

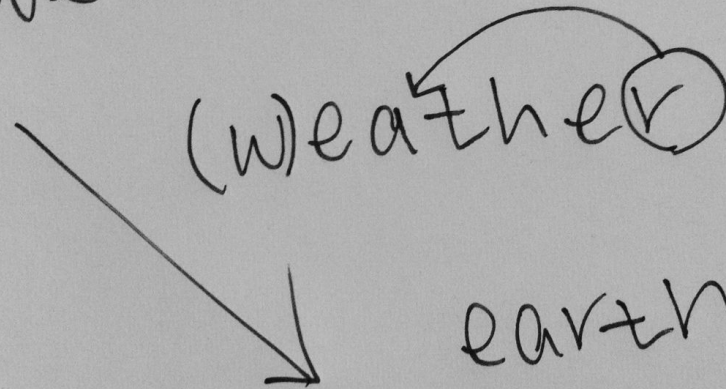
Weather Report and Transparent Music

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My background

- Artist/musician/amateur piano player. based in Jeju/Seoul
- Worked as media art project manager at cultural institute Saa (2008-2010, Seoul). Curated audience participatory sound map project 'SeoulSoundMap' and various collaborative projects using these archives.
- My work has been mainly exploring environments with field recording as refined and fixed sonic works.
- A member of media art collective Upcycle Roundup(2012- present, Seoul)

weather



Some starting points on ‘weather’

- Interest in weather phenomena as **nonhuman player**, interacting with other instruments - materials, landscape, and even human. Vivid experiences of **micro weather** in specific region; rain and wind in mountainous village, topolo(IT), frost melt in field in mooste(ES), heavy wind and rain, mist in middle mountainous area in jeju island(KR)
- Interest in domestic untamed micro nature, 마당 (korean words for yard, also means place bearing ‘possibilities’ for something happens) rather than expedition to so-called, Grand Nature.
- **atmospheric heritage** in risk in era of climate change: “ Landscapes are not just the harbours of physical realities but the stages on which places are made, realised, and experienced” , “simultaneously tangible and intangible heritage, crossing and softening this axis of contemporary classifications”, “micro-climates such as the *haar* exist all over the world, condition the growth of local cultural forms and natural biota, and, by their nature, exhibit the same kind of uniqueness that cultural heritage takes as its implicit foundation for study and analysis” : *Benjamin Morris, Air Today, Gone Tomorrow: the Haar of Scotland and Local Atmosphere as Heritage Sites.*
- “The Climate is not a “space” or “environment”, just a *high-dimensional object* that we don’t see directly. When it rains on my head, climate is raining. The biosphere is raining. But What I feel are raindrops, and gaps between raindrops...When I feel them, I am always feeling my human translation of them into wet, cold, small things pattering on my raincast. The raindrop itself is radically withdrawn”: Timothy Morton, *Hyperobjects - Philosophy and Ecology after the End of the World*

Some starting points on 'weather'

- Local references to weather in Jeju from various perspectives: Hyun Ki-young, Uncle Suni (1979, a novel about Jeju 4.3 massacre and its description of weatherscape of the island); Jo, Sook-Jeong, The Korean Fishermen's Traditional Knowledge of Wind; Dongjoo Kim, A Discourse on Communalization of Wind Energy Resources at Jeju
- Resides in Jeju island since 2015, with continuous observation on ecological environment and weather phenomena of the island through sound recording, live audio streaming and some visual documents(a kind of drawing...)
- Domestic(Korean) awareness of climate change currently highly arose: worst fine dust in spring time- transboundary pollution(the Korean US Air Quality Study ,KORUS-AQ), the worst heat wave in this summer time. What to be expected in later this year?



Mist in three seasons around middle mountainous village, wasan-ri in Jeju:

December, March, and May.

Some starting points on 'live audio streaming'

- Participating Reveil in 2015-2016 with Gangil Yi(KR) from Jeju: it encouraged us using live audio streaming as 'mediated listening experience' dealing with sense of place.

weather report, 2015

- 13 regular streamings from August until December in 2015
- Mixed format of live streaming and pre-recorded sounds for the one last week. The streaming starts with live streaming at the same outdoor mic location (from outside of window) and followed by pre-recorded sounds with some edits.
- Started at 5 am - meditation time, 'It's time when the earth wakes up'
- Focus on observations of sounding weather through field recording.
- Regular e-mail was sent to listeners with listening link, some observant text framing sounds and a photo providing some mood of recording situation.
- https://www.mixcloud.com/weather_report/

