



**EAST {hyphen} WEST**  
— Sound Impressions of Istanbul —

Magda Stawarska-Beavan

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*Personal reflections on Istanbul written by three authors, in Turkish and English. Translated by Tuna Fiso and Behret Döker, introduced and edited by Dr. Mat Gregory.*

Our Sonic Territories: Barkin Erkin  
Istanbul: Aylin Ünal  
My Ears are Already Open: Selçuk Arslan

*A film book of interviews from revealing fragments of re-told soundscapes of the city from the notebooks of Elin Savaş and Lubaina Himid.*

A visitor, a researcher, a stranger. I am from that perspective and, when I go but I remain. I walk through narrow streets, across the busy street, the alleys that lead to the sea. I sit on the pavement, the endless patterns of light below, the cars lying there and silent.

in also aware that these memories come. I try, as Luigi Russolo does, and then my eyes. I search my

problems that they make, bringing into focus the small moments, the feelings, observations and the chance encounters that define and represent a specific place and time. It is perhaps as the result of such intimate detail that I begin to search through my own memories as a listener. I picture Istanbul, make connections between the recordings and my own experiences, visualising the general experiences, we create mental pictures, we move through time, and we are reminded of the context to which sound informs our understanding of the space we inhabit.

Central to many key moments in this body of work is the Bosphorus, the strait that runs through Istanbul and connects the Sea of Marmara to the Aegean Sea and the Black Sea. It is a place, a place that draws one of the boundaries between East and West, historically, between east and west. But how would these terms be understood? What do we mean by them?

the metropolitan. I hear the traffic, the noise, the constant in Istanbul, and a multiplicity of languages, the sounds, the hum and whir of air conditioning, the sounds of Turkish cuisine, the sounds of the city. From memory, I see the city, the streets and buildings, the sounds and vibrations that

is. East {Hyphen} West Sound Impressions of Istanbul is a collection of interviews, thoughts and soundscapes that are as much a part of the city as the buildings and the streets.

Just as Stawarska-Beavan's recordings reflect the complexity and diversity of Istanbul, so too might you write a discourse into the fabric and texture of the city's past and present. More than any geographical designation, these terms belong to a broader, not a historical, cultural and linguistic context. We use them polemically and discuss political matters. This is perhaps an important reason, because the world has become increasingly global, and the boundaries between East and West have become increasingly blurred.

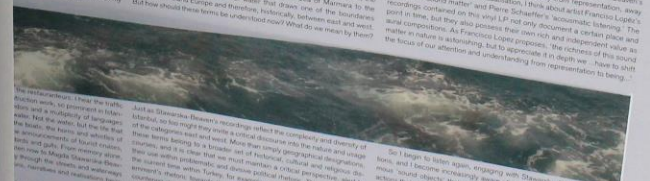
Walking through Istanbul, one moves from neighbourhood to neighbourhood, from one district to the next, and in doing so one becomes aware of the unique characteristics of each area. Sometimes the boundaries between one district and another are not so clear. Sometimes the boundaries between one district and another are not so clear. Sometimes the boundaries between one district and another are not so clear.

