

INTRODUKTION

Kære læser,

l takt med at vi sænker tempoet, inden sommeren for alvor tager fat, reflekterer vi over det sidste halve år. En af de tilbagevendende intermezzoer var kunstnerkollektivet Bureau *for* Listenings Testing Groundforløb, der strakte sig over fire uger på Halmtorvet.

Med udgangspunkt i lytning som en grundlæggende livs- og kunstpraksis centrerede Bureau *for* Listenings undersøgelse sig omkring, hvordan lytning kan tilbyde en meningsfuld kunstnerisk og kritisk praksis i en nuværende tilstand af stigende polarisering, miljøkatastrofe og politisk træthed og oprør. Et aktivt helle, der ikke handler om at tage plads, definere og afgrænse, men derimod give rum og praksis for refleksion og omsorg. Bureau *for* Listening inviterede i løbet af foråret offentligheden ind til fire tematiserede events, hvor en ny faglig gæst hver gang trådte ind i Bureau *for* Listenings tænkende rum for at skubbe, udvide, flyde med og udfordre. Hvert lytteevent var et samlings- og delingsøjeblik og en mulighed for at dele praksis, viden, spørgsmål og undren – en chance for at fejre og fremme lytning.

I brevet, som du nu skal læse, vil Bureau *for* Listening invitere dig med ind i deres lyttende praksis via fem fragmenter, der hver er en form for invitation til at lytte – og en dokumentation og forlængelse af de rum og øjeblikke, der blev delt i Testing Ground hos AHC.

Rigtig god lytte- og læselyst, og god sommer!

AHC : Newsletter #37 : June 2024 : Introduction

INTRODUCTION

Dear reader,

As we slow down before summer begins in earnest, we're reflecting on the past six months. One recurring intermezzo was the artist collective Bureau *for* Listening's Testing Ground program, which spanned four weeks at Halmtorvet.

Focusing on listening as a fundamental practice for life and art, Bureau *for* Listening's research explored how listening can offer a meaningful artistic and critical practice amid increasing polarization, climate catastrophe, and political fatigue and revolt: an active sanctuary not about occupying space, defining and delimiting, but about offering space and practice for reflection and care. Throughout the spring, Bureau *for* Listening invited the public to four themed events. At each event, a new professional guest stepped into the Bureau *for* Listening's space of thinking to push, expand, float along, and challenge. Each listening event was a moment for gathering and sharing, and an opportunity to exchange practices, knowledge, questions, and curiosity – a chance to celebrate and promote listening.

In the letter you're about to read, Bureau for Listening welcome you into their listening practice through five fragments, each serving as a kind of invitation to listen, both documenting and extending the spaces and moments shared within Testing Ground at AHC.

Happy reading and listening, and have a wonderful summer!

INVITATION FOR NEWSLETTER

Dearest friends in listening,

This newsletter comes in the format of an invitation. An invitation that strives to nurture different practices for listening.

Welcome here. Take your time to arrive.

For the next 10 minutes you are invited to stay within this digital space for listening.

A space for attention, care, and discoveries of knowing and not-knowing differently.

Invite your listening body to get comfortable wherever it is.

When you are ready, let us guide you through a series of Fragments *for* Listening.

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I: RITUALS



We invite you to do a starting ritual before you continue reading this invitation. If you don't have the time right now, plan time to do a ritual tomorrow. These rituals invite a certain frame of attention and listening for the day. A ritual takes 15 minutes. Some require a bit of equipment and a quiet place, some you can do on the go.

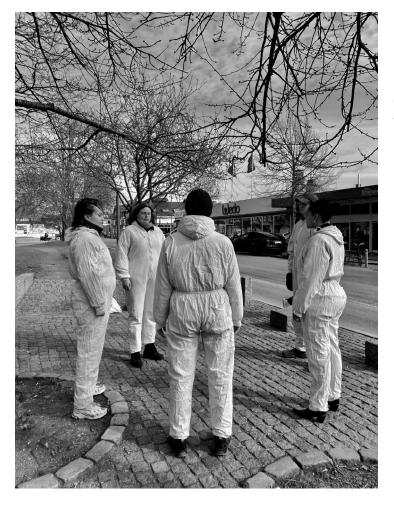
II: CONVERSATIONS

We encourage you to reflect on how the situation and practice of being in conversation is a testing site for listening. We invite you to contemplate on your own listening capacities and habits within a conversation - how do you 'hold' space for conversations with both those you already find interesting, and those you disagree with? Find a friend and have a conversation about listening. Attend to how the theme of listening affects the conversation itself.

You can visit and seek inspiration in the group conversations from Testing Ground, poetically transcribed as fragments of questions, thoughts and personal experiences. We invite you to explore the conversation fragments through your capacity to listen. In this context we propose to conceptualize listening as a meaning- and worldmaking practice.



III: WORKSHOPS



If you would like to experience listening in new ways and to discover listening as a methodology for artistic research, we invite you to discover more in these workshop fragments exploring listening across the city, space, body, slowness, nature, darkness, capitalism.

IV: INVITATIONS

We find that the format of an invitation is nurturing for building a space for listening, as it potentially holds generosity and attention for others. Working with, documenting and testing practices through the format of an invitation opens poetic spaces. The invitation is a soft call for action. We invite you to write an invitation for listening and pass it on to someone else. You may find inspiration in our invitations for listening.



V: AFTERTHOUGHTS



As we slowly get closer to the end of this newsletter, we invite you to reflect on your listening experiences, and pay attention to how it transforms over time. We asked all our guests to share an afterthought. These are to be found here_and may offer an expansive engagement with listening.

The five different types of Fragments *for* Listening, the rituals, conversations, workshops, invitations and afterthought, originates from a larger archive of collected material from the residency. We invite you to journey through the further material here.

Dearest distinguished friends in listening and newsletter readers, to end this letter, we would like to extend a direct invitation to visit our Open Call for the next edition of the Anthology *for* Listening publication - an anthology that across disciplines, media and aesthetics, attempts to support different listening practices and perspectives. We hope you want to contribute to the anthology, and that it can be a space for you to share your listening practices.

We thank you for engaging with this newsletter. Thank you for offering your time and attention - it makes all the difference.

Feel welcome to reach out - we strive to become better listeners.

Your sincerely,

Bureau for Listening

ABOUT TESTING GROUND

Artistic research has increasingly become part of contemporary art. AHC engages in this burgeoning field with Testing Ground – a forum where researching artists can share their investigations and present their experiments.

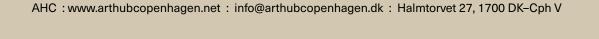
Testing Ground exists at the intersection of knowledge production and art practice, and between the studio and the exhibition space. Conceived as a site for inquiry and potential, Testing Ground allows artists to define the format within which they want to unpack their work process and reflect on their thinking together with an audience or a peer group.

Among other forms of artistic development, the program aims to support artists in pursuing new techniques, materials and media, in exploring hypotheses and new formats, and in creating networks and dialogue between people from different fields. With events such as workshops, meetings and broadcasts, Testing Ground represents a way for various publics to follow artistic research. Bureau for Listening : Open Call : Anthology for Listening vol. II : Deadline : 01.08.24

AHC x Ved skoven : Art Drive : 19.08.24 : 10.00-18.30

AHC x CAFx : Performance lecture : Skafte Aymo-Boot & Maria Lalou : [UN]FINISHED : 27.08.24 : 17.00-19.00 (to be announced)

AHC : Partnerships : Netværksdag for nyuddannede billedkunstnere : 03.10.24 : 10.30-17.00



Art Hub