Listening Example

- weather report #07 - wind by window

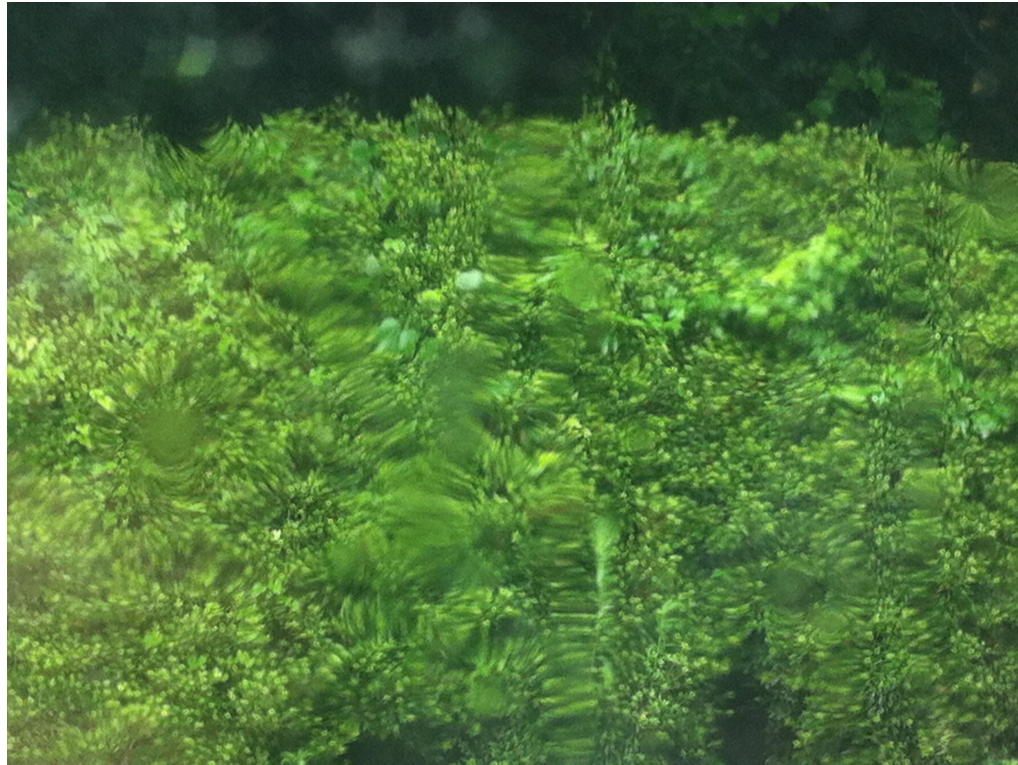
weather report, 2016

- Teamed up with Gangil Yi(KR)
- Weatherreport.kr
- Full live streaming, making benefit of RPI streamer box developed by Soundcamp. Transient Soundscape at dawn. Long-term observation at fixed time(5-7am), at fixed place: Engaging interdisciplinary conversation with Ha, JeongMoon(a researcher in birds). Example list of observed bird calls on 8th July for 30 mins from 05:38-06:11: Brown-eared Bulbul, Common Cuckoo, Japanese Bush Warbler, Oriental Turtle Dove, Large-billed Crow, Japanese White-eye Lesser Cuckoo ,Eurasian Magpie, Grey-backed Thrush, Kamchatka Leaf Warbler, Eurasian Nuthatch, White's Thrush, Common Pheasant, etc. (identified by Ha, JeongMoon)
- Live audio streaming followed by improvising play with keyboard and pure data patching, which has been developed as musical concept 'Transparent Music'



Transparent Music

- Musical practices of mediating sounds: Silence is transparent, so it reflects non-silence. Transparent music helps us attentively listen and experience sounds of world.
- Linkage between Live streaming and improvising music in its “liveness” and “mediation”
- “Improvisation is a skill that encourages interaction with other players”, “True musical conversation involves careful listening to others.” : Brian Chung, Dennis Thurmond, *Improvisation at the Piano*
- “True musical depth is not about better playing, but about more “organic playing” , “We let go of our egos and permit the music to come through us and do its work. We act as the instruments for that work”, “At performance time, the music plays itself while the musician observes” , “You want to listen and respond, but you can’t plan your response or you’ll lose the moment” : Kenny Werner, *Effortless Mastery*
- Improvising music practice listening to radio, drone instrument, etc.
- Expanded meanings: Music as an opening form and inclusive understanding of our time as much as contemporary art does.



“One heavy rainy day last summer, I was looking out the window and suddenly I got to look at the window itself. How the water drops clinging to glass manipulate the outside, how window’s frame defines my sight, how it reshapes my experience of weather. I noticed of this transparent instrument’s presence.”

Some thoughts which live audio streaming provokes

- Notice on 'mediated listening experience'
- Live audio streaming as digital window(it easily breaks and renews), digital mediation, listening in another time and place(time in reality and in network can't be synced in precise way), framed listening experience.
- "Complementarity ensues, in which what we see is glued to the equipment that sees it": (Timothy Morton, ibid.)
- Sticking a sensitive probe into living creature, also upon listener's ear.
- Not editing while listening, but accepting without judgement. streaming at the same time of listening. Democratic way of sharing listening experience rather than mystifying or patronizing.
- Mobile streamer enables me to exist in another place as listeners does. (While recording equipment makes me attached to the sound source or the environment sound sources is located. Mobile streamer through network allows distance between me and sound source, which makes me feeling some kind of substance.

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