

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunday 27 August: Sound Walk Sunday

Sound Walk Sunday <http://www.museumofwalking.org.uk/events/sound-walk-sunday/>

Going out for a stroll on a Sunday has just become a lot more intriguing, as more than 50 artists, composers and producers from around the world have created walks in which listening is the primary sense. We are celebrating Sound Walk Sunday on Sunday 27 August creating opportunities for the public to take a Sunday stroll with a difference.

You can simply sit back and listen to many of the “walking pieces” but we want to entice you outdoors. You can choose to take headphones to listen to composed walks or simply pin back your ears to listen to your surroundings, and the noises you make yourself while walking.

There are group walks taking place too, so you can try out a walking piece and meet the artist, composer or producer in person. In London there’s an audio tour of Britpop Camden and a walk in which you are invited to tap dance your way around the Paddington Basin, with other live events taking place in Nevada, USA and Whitehorse in north west Canada.

As many as 40 artists and composers will be offering group walking pieces and listening experiences at the Made of Walking Festival at La Romieu in southern France from the 27th August to the 1st September.

However, there are dozens of other walking pieces you can try out on your own or with friends, some specific to a location and more than half a dozen that can be tried anywhere. Artists and producers have been submitting their own work and recommending “walking pieces” created by others, and there’s a handy directory listing more than 60 walks and an on-line map offering a wide variety of walks for people to try out on Sound Walk Sunday.

Sound Walk Sunday was devised by Andrew Stuck, producer of Talking Walking podcasts and founder of the Museum of Walking, supported by participants from First Monday: Sound Salons, networking events taking place in London and Brighton. Plans are afoot, to maintain the directory of “walking pieces” long after Sound Walk Sunday has passed - to provide an archive of compositions and listening experiences that can be tried out at any time.

“Ten years ago when Web 2.0 and geo-located pieces were “new media”, networks or forums of producers and artists evolved and may have created directories or maps, but now it's mainstream and no longer 'new' media and the initial surge for cataloging has diminished. Today little appears to be mapped, technologies have become obsolete, websites fallen into disrepair, and yet it is

more easily created than ever - **Sound Walk Sunday** could be seen as nostalgic, but we think it could - with the right ingredients - offer a popular platform for digitally enhanced walking experiences.” says Andrew Stuck, producer of Talking Walking podcasts and co-convenor of First Monday: Sound Salons.

Examples of group walks taking place in London on Sound Walk Sunday 27 August
Group walks being organized on the day include an audio tour of Britpop Camden.
Meet at 11.00am at Caffe 43, Pratt Street, Camden, London NW1 0BJ and meet storyteller Miranda Diboll and representatives from VoiceMap app who will reveal how easy it is to create your own geo-located audio tour.

You are invited to tap dance your way around the Paddington Basin in the company of performer Nathania Hartley, who can apply pennies to your shoes so you can become a performer in a tap dance in the acoustic canal basin development. Meet at 2.00pm by the benches on Sheldon Square, Paddington W2 6PY

Examples of walks you can try on your own or with friends

You can be a time traveller to discover 4.6 billion years of Earth’s history, bang your own drum and follow its echo, follow the antics of two feuding brothers through 19th Century Bristol, listen to the sounds of the coastal region of Queensland, or a river in Serbia or north west Canada.

All are listed in our directory here: <http://www.museumofwalking.org.uk/events/sound-walk-sunday/sound-walk-sunday-directory/> shorter url: <http://wp.me/P5yayj-Oe>

ENDS 695 words

Media enquiries:

In London up to 24th August (and then in France until 1st September) - Andrew Stuck +44 (0) 772 5555460 talkingwalking@museumofwalking.org.uk

Logo and images for some of the “walking pieces” are available.

In London on the 27th August including Sound Walk Sunday: Nigel Bristow Please request contact details as e mail and number is not for publication.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

1. Sound Walk Sunday is run by volunteers and has received no public funding. It is an initiative of the Museum of Walking, and founder Andrew Stuck and co-convenors of First Monday: Sound Salons. <http://www.museumofwalking.org.uk/> <http://www.museumofwalking.org.uk/events/first-monday-sound-salon/> Andrew also produces Talking Walking, podcasts of interviews of artists, performers and professionals working in the walking sector. <http://www.talkingwalking.net/>

2. Walking pieces were submitted through a public call via various artist networks and no artist is receiving payment from the organisers of Sound Walk Sunday. We asked submitters not to suggest hazardous routes or to include defamatory content, and we have asked users to act responsibly when they are using headphones, and have made this clear to users of the website.
3. Before setting out, it is advisable to check whether the 'walking piece' is still available for you to use - an app or a sound file may need to be downloaded - so do this where you have a good wifi connection.
4. Submissions are still being accepted but will not become available until after Sound Walk Sunday. <http://www.museumofwalking.org.uk/events/sound-walk-sunday/sound-walk-sunday-submission/>
5. Made of Walking in La Romieu, southern France runs from the 27 August to 1 September
MADE OF WALKING is an international nomadic school and a festival, focusing on interdisciplinary approaches of sound and walking practices, inviting artists and walking practitioners, with actions and workshops, in an atmosphere of experiential dialogue and learning. MADE OF WALKING 2017 is organized by the Milena principle (Belgium) with support from Le bouc qui zouke (La Romieu, France), Desartsonnants (France), ARTfactories/Autre(s) pARTs (France), Aifoon (Belgium) and the Museum of Walking (United Kingdom). Curator and Media contact: Geert Vermeire themilenaprinciple@gmail.com
6. Anderson Acoustics with offices in London & Brighton have given time towards the project in helping to set up the map and submission forms. They also host First Monday: Sound Salons once a quarter in their sonic room close to London Bridge. <http://www.andersonacoustics.co.uk/>