

AUDIO/VISUAL OBSERVATION
(Assignment 1)**AUDIO OBSERVATION**

1. Listen to *Kits Beach Soundwalk* by Hildegard Westerkamp
(on Blackboard course in "Assignments" folder; also in music library)
 - o Focus on how Westerkamp guides your listening experience by directing your attention to various layers of sounds in the environment
2. Go on a 10-minute soundwalk in a location of your choice
 - o You may walk or find a location and sit quietly for 10 minutes
 - o If walking, wear dark sunglasses to block out external visual input; if sitting close your eyes
 - o Listen carefully to sounds around you
 - o What sounds do you hear immediately?
 - o What sounds do you notice only after listening for a while?
 - o How do the sounds around you change (start, stop, evolve, move, etc.) over time?
 - o After your soundwalk/sit, create a written list of 10 sounds that you heard immediately
 - o Create a written list of 10 sounds that you heard only after some time had gone by

VISUAL OBSERVATION

For 10 of the sounds you listed during your soundwalk/sit above
(5 from the first listening; 5 from the second):

1. Describe the color of that sound. Try to be as descriptive as possible. For instance, rather than listing simply "blue", you should instead list light blue, dark blue, aqua, cyan, royal blue, navy blue, etc.
2. Use line and shape to make a graphical representation of each sound (this should not be a literal representation).
3. Describe your emotional response to each sound. Be more descriptive than a general "happy", "sad", "mad".

Example:

Sound: A tiny bird chirp. It is high in pitch and sweet.

1. The color of the sound is bright sunflower yellow.
2. Here's a small thumbnail sketch interpreting this sound:

3. This sound makes me feel welcomed or comforted.

TURNIN

- o Written list of 20 sounds from soundwalk as instructed above
- o Written/drawn list of visual observations as instructed above

DUE

Tuesday, 17 May 2005 at the beginning of class. Be prepared to discuss your audio/visual experience.