

# Soundscape Architecture

## Key Points

- Audience: Architects, Artists, Media Studies and Music
- New material on capturing the sounds of spaces in creative visual/aural presentations is unique.
- Work represents a method of training designers to notate and incorporate sonic considerations in their work
- Provocative imagery in the drawings, animations and art work for artists.
- Barry Bergdoll, former Director of Design at MOMA writes a commentary and an endorsement for the MIX House Design, now in the permanent collection of the Art Institute of Chicago.
- Tony Hiss, author of 15 books, including *The Experience of Place: A New Way of Looking at and Dealing with our Radically Changing Cities and Countryside*, and his most recent book, *Rescuing the Planet: Protecting Half the Land to Heal the Earth*. Tony Hiss wrote an introductory piece for the opening of our exhibition in 2015 at the Museum of the City of New York which is included in the book.
- Scholars, Nana Last, Olga Touloumi and Peter Waldman, have written essays on the Soundscape Architecture project and its historical precedents.

## Description

*Soundscape Architecture* presents historical examples, design projects and art works related to the sonics of architectural spaces and landscapes. This work grew out of our interest in listening to places that sponsor distinct sonic characteristics with specific and memorable identities. We have addressed this challenging design territory by beginning with the act of listening itself. We record these spaces, create new compositions from the recordings, draw (by hand and digitally) the sounds of these compositions, animate these drawings, and then create digital paintings as a memory of this process. We also present sonic installations, projects, and other exemplary art works as creative demonstrations that support the act of listening to the atmospheres of our natural and built environments.

## Authors

**Karen Van Lengen**, FAIA, is an architect, artist, professor and former dean. Her recent work focuses on the sounds of iconic buildings and landscapes, by discovering methods to visually portray these sonic characteristics, in addition to designing architectural projects that deploy sound in the design process.

**Jim Welty** is an accomplished sculptor and digital artist, whose recent collaborative work with *Soundscape Architecture* has included the creation of drawings, animations and digital art to visualize the sounds of space.



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