Deep Listening: Rhythms, Vibrations and Voices from the Ross Ice Shelf

April 19, 2018
03 minutes, 33 seconds

Speakers: Peter Bromirski, Glen McClure, Yuka Murakami, Ash Eliza Smith

Transcribed by: Hanaa Moosavi

IDEAS Performance Series
UC San Diego Library Digital Collections
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Time	Transcription
0:00	[Music]
0:03	[IDEAS Initiative for Digital Exploration of Arts + Sciences]
0:08	[ICE VIBRATIONS APRIL 19, 2018 ATKINSON HALL, UC SAN DIEGO]
0:17	[...an immersive sound installation created with seismic data collected from Antarctica...]
00:53	[...a data-driven symphony on the ice, coalescing art and technology into a moment of stillness...]
01:44	Peter Bromirski: [PETER BROMIRSKI RESEARCHER, SCRIPPS INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY] We went down to Antarctica and collected some data on the Ross Ice Shelf. The Ross Ice Shelf is important because it's the largest ice shelf in Antarctica, about the size of Texas. Waves, you know, impact the ice shelves and they generate seismic signals that propagate away from the ice shelf, and the way these seismic waves propagate tells us about the integrity and the strength of the ice shelf. The front of the ice shelf is about 600 miles across so, and it's all being impacted by ocean waves, simultaneously.
02:20	Glen McClure: [GLEN McCLURE NSF ARTIST & WRITERS PROGRAM, COMPOSER] The translation of the data just uses modular mathematics.
02:25	Yuka Murakami: [YUKA MURAKAMI VISUAL ARTIST, UC SAN DIEGO] Within the sonification we made sure that the notes that the numbers would fall into and become into these categories of notes, would thus represent the data that was given to us.
02:38	Ash Eliza Smith: [ASH ELIZA SMITH VISUAL ARTIST, UC SAN DIEGO] When I was a fellow at the aquarium, it's— there's this thinking about how to get people to care about the planet. I think there was a lot of connections between the quantifying self-data— so we were thinking about heartbeats, do people's hearts sync up in this space?
02:53	Man: The sonification of data, okay, is the audio version of how scientists make visual charts out of lists of numbers. In the sound world, what we spent most of today and yesterday doing was going through pallets of sound that we had available to assign these different notes to those sounds.
03:16	[Sounds]