

Grazer Kunstverein is moving to Andritz

Dennis McNulty *Sound Truthing*

We are moving to Andritz with Dennis McNulty by way of a sound-walk! McNulty presents in his work *Sound Truthing* a retrospective of his audio-works, many of which have been produced in relation to specific sites in different parts of the world over the past two decades. The artist has mapped out a route and has assigned his audio pieces to different places along this route. While walking along the given route, one can receive the sounds with the help of a smartphone. *Sound Truthing* makes use of ECHOES, a GPS-triggered audio tour application, to explore the district of Andritz as a context. ECHOES enables an audio recording to be associated with a specific location on the face of the earth. The listener has to physically be in that particular place in order to hear the associated sound through their smartphone. This placement of audio in a sound walk has some obvious resonances with the process of arranging artworks in a gallery space. The title *Sound Truthing* is a play on the term “ground truthing”, which is the act of gathering information in the real world (“on the ground”) for comparison with theoretical models or harvested data.

Dennis McNulty (born 1970 in Ireland) is an artist, music-maker and engineer. His work is informed by his background in electronic music, his training as a structural engineer and his studies in psychoacoustics (sound perception). McNulty works across a variety of media on both sides of the computer screen to produce large-scale physical objects, media assemblages, software and live work. He often draws on the context of the buildings he exhibits in, modifying and intervening in their spatial narratives.

Instructions for Dennis McNulty's *Sound Truthing*

In order to take part in Dennis McNulty's sound-walk, you will need a smartphone, headphones and this map. Follow the route in Andritz that is depicted on the map. You can only listen to the sounds when you are on the route. The starting point is Andritzer Hauptplatz. It will take you roughly 1 hour to complete the walk.

1. Install the app ECHOES on your smartphone. Ask at Grazer Kunstverein if you need help.
2. Open the app, click on the magnifying glass symbol in the upper right corner, type in “Sound Truthing” and click “Search”.
3. When you are at the starting point at Andritzer Hauptplatz, activate the sound walk and it will stream through your phone (this could lead to costs for the data that is needed to stream it). Otherwise, you can download the sound walk while you have a wifi connection so that it will be on your phone when you get to Andritz.
4. As soon as you have activated *Sound Truthing* on the ECHOES app, start walking and follow the route indicated on the map while listening to the audio.

Please exercise caution if you are walking in Andritz while listening to the audio on your phone. Pay attention to the traffic and be careful at junctions and when crossing the road!

