

Some information on this page is only available in Dutch

SÉBASTIEN ROBERT

Sébastien Robert (1993, Nantes, FR) is an interdisciplinary artist and researcher who develops a practice at the intersection of visual and sound art, technology, science and ethnography. Most of his projects revolve around a research cycle, *You're no Bird of Paradise*, through which he explores disappearing Indigenous sonic rituals and cosmologies. Beyond simple documentation, yet not an ambitious ethnographic archiving project, he aims to translate these immaterial resources into long-lasting tangible works of art made of materials that echo the traditions of the communities encountered and the geo-specificities of the territories explored. Through his work and research, Sébastien searches for possibilities to create an engaged and expanding artistic dialogue between non-Western perspectives and new technology while questioning our perception of our environment and highlighting the epistemological diversity of the world we inhabit.

WEBSITES

Website

sebastienrobert.nl

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.soundcloud.com/sebastienrobert

www.instagram.com/sebastien_r/

www.linkedin.com/in/sebastienrobert1/

www.vimeo.com/sebastienrobert

MEMBER OF A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION/ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION

Field Records

EDUCATION

- 2018 - ArtScience (MA) Den Haag, Koninklijke
- 2020 Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma
- 2011 - Entrepreneurship (M.B.A) ESDDES School of
- 2017 Business and Management diploma

EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 ZÉRØ1 Festival France I - Musée Maritime La Rochelle, France
[Solo](#)
- 2024 Dans La Nature Espace Multimédia Gantner Bourogne, France
[Group](#)

PROJECTS

- 2022 Back-and-forth Netherlands
sebastienrobert.nl/Back-and-forth Back-and-forth is the result of several residencies in Vlieland (NL), where Sébastien discovered that at irregular intervals - but according to a ritual schedule - a powerful electromagnetic signal passes through the

2024	Sonic Acts EYE Museum Amsterdam, Netherlands Group		
2023	SSSSSSSST AG (HKU) Utrecht, Netherlands Group		
2023	Green Art Lab Alliance festival UFRO Campus Pucón, Chile Group		
2023	FIBER Festival - Fragments DOOR OPEN SPACE Amsterdam, Netherlands Group		
2023	Obsoletely New! SIGN Groningen, Netherlands Group		
2023	Superluminal Light Art Museum Budapest, Hungary Group		
2023	Scopitone Festival ESBANM Nantes, France Duo		
2022	Schemerlicht Festival Goffertpark Nijmegen, Netherlands Group		
2022	Biennale Chroniques Bibliothèque Méjanes Aix-en-Provence, France Solo		
2022	Nordlyst Festival Andenes Lighthouse Andøya, Norway Group	2022	The Lights Which Can Be Heard Norway sebastienrobert.nl/The-Lights-Which-Can-Be-Heard The Lights Which Can Be Heard is an artistic research project on the sounds of the Northern Lights, long witnessed by various indigenous communities in the Arctic. Despite the numerous testimonies, the Western scientific community denied their existence for decades until some hypotheses about their origin began to surface in the 1950s, which are still subject to debate today. Among the different theories, some think that the observer-listener can perceive in their environment the natural VLF (Very Low Frequency) radio waves produced by the Northern Lights. Some natural elements, such as minerals or crystals, would act as receivers and transform the electromagnetic radio waves into the
2022	Ayarkut - Terrestrial Voice Online Yakutsk, Russian Federation Group		
2022	Changes on Northern Shores Arktikum Rovaniemi, Finland Group		
2022	ZERO 1NE Festival Hansen House Jerusalem, Israel Group		
2022	Sonic Acts OT301 Amsterdam, Netherlands Group		
2022	TodaysArt x SHAPE The Grey Space in the Middle The Hague, Netherlands		

