interplay between the senses, the individual, and environments. He gratefully

acknowledges he lives, works and plays on the unceded ancestral lands of the Coast Salish peoples: the Squamish (Sḵwxwú7mesh), the Tsleil-Waututh (Stó:lō and Səlílwəta?/Selilwitulh) and the Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm) Nations.

ABOUT VANCOUVER NEW MUSIC

Supporting creativity, innovation, curiosity and a multiplicity of voices and ideas, Vancouver New Music is committed to curating practices, not only works, and embracing the rhizomatic expansion of current modes of sound and music creation. Founded in 1973, Vancouver New Music regularly commissions and premieres new works by Canadian and international composers, presents an annual festival that focuses each year on a theme within the new music landscape and explores the interaction of contemporary music with other disciplines such as theatre, installation, and media arts. Other activities include lectures and workshops with visiting artists, ensemble workshops and presentations open to the community, and other sound-, art-, and new-music related community events, such as Soundwalks.

An annual/biannual series, Parallels, brings internationally renowned artists together with local musicians to create new works that are specific to the time, places, and people involved in their creation. <https://newmusic.org>

MEDIA CONTACT

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