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„Soundscape Concert – Experiencing the soundscape intensity in specific spaces and evaluations“

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Status: Invited paper

Title:

Listen to the change of a soundscape

Abstract:

The general understanding of soundscapes as musical compositions requires the analysis of the sonic environment as a whole as well as in its different facets comparable to the study of music. However, soundscape studies often differ in the way the investigated soundscapes are recorded. In addition, a lot of soundscape articles lack an exhaustive description of the measurement conditions and protocol. This impedes the comparison of soundscape studies and their results. Therefore, it seems there is a need for measurement guidelines to provide a common basis allowing for subsequent comparative studies. The authors have proposed in previous papers measurement guidelines which could help to establish a common ground with respect to soundscape measurements. To check the adequacy and applicability of the recommended procedures for the (physical) measurement of soundscapes, several recordings of historic places in Aachen are realized and analyzed. Here, binaural recordings are performed, which allows for an aurally-accurate reproduction of the environmental sound. In supplemental laboratory tests, the conflict between the experience of the sound in the real urban space and the listening in artificial test situations is examined. Furthermore, the paper presents the change of the soundscape and its composition over time.

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