

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, April 14, 2022



The Vancouver Art Gallery and Vancouver New Music co-present AUDITORY BORDERLANDS – SOUNDING THE DUSK MERIDIAN

*A Dynamic Visual and Aural Event Underscoring
Keith Langerberger's The Dusk Meridian at Vancouver Art Gallery Offsite*



April 14, 2022, Vancouver, BC // *Traditional Coast Salish Lands including the Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm), Squamish (Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw) and Tsleil-Waututh (səlilwətaʔ) Nations*

[Vancouver New Music](#), in collaboration with the [Vancouver Art Gallery](#) co-present **Auditory Borderlands – sounding The Dusk Meridian** on **Thursday, April 28 at 8:15pm** at the **Vancouver Art Gallery Offsite space (1100 West Georgia Street)**. In the event of rain, the performance will take place on the following **Thursday, May 5, 2022**.

Taking the sculptural and lighting elements of **Keith Langergraber's** installation *The Dusk Meridian* as a polydimensional score, an ensemble of Vancouver-based musicians will create an ambient musical reading of the piece. The musicians will be arranged within the plaza to create an immersive spatial experience and audience members will be encouraged to move through the space to create their own uniquely shifting aural and visual perspectives. Featured performers include **Matthew Ariaratnam, Adrian Avandaño, Ross Birdwise, Soressa Gardner** and **prOphecy sun**.

"*Auditory Borderlands* will be an exciting response to the structure and location of *The Dusk Meridian*, in which "sounding" will extend the themes Keith Langergraber has raised in his work by facilitating their resonance in the viewer's body," shares Grant Arnold, Vancouver Art Gallery's Audain Curator of British Columbia Art. "*Auditory Borderlands* will add unanticipated and surprising layers of meaning to Langergraber's evocative installation."

"We are thrilled to collaborate with the Vancouver Art Gallery in bringing together five, fantastic musicians to create this live, sonic interpretation of *The Dusk Meridian*. Drawing on the visual form of the sculpture and the ideas that it explores, the musicians will "read" the work as a sound score extended in multiple dimensions – spatial and temporal, as the sound piece will unfold as dusk falls," said Heather McDermid, Assistant Curator at Vancouver New Music. "With his site-specific installation, Langergraber explores the notion of borders as liminal spaces, and boundaries that are often blurred or arbitrary. This provides a great conceptual starting point from which to blend visual and sonic interpretations of these themes to create a truly unique interplay between sound and sculpture."

The Dusk Meridian is a multimedia installation by the Vancouver and Kelowna-based artist **Keith Langergraber**. Its principal features are scaled-down representations of two fire towers that are physically close but imaginatively separated: the real-life versions sit on either side of the border that divides Canada and the US at the southern boundary of E.C. Manning Provincial Park.

The title refers to the moment in time between the setting of the sun and the onset of darkness and to the geographical location of this phenomenon, which endlessly traverses the rotating surface of the planet. It is also a nod to Cormac McCarthy's *The Blood Meridian*, an apocalyptic neo-biblical novel set in the border between the US and Mexico. These references are reiterated in the phantasmagoric light projected onto the fire towers, the surrounding tree stumps and the pool of water on which they sit, evoking a transitional condition somewhere between the setting of the sun and the approach of a wildfire. While the warmth of this light might contrast with the overcast gloom of a rainy Vancouver winter, its character shifts with the approach of darkness and an idyllic day's end gives way to a sense of apprehension.

Langergraber's work serves as an allegory for crossing a point of no return: passing from light into darkness. Here, the devastation wrought by widespread wildfires—a force of nature unconstrained by abstractions like national borders—becomes the norm. The fire towers of *The Dusk Meridian* can

be seen as silent witnesses to this transition, much like barometers measuring climatic change that has already begun.

Offsite is located at 1100 West Georgia Street, between Thurlow and Bute Streets, just west of the Shangri-La Hotel.



Offsite is organized by the Vancouver Art Gallery on behalf of the City of Vancouver Public Art Program. The Gallery recognizes Ian Gillespie, President, Westbank; Ben Yeung, President, Peterson Investment Group; and the residents of the Shangri-La for their support of this space.

Image Credit:

Keith Langergraber, *The Dusk Meridian*, 2021, site-specific installation at Vancouver Art Gallery Offsite, Photo: Ian Lefebvre, Vancouver Art Gallery

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Keith Langergraber studied at the University of Victoria and the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, and currently teaches at the Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Vancouver. His research-based practice draws upon disparate references that run from utopian and dystopian literature, art history and outsider subcultures to the narratives embedded in a particular site. His work has been exhibited widely in Canada and abroad over the past twenty years.

Matthew Ariaratnam is an interdisciplinary sound artist, composer, guitarist, and listener based on the unceded traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples of the x^wməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations – also known as Vancouver, BC. He creates sensory walks, writes dumbpop and chamber music, and frequently collaborates with choreographers, visual artists, and theatre-makers. Recent projects and commissions include: *kiitos, äiti* (Thin Edge New Music Collective), *The View From Here* (Jillian Peever/Sasha Ivanochko) *Plastic Me* (Naishi Wang), *Body Tuning* (Vines Art Festival), Creative Music Series 10 (NOW Society), *Take Good Care* (as dumbpop), *Isolation Commission* (Little Chamber Music Society), *Altar ::= Source* (Music on Main), and *How long will these sounds sound?* (Artist-in-Residence, North Vancouver Recreation and Culture). He has an MFA from Simon Fraser University and a BMus in Music Composition from Wilfrid Laurier University.
matthewariaratnam.wordpress.com

