

Commuters—New York public transportation experimental sound installation and performance

Participants:

- Student: Jiajia Wu
- Faculty Mentor: Jillian McDonald
- Dyson College Art Department



Dyson Summer 2021 Student-Faculty
Undergraduate Research Award

Methodology:

- Firsthand audio documentation on subway on several Monday mornings 4-7am. Then transform the experience of stressfulness to sound sequence.
- Chapter1 “Rushing and Waiting”
- Chapter2 “Don’t fall asleep or you will miss your stop.”
- Chapter3 “destination”

Purpose:

- The purpose of this artistic project is to bring up the awareness of urban noise issue. Moreover, seek for the answer why we commute daily.
- To put bread on the table.
- But why we don’t fry feely like birds? Only 70 percent of baby birds survive.

Outcomes:

- Sound installation at Pace university lab room
- Public performance at Chambers Street J train Station

Participants

- Student: Jiajia Wu
- Faculty Mentor: Jillian McDonald
- Dyson College Art Department
- Requirement:



Subway audio and wild bird footage recording

— Editor

Environmental theater public performance.

– Director and bird-masks designer

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Context/Purpose for Research

- Sound installation:
- The purpose of this artistic project is to bring up the awareness of urban noise issue. How does subway sound affect our body and mood.
- Moreover, seek for the answer why we commute daily.
- Subway station performance:
- “Bird people had wings and knew how to fly. They decided to cut off their wings to become commuters and live in this underground world.”

Techniques/Methodology

- Audio recording on subway on several Monday mornings specific from 4am to 7am.
- Record wild bird footage.
- Make sound and music sequence fit the the mood transition during different stage of commuting experience.
- Story-telling through sound arts.

- Chapter1 “Rushing and Waiting”
- Chapter2 “Don’t fall asleep or you will miss your stop.”
- Chapter3 “destination”

Results and Conclusions

- Sound installation at Pace University lab room
- Public performance at Chambers Street J train Station

