

Robert Foster-Jones, *An echo imprinted*

Test Space 18 October-5 December 2021

Wysing Arts Centre

Text description of sound installation

(The sound piece is 11 minutes and 36 seconds long. It plays continuously on a loop as ambient sound in the space.)

In the background, a mechanical sound like the turning of a wheel plays continuously throughout

Pipe or flute-like sound, fluctuating between an interval of the same two notes, plays for a few seconds

Birdsong

A brief cry, either human or animal

The pipe or flute-like sound plays again

Birdsong

The same human or animal cry

A baby cooing

Birdsong

The pipe or flute-like sound recurs

Birdsong

A brief cry, either human or animal

Wind chimes

The pipe or flute-like sound recurs

A baby cooing

Birdsong

A brief cry, either human or animal

A baby cooing as wind chimes sound

The pipe or flute-like sound recurs

Two striking or tapping noises, a few seconds apart

Wind chimes

The resonant sound of a circular motion made on the surface inside a glass or ceramic by a hard object

A baby coos contentedly, as the resonant sound continues

A brief cry, either human or animal

A baby coos

The resonant sound continues

A brief cry, either human or animal

A baby coos

The pipe or flute-like sound recurs

Birdsong

Wind chimes

Several striking or tapping sounds as the chimes continue

The resonant sound returns

A baby coos contentedly as the sound continues

Wind chimes as the resonant sound continues, followed by a brief cry, either human or animal

A slow, pulse-like sound

A clanging, resonant sound as an object is struck

A baby coos: “da- da-”

A clanging, resonant sound as an object is struck

The pipe or flute-like sound recurs, the clanging sound continues

A cymbal-like sound similar to a tambourine occurs twice in succession

The clanging and tambourine-like sounds continue

Rustling, and a sound similar to small bells jangling

These sounds continue, and a baby coos. The cooing is higher pitched than before, and the same sounds repeat on the audio

Rustling, and the pipe or flute-like sound recurs

Clanging continues, amid cooing – the same coos are repeated like artificial echoes

A tapping sound similar to typing

Wind chimes and the resonant, striking sound

A baby coos: “ah- ah-”

The sound of small bells and clanging

A human or animal distorted cooing

A tapping, crackling sound, as though coming from an electrical object

Small bells shaking

Resonant clanging continues

Organ chords in a major key, gradually shifting, overlaid with warm guitar notes (or possibly the low strings on a harp), for several minutes. Occasionally the chimes and pipe or flute-like sounds are heard. As the organ sounds recede gradually, birdsong can be made out.

As the organ sound dies away, one chord is held and repeated, alarm-like in frequency

A brief cry, either human or animal

A baby cooing

The repeated chord is the only remaining sound for around a minute