	Group			audible, acoustic spectrum. Without rejecting any of them, this is the one that caught Sébastien's attention for his project. Despite successful recordings following a three-week residency in Andøya, Norway, Sébastien realised that the VLF waves emitted by the Northern Lights are becoming increasingly difficult to perceive due to anthropocentric activity. Drowned by artificial signals, these natural radio waves are bound to disappear from our perception. Inspired by this unique context and in continuity with his previous work, Sébastien approached this ongoing debate from different angles: indigenous, poetic and scientific, giving voice to each stakeholder while incorporating his own vision. The result is four interconnected works at the intersection of visual and sound arts, technology, science and ethnography, which allow the audience to perceive the sounds of the Northern Lights while preserving them in the light.
2022	Into The Great Wide Open Oost-Vlieland Vlieland, Netherlands Group			
2022	STRP Festival Pullman Hotel Eindhoven, Netherlands Group			
2021	Intangible losses 5020 / fünfzigzwanzig Salzburg, Austria Group			
2021	Transliminal (Uncloud Festival) Pieter Baan Centrum Utrecht, Netherlands Group			
2021	Meakusma Cinema Eupen Eupen, Belgium Group			
2021	Warping Halos TivoliVredenburg Utrecht, Netherlands Group			
2021	Situated Sounds Arraymusic Toronto, Canada Group	2020	As Above, So Below w/ Mark IJzerman Chile sebastienrobert.nl/As-Above-So-Below As Above, So Below explores the changing landscape of La Araucanía region in south-central Chile through live visuals and sound. This audiovisual performance probes into the dualism of man's relationship with nature via sonic research made by Sébastien Robert and investigative visuals created from satellite imagery as well as microscopic and drone footage by Mark IJzerman. During a residency in Chile they researched the logging industry that has been eroding the biodiversity of the region, causing disruption to the ecosystem.	
2020	ArtScience graduation show KABK The Hague, Netherlands Group			
2020	Instability (FIBER Festival) Tolhuistuin Amsterdam, Netherlands Group			
2020	Rewire x Korzo Paard van Troje The Hague, Netherlands Group			
2020	Polarities - Psychology and Politics of Being Ecological MU Artspace Eindhoven, Netherlands Group	2019	The Kultrun of Cañon del Blanco Chile sebastienrobert.nl/The-Kultrun-of-Canon-del-Blanco In La Araucanía region of Chile, ancestral Mapuche rituals are under threat due to drastic changes caused by climate change, land expropriation and logging on the ecosystem in which they live harmoniously for thousands of years. As the landscape disappears, so do their associated advanced knowledge of the natural world. The Kultrun of Cañon del Blanco studies the influence of the Kultrun - a Mapuche drum - on the crystallisation of the Araucaria Araucana's resin - a Mapuche sacred tree considered as living fossil - and explores the possibilities of preserving its	
2019	Piet Zwart Institute graduation show UBIK Gallery Rotterdam, Netherlands Group			
2019	The LIMA Collection: New Work LIMA Media Art Platform Amsterdam, Netherlands Group			
2019	Amsterdam Art Weekend Westergasfabriek Amsterdam,			