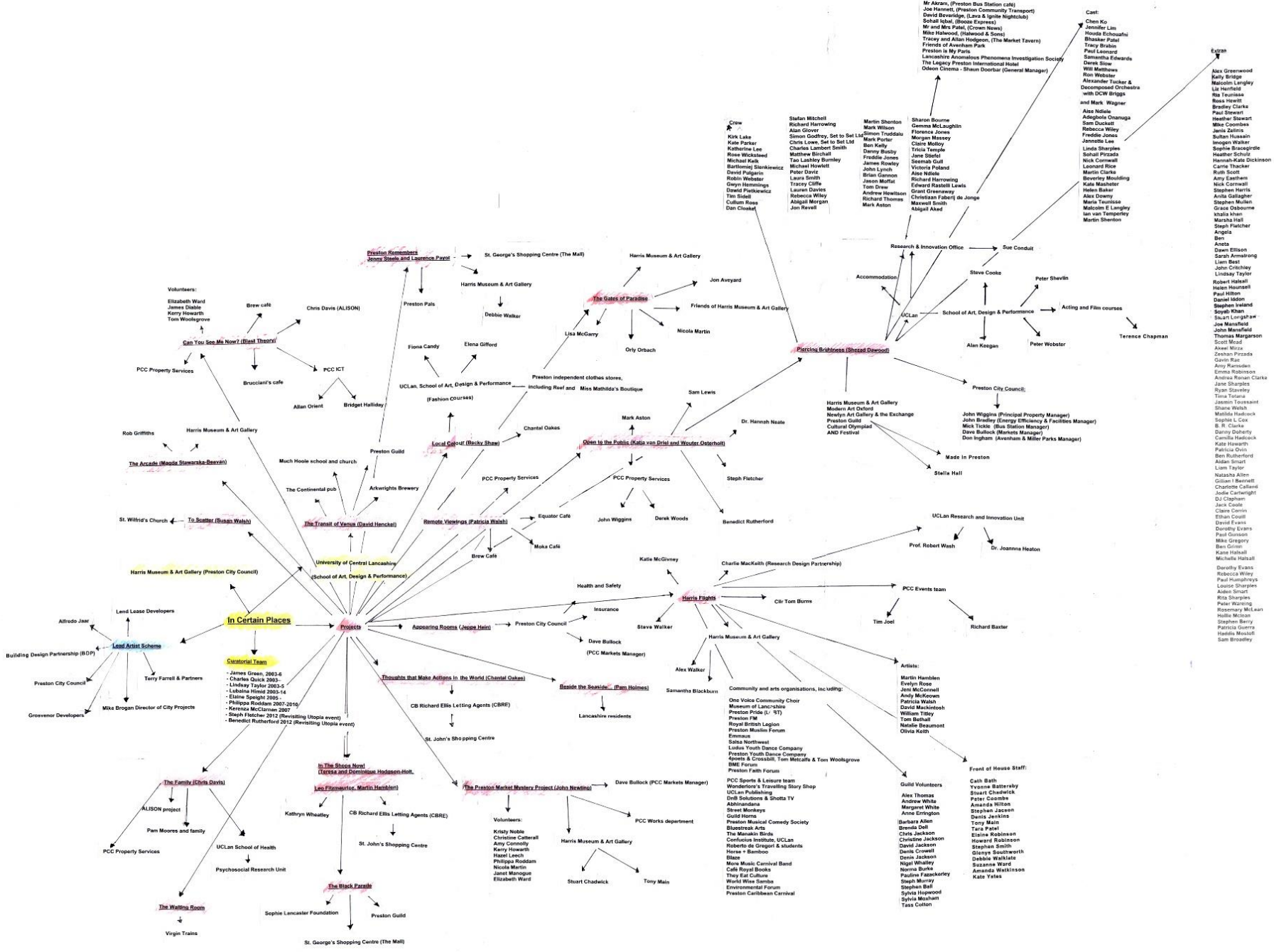
highlighting the distinctiveness of each sonic landscape. When listening to the recordings on this LP, and reading the accompanying essays by musicians Barkin Erkin, writer Aylin Ünal and artist Selçuk Arslan, we contemplate the sound, but become acutely aware of the qualities of Stawarska-Beavan's recordings, and away from representation. Moving away from representation, away from memory and away from visualisation, I think about artist Francisco López's point in time, but they also possess their own rich and independent value as sonic compositions. As Francisco López proposes: "The richness of this sound matter in nature is astonishing, but to appreciate it in depth we... have to shift the focus of our attention and understanding from representation to being..."

As I continue to listen, I begin to think not just about the sources of the sound, but become acutely aware of the qualities of Stawarska-Beavan's recordings, and away from representation. Moving away from representation, away from memory and away from visualisation, I think about artist Francisco López's point in time, but they also possess their own rich and independent value as sonic compositions. As Francisco López proposes: "The richness of this sound matter in nature is astonishing, but to appreciate it in depth we... have to shift the focus of our attention and understanding from representation to being..."

So I begin to listen again, engaging with Stawarska-Beavan's compositions, and become increasingly aware of their intricate textures as audio-visual objects that exist independently of the events, activities and experiences that produced them. I hear them as unique patterns and textures of sound and vibration. Sound recording, I think, is not just a matter of capturing a richer and more significant "real world", then not focus on the other world of sounds.