Adrian Avendaño is an emerging sound artist, musician and recordist based in Surrey / Vancouver, Canada [unceded First Nation territories]. Recent projects include Parallel 03 with experimental music duo ENDLINGS (Raven Chacon and John Dietrich of Deerhoof) alongside musicians of the Vancouver creative music community. He was the recipient of the Canada Council for the Arts:

Digital Originals funding initiative working with Chilean sound artists Tebo Henriquez and Bastian Diaz. Port Parallels – Acoustic Meridians was a remote collaboration exploring open-source hardware and software to develop methods of interpreting graphic and animated scores. He was a performer and composer for John Brennan’s Rudiments for Hexadrome performance and installation project for the 2021 Vancouver International Jazz Festival. He currently plays with Gamelan Bike Bike and will be studying traditional Korean drumming with Dr. Peter Joon Park. avendanosounds.wordpress.com

Ross Birdwise is a Vancouver-based musician and occasional visual artist. Much of his recent electronic music in various idioms is concerned with the deliberate manipulation of the listener’s sense of time and space and is concerned with disrupting, loosening or expanding the grid that underlies much electronic music to attempt to create musical space-times that can range from fluid, lurching, layered, grooving, malfunctioning, hypnotic, awkward, aggressive, soft, rigid or organic. As an improviser he has been using his voice and electronics to do explorations into non-idiomatic improvisation, structured improvisation, and lo-fi approaches to spatialized sound. Ross has played music festivals such as Mutek (Montreal), Soundasaurus (Calgary), Electric Fields (Ottawa), Vancouver New Music and has presented visual art at centres such as VIVO Media Arts (Vancouver) and Gallery 101 (Ottawa). He holds an MAA in Media Arts from Emily Carr, and a BFA from Ottawa University.

rossbirdwise.bandcamp.com / birdwise.tumblr.com/media

Soressa Gardner is vocalist, laptop composer/improvisor, and sometimes songwriter. Her keen sense of mood, colour, humour and gravitas are expressed through extended vocals enhanced by electronic manipulations and sound-worlds carefully crafted from a variety of audio processing techniques. Soressa’s recent live performances include Victoria’s Neuztec Festival (2021) Wonderment Festival (2020), Vancouver New Music Festival: Resonances (2019, The Annex) and CoexistDance: Western Edition #2 (2019, ScotiaDance Centre). Her electronic compositions have garnered international recognition and airplay. A Vancouverite by birth, Soressa holds a music degree from Vancouver Community College and currently resides in Victoria, BC, Canada.

soressa.com / soressa.bandcamp.com

prOphecy sun (Ph.D.) is an interdisciplinary performance artist, queer, movement, video, sound maker, and mother. Her practice celebrates both conscious and unconscious moments and the vulnerable spaces of the in-between in which art, performance, and life overlap. Her recent research has focused on ecofeminist perspectives, co-composing with voice, objects, surveillance technologies, and site-specific engagements along the Columbia Basin region and beyond. She hosts *Tapes and Beyond* on Kootenay Co-op Radio and is the Arts Editor for *Ecocene: Cappadocia Journal of Environmental Humanities*. She performs and exhibits regularly in local, national, and international settings, music festivals, conferences, and galleries and has authored several peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and journal publications on sound, performance, and the entanglement of domestic spheres. prophecysun.com / soundcloud.com/prophecy-sun

ABOUT OFFSITE

Offsite is the Vancouver Art Gallery's outdoor public art space located at 1100 West Georgia Street between Thurlow and Bute Streets, west of the Shangri-La Hotel, in downtown Vancouver. Presenting an innovative program of temporary projects, it is a site for local and international contemporary artists to exhibit works related to the surrounding urban context. Featured artists consider the site-specific potential of art within the public realm and respond to the changing social and cultural conditions of our contemporary world. New projects are installed in the spring and fall. *Offsite: Sanaz Mazinani* is the 20th Offsite installation.

ABOUT VANCOUVER ART GALLERY

Founded in 1931, the Vancouver Art Gallery is recognized as one of North America's most respected and innovative visual arts institutions. The Gallery's ground-breaking exhibitions, extensive public programs and emphasis on advancing scholarship all focus on historical and contemporary art from British Columbia and around the world. Special attention is given to the accomplishments of Indigenous artists, as well as to those of the Asia Pacific region—through the Institute of Asian Art founded in 2014. The Gallery's exhibitions also explore the impact of images in the larger sphere of visual culture, design and architecture. The Vancouver Art Gallery is a charitable not-for-profit organization supported by its members, individual donors, corporate funders, foundations, the City of Vancouver, the Province of British Columbia through the BC Arts Council and the Canada Council for the Arts.

The Vancouver Art Gallery is situated on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh) Nations, and is respectful of the Indigenous stewards of the land it occupies, whose rich cultures are fundamental to artistic life in Vancouver and to the work of the Gallery. vanartgallery.bc.ca

ABOUT VANCOUVER NEW MUSIC

Supporting creativity, innovation, curiosity and a multiplicity of voices and ideas, Vancouver New Music is committed to curating practices, not only works, and embracing the rhizomatic expansion of current modes of sound and music creation. Founded in 1973, Vancouver New Music regularly commissions and premieres new works by Canadian and international composers, presents an annual festival that focuses each year on a theme within the new music landscape and explores the interaction of contemporary music with other disciplines such as theatre, installation, and media arts. Other activities include lectures and workshops with visiting artists, ensemble workshops and presentations open to the community, and other sound-, art-, and new-music related community events, such as Soundwalks.

An annual/biannual series, *Parallels*, brings internationally renowned artists together with local musicians to create new works that are specific to the time, places, and people involved in their creation. <https://newmusic.org>

MEDIA CONTACTS

Heather McDermid, heather@newmusic.org | T: 604.633.0861 C: 778.885.9443

Larah Luna, lluna@vanartgallery.bc.ca | T: 778.939.4319

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