	Netherlands Group		ancestral rhythms in that medium. With his installation, Sébastien carries the rhythms of the drum in the resin and documents their influence on the formation of the crystals. This is being done using a technique called sensitive crystallisation that allows the formative forces of any organic material to be revealed pictorially.
2019	Rewire Festival Grey Space in the Middle The Hague, Netherlands Group		
2019	Dimensions Magick City Brooklyn Group		
2019	Agri/Cultures.Seed-links Exhibition Global Seed Vault Svalbard, Norway Group	2018	The Forgotten Melodies of Pleng Arak Cambodia sebastienrobert.nl/The-Forgotten-Melodies-of-Pleng-Arak Pleng Arak, an ancient music performed during shamanistic ceremonies almost extinguished during the Khmer Rouge period (1975-1979), is now facing new risks: the rise of modern medicine as well as lack of belief from the younger generation. There are few musicians who desire to learn this spiritual healing practice and much knowledge will be lost when these older musicians pass away. In that context, Sébastien went in 2018 to record one of the last bands of Pleng Arak. The musicians allowed him to photograph them and record their repertoire, provided that it will never be sonically shared. Because it is exclusively performed during sacred rituals, listening to this music outside of its original context - besides being inappropriate - could potentially put the listener at risk. Sébastien therefore translated the recording's sonograms into a coding system based on the graphic score of one of the instruments used in Pleng Arak. These abstractions were then engraved on tablets made of limestone and sandstone - the most common in Cambodia - and stored for eternity in the coal mine alongside the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway.
2018	Salone del Mobile Museum Diocesiano Mlian, Italy Group		
2018	Present Progressive De School Amsterdam, Netherlands Group		
2018	Field Records: Future History OHM Berlin, Germany Group		
2018	mnml ssgs x Field Records night DOMMUNE Tokyo, Japan Group		
2018	Organik Festival 2018 Niushan Huting Hualien, Taiwan Group		
2017	2_gather Art Center Nabi Seoul, Republic of Korea Group		
2017	Interstice Festival Église du Vieux Saint-Sauveur Caen, France Group		
2017	Mirage Festival Les Subsistances Lyon, France Group	2017	Timeshift w/ Mark IJzerman Republic of Korea sebastienrobert.nl/Timeshift Time shift explores the acoustic ecology of South Korea, and documents this in a unique medium, an "audiophotobook". By using photos made in the winter of 2016 by Sébastien Robert and recording soundscapes in the summer of 2017 by Mark IJzerman in exactly the same locations, Time shift explores both the differences and similarities between what one sees and what one hears in these environments at different times of the year. By capturing the locations in both audio and picture, it gives the viewer a fuller
2017	Change The System Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen Rotterdam, Netherlands Group		
2016	Smoke Machine Night Korner Taipei, Taiwan Group		
2016	Field Records Label Night Vurt Seoul, Republic of Korea Group		

2016 France + Singapore Photographic Arts Awards Alliance Française Singapore Singapore, Singapore
[Group](#)

understanding of the locations.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2023 Bergen Center for Electronic Arts - BEK Bergen, Norway

2023 The Arctic Circle Svalbard, Norway

2023 IMéRA x Mucem Marseille, France

2021 Arctic Wave Stave, Norway

2020 Into the Great wide open Vlieland, Netherlands

2019 Valley of the Possible Temuco, Chile

2018 WeTransfer Phnom Penh , Cambodia

PUBLICATIONS

2021 Emerging Threshold Vinyl/Lp Meakusma Eupen, Belgium

2020 Exploration or Appropriation? The position of contemporary sound artists towards Indigenous music Book The Hague, Netherlands

2017 Mydriasis Book Paris, France

REVIEWS

2023 Entretien avec Sébastien Robert, chercheur en résidence à l'Iméra (2022-23) TV Iméra
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Joj984Oz6GE

2023 The Lights Which Can Be Heard, audible Northern Lights Magazine Neural neural.it/2023/11/the-lights-which-can-be-heard-audible-northern-lights/

2022 À Aix-en-Provence, tendre l'oreille vers les aurores boréales Radio Arnaud Laporte
www.radiofrance.fr/franceculture/podcasts/affaire-a-suivre/a-aix-en-provence-tendre-l-oreille-vers-les-aurores-boreales-8771531

2022 Scientific research, cosmologies and human encounters to put into perspective a century-old debate Website obsolete.studio/blog/the-lights-which-can-be-heard/

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2023 Talent Development Grant Creative Industries Fund, NL Rotterdam, Netherlands Granted

2023 Artistic Project Mondriaan Fund Amsterdam, Netherlands Granted

2023 Mobility Grant Culture Moves Europe Brussels, Belgium Granted

2022 Experiment Creative Industries Fund, NL Rotterdam, Netherlands Granted

2022 Residency abroad Creative Industries Fund, NL Rotterdam, Netherlands Granted

2021 Fonds [SCAN] Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Lyon, France Granted

2021 Pro Onderzoek Stroom Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands Granted

2021 DICRéAM CNC Paris, France Granted

2021 Corona-overburgging Mondriaan Fund Amsterdam, Netherlands Granted

2021	Mark IJzerman & Sébastien Robert on their collaboration, travel and cultural appropriation Website Lucia Udvardyova shapeplatform.eu/2021/mark-ijzerman-sebastien-robert-cultural-appropriation-is-something-we-both-take-very-seriously/	2021	Face of We Are Europe We Are Europe Tromsø, Norway Selected
		2021	ACT 1 AWARD STRP Eindhoven , Netherlands Granted
		2021	Shape Artist 2021 - 2022 SHAPE Platform Netherlands Selected
2021	Using art to study endangered indigenous rituals and music Blog/Vlog Régine Debatty we-make-money-not-art.com/using-art-to-study-endangered-indigenous-rituals-and-music/	2020	Royal Academy Master Thesis Award Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten, Den Haag Netherlands Finalist
		2020	ArtScience Department Award Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten, Den Haag Netherlands Finalist
2021	The formidable, ancient power of nature in conversation with the needlepoint behaviour of technology Blog/Vlog Oli Warwick www.juno.co.uk/junodaily/2021/04/01/the-best-new-albums-this-week-3/	2020	Royal Academy Master Award Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten, Den Haag Netherlands Winner
		2020	Pro Onderzoek Stroom Den Haag Netherlands Granted
2020	In conversation: Mark IJzerman & Sébastien Robert Website Holly Dicker www.rewirefestival.nl/feature/mark-ijzerman-sebastien-roberts-as-above-so-below-in-conversation	2016	FR + SG Photographic Arts Award Alliance Française Singapore Finalist

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2021 - 2022	Research Assistant - Studio Antimundo
2019 - 2021	Freelance Art Handler - Hizkia Van Kralingen
2018 - 2018	Curational Assistant - Mirage Creative+ (Dolus & Dolus)
2017 - 2017	Grant Assistant - STEP travel grants (European Cultural Foundation)
2017 - 2019	Supervisor - Museum Voorlinden (Stichting Voorlinden)
2016 - 2016	Production Assistant - European Lab Seoul (Arty Farty)
2015 - --	Project Manager - Field Records On-going
2015 -	Project Manager - Coded Matter(s)

2016 (FIBER Festival)

2014 - Project Assistant - TodaysArt Festival
2014



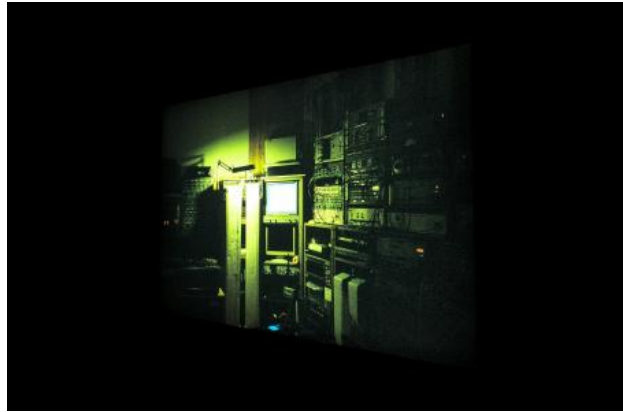
The Sun, My Father, 2023



Magnetic Fluctuations, 2023



The Lights Which Can Be Heard, 2023



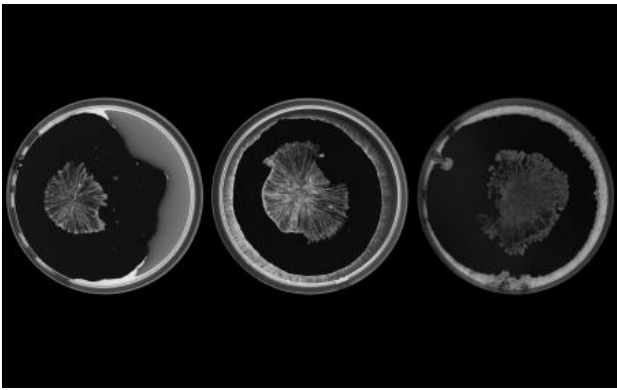
The Lights Which Can Be Heard, 2023



Back-and-Forth, 2022



Rite of Passage, 2021



Study of crystal growth, 2021



As Above, So Below, 2020



Ak, 2019



Timeshift, 2017