Dr. Mat Gregory

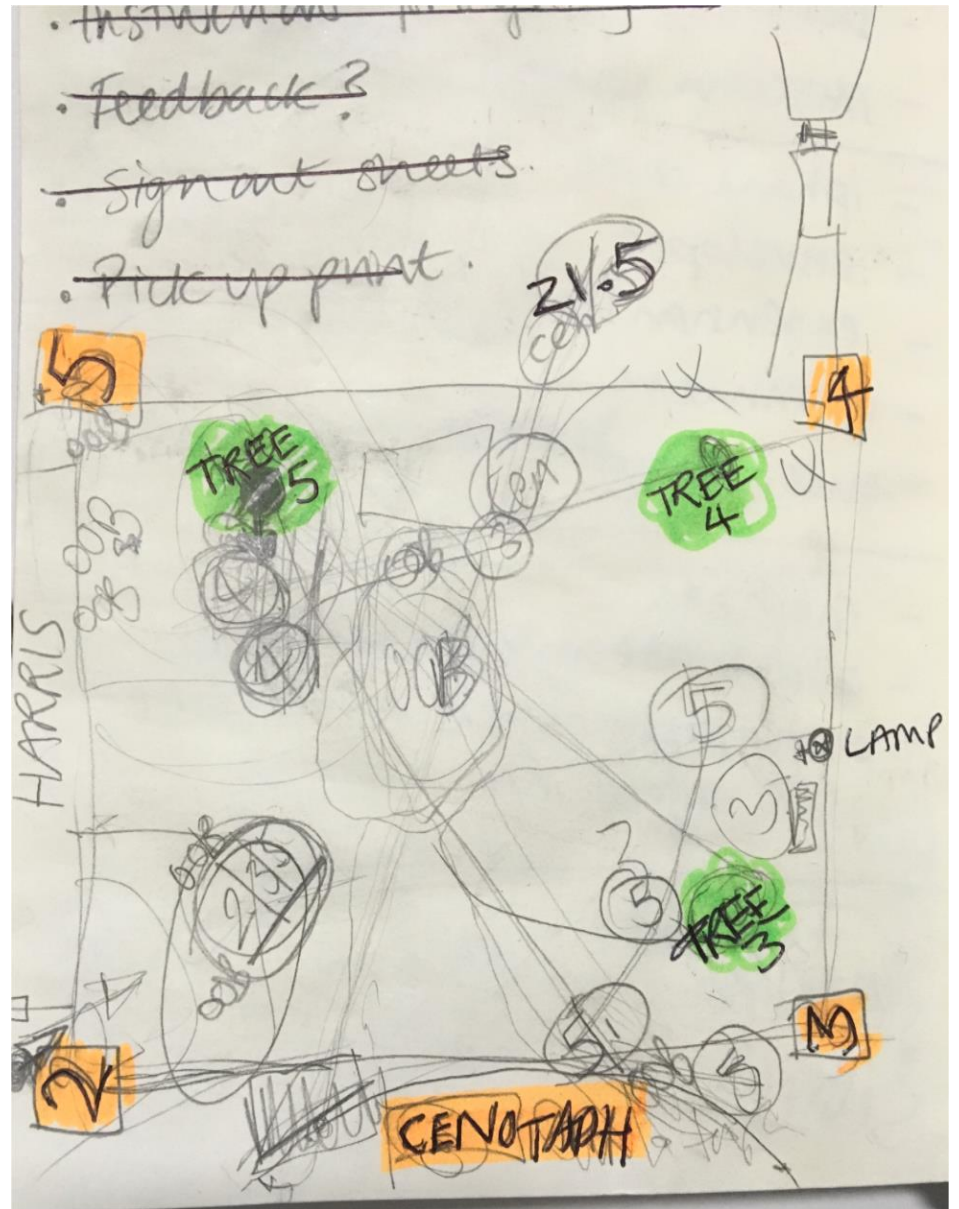




- Mr Abram, (Preston Bus Station c&h)**  
 Joe Newark, (Preston Community Transport)  
 David Beveridge, (Lava & Ignite Nightclub)  
 Sobah Iqbal, (Blossom Express)  
 Mr and Mrs Patel, (Crown News)  
 Mike Holwood, (Heddon & Sons)  
 Tracy and Allan Hodgson, (The Market Tavern)  
 Friends of Avenham Park  
 Preston is My Paris  
 Lancashire Anonymous Phenomena Investigation Society  
 The Legacy Preston International Hotel  
 Odeon Cinema - Steven Doorbar (General Manager)
- Cast:**  
 Chen Ko  
 Jennifer Liu  
 Nouzia Ehsanullah  
 Bhaskar Patel  
 Tracy Brian  
 Paul Leonard  
 Samantha Edwards  
 Derek Slow  
 Will Matthews  
 Ron Webster  
 Alexander Tucker & Decomposed Orchestra with DCW Briggs and Mark Wagner  
 Aise Niala  
 Adigbola Odeunuga  
 Sam Duckett  
 Freddie Wiley  
 James Zeltins  
 Sufyan Hussