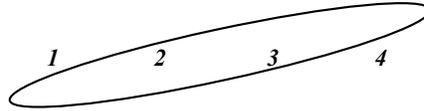


Special Project: Fonline/Shoreline – The original document posted on information pedestals

C h r i s t i n e W h i t t a k e r

Performance, Installations, and Multi-Media Sculpture



“FONline/Shoreline”

*A Sound sculpture Conceived by Matt Patulski a collaboration with
Christine Whittaker and Kristen Morse. Executed Wednesday 10/17/90 at 6:30 p.m.
(Central Standard Time) in Kansas City, Mo.; Malibu, Ca. and Rehoboth, De.*

“FONline/Shoreline” was a sound sculpture conceived by Matthew Patulski collaborated with Christine Whittaker in Rehoboth, Delaware and Kristen Morse in Malibu, California. It was executed as part of The Kansas City Art Institute Sound Sculpture event, which took place on Wednesday October 17, 1990 during sun set. The description listed below was presented to the mayor of Rehoboth in order to obtain the beach and boardwalk areas for the project. The document was posted on the beach during the sound event for viewers.

The “FONline/Shoreline” sound sculpture was the concept of Matthew Patulski, a 25 year old senior in the KCAI sculpture program. The piece involved making telephone connections, one to the shoreline of Atlantic Ocean at the Atlantic Sands Boardwalk Hotel in Rehoboth, Delaware where Christine Whittaker age 26 and her team was present. A second call was placed to the shoreline of the Pacific Ocean at a private residence in Malibu, California. These two calls were simultaneous. Each team used audio equipment to pick up ambient surf and beach sounds with low impedance balance microphones channeled through a maximum of 200’ of XLR audio cable to a mic mixer/amplifier. The signal was then modified through an impedance balanced audio transformer so that they were compatible with the U.S. Sprint Fiber Optic Long Distance Network.

U.S. Sprint, which is based in Kansas City, Missouri, had donated access time to their Fiber Optic Network (FON) for the planning and execution of “FONline/Shoreline”. John Landsburg, Communications Coordinator for U.S. Sprint Fiber Optic Network. Greg Ferese (the mayor of Rehoboth) and Suzanne Stone (president of the Rehoboth Art League) and the owners of the Atlantic Sands Boardwalk Hotel were quite generous in allowing Whittaker’s team access to the beach front area and phone system on the Atlantic shore.

In Kansas City, Missouri the signals from these two phone lines were run through two balanced output audio transformers. Patulski and his team re-equalized and amplified the two individual signals and they were then run through the load speaker system used for the KCAI Sound Sculpture event. The KCAI Sound Sculpture speaker system was then arranged so if the listeners faced North, The Atlantic Ocean would be heard from the Eastern (right) speakers and the Pacific Ocean would be heard from the Western (left) speakers. The final composition of sound was approximately 30 minutes.

In speaking about the piece, Patulski had to say “Conceivably taking a device, the telephone, which is truly invisible thing and making it visible is where the idea begins for me. The telephone by its nature collapses our sense of geography to where the person several thousand miles away is now next to us whispering in our ear. For a brief moment, I wish to make the distances apparent by bringing to Kansas City something that can’t possibly be a part of this geography. The shorelines of this continent will only be tens of feet apart instead of thousands of miles.”

For Patulski, as much as the work is about space, it is also about time, “In this short period of time another time will make itself appear ant” we stand on ocean bottom here in Missouri, a continental shelf some 150 million years old. In contradiction, for a brief moment, the water will return, reconnecting us with our past, stirring the sense of place that is inherent in our spirit.

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“It is these seemingly small turns in our everyday experiences that I strive for in my work. I know that if it carries this way for me, there is the chance of impact with others as well.”

- Matthew Patulski

Pacific Ocean:

Kristen Morse
Los Angeles
CA.



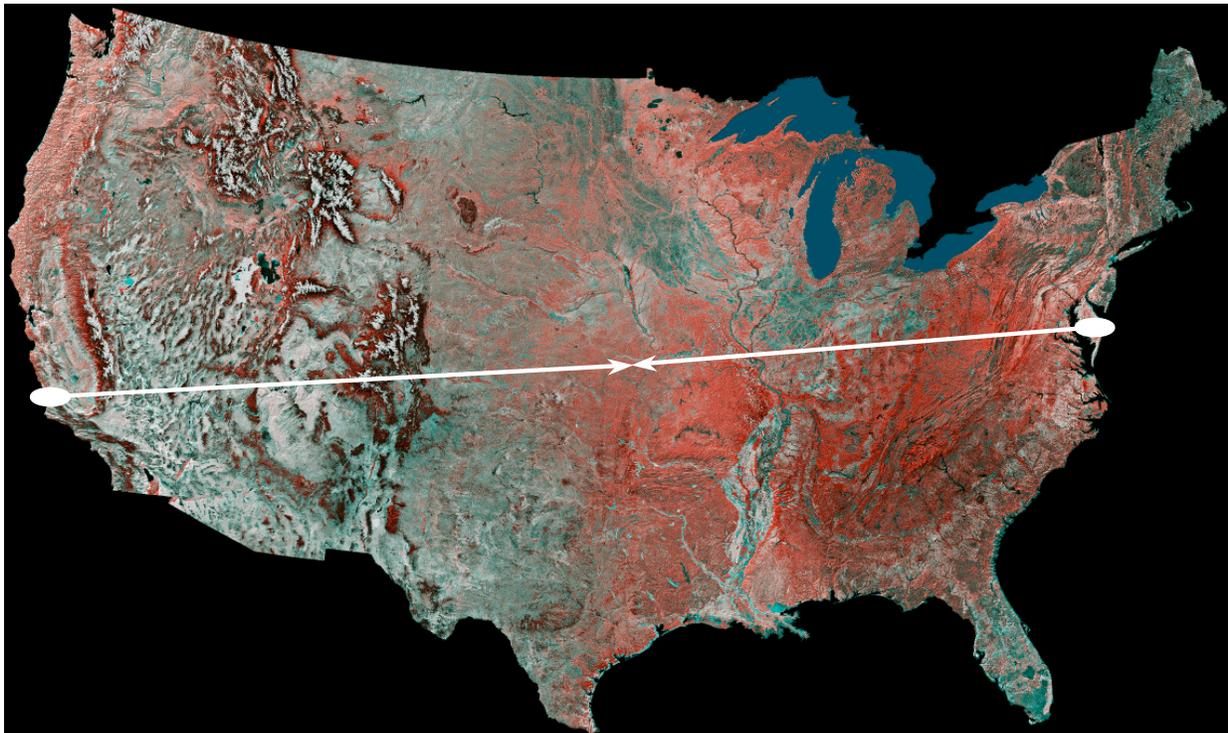
Midwest :

Matt Patulski
Kansas City, MO.



Atlantic Ocean:

Christine
Whittaker,
Rehoboth, DE.



Sound Proposal from the original document:

Making two telephone connections, one to the shoreline of the Atlantic Ocean and the other to the shoreline of the Pacific Ocean. On each beach, a person will be present with a microphone channeling into the phone lines. The mikes will pick up ambient beach and ocean sounds.