

EXPLORING UNDERWATER SOUNDSCAPES IN THE CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK

David de la Haye



LOCH VAA

DAVID DE LA HAYE

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A brief visit to the Scottish Highlands



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it is important to hear this field since it is inhabited by beings who have existed for many millions of years longer than our species...it is an issue of respect, of sensitivity and of developing a questioning approach to the environment

-Jana Winderen



MY STUDIO PROCESS

- Exploring natural sonic attributes
- Playing with temporality to offer reimagined timescales
- Sampling to document, not manipulate
- Aquatic reverb
- Interspecies dialogue

HOW MIGHT THIS BE ECOLOGICALLY USEFUL?

- Growing developments in ecoacoustics.
- Does richness of sound indicate richness of life?
- Lack of acoustic databases in freshwater habitats.
- Possibility of species ID.
- Non-invasive method.

Cased Caddisfly

Crowtrees Nature Reserve, Durham



ARTISTIC ADVANTAGES

- A new perspective of familiar environments.
- It makes difficult concepts relatable.
- Can generate emotive, empathic responses - something we can *feel*.
- Raise wider awareness and profile of overlooked habitats.
- Basic desire to be heard.

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It is when the ear is surprised by sound, (...) when we become overwhelmed by sound, the source of which we cannot see, and for even a brief moment is mysterious to us, that awe, wonder or even terror strikes us.

-Seán Street

A scenic landscape photograph of a calm lake. In the foreground, large, dark, textured rocks are scattered along the shoreline. A tree with green leaves is visible on the left side, its branches extending over the water. The lake's surface is still, reflecting the overcast sky and the distant mountains. The background features a range of dark, rolling hills or mountains under a heavy, grey sky filled with clouds. The overall mood is serene and somewhat somber due to the muted colors and overcast weather.

THE BOATMEN OF GARTEN

An Underwater Exploration of the
Cairngorms National Park