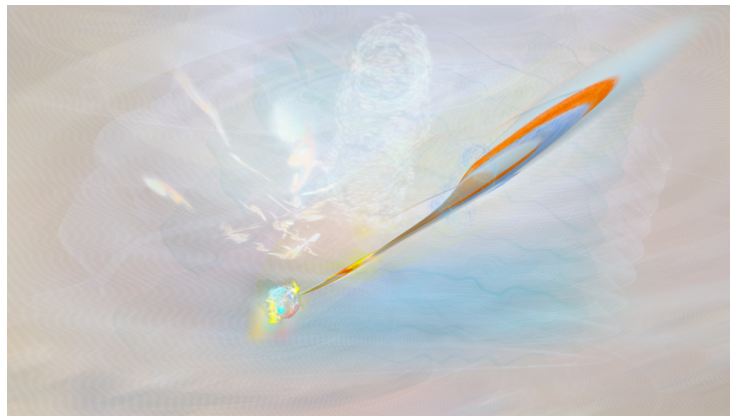


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Listening Theatres: The Sounds of Iconic Landscapes and Architectural Spaces”

RICHMOND, VA June 29, 2020 — The Branch Museum of Architecture and Design is pleased to announce, **“Listening Theatres: The Sounds of Iconic Landscapes and Architectural Spaces”**. Karen Van Lengen and Jim Welty explore the act of attentive listening through an interactive engagement with the world around them. Listening in this sense is not passive, but an active excavation of passing time, fleeting actions and the experiences of others. It gives rise to imagination and creativity as well as a sense of belonging in the world together. These listening projects have been created using actual sound recordings, interpretive drawings, and presented in animations that celebrate the aural personalities

of these public spaces. The exhibition (July 16 – September 13, 2020) includes animations of The Academical Village at the University of Virginia, and New York City spaces; Grand Central Terminal, The New York Public Library, The Seagram Building, Rockefeller Center and The Guggenheim Museum.

The exhibition also includes photographic stills of each of these animations. Prints from the show will be available for sale with 50% of proceeds donated to the museum.

On-line Interview with Artists

The museum will sponsor an on-line interview with the artists moderated by Joel Sanders, FAIA, on July 21, from 6-7PM.

To register for this event please go to www.branchmuseum.org.

Karen Van Lengen, FAIA, is the William Kenan Professor of Architecture and former dean (1999-2009) at the University of Virginia School of Architecture. Van Lengen began her professional career as a design Associate

at I M Pei & Partners before forming her own firm in New York City. Her recent projects have focused on the aural aspects of architectural space, bringing awareness to the comprehensive experience of 'place'.

Jim Welty is an accomplished artist who created the animations for *Soundscape New York* and *Open Gates* as well as the *Soundscape Architecture* web site. Welty began his artistic career working with Frank Stella as the Master Printer and collaborator for over 10 years. He has exhibited his sculptures nationally, including a major exhibition at the Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia. He is currently developing a new interactive body of work incorporating sound, animation and sculpture, extending the current project's mission to foster genuine listening and engagement with our environment.

Joel Sanders, FAIA, is an award-winning architect and founder of MIXdesign, an inclusive design thinktank and consultancy in New York City. He is a Professor in Practice and Director of Post-Professional Studies at Yale School of Architecture.

These projects have been supported by The Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities, a Jefferson Trust Grant, a School of Architecture Summer Grant and an Arts Grounds Grant at the University of Virginia.

The Branch Museum of Architecture and Design is located at 2501 Monument Avenue in Richmond, Virginia's historic Fan District. The Branch Museum inspires current generations to appreciate, support and create exemplary architecture and design. The Branch is dedicated to the advocacy and stewardship of our rich regional heritage and invites the public to envision a world enriched by architecture and design. The Branch is open to the public Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. Learn more at www.branchmuseum.org.

6/29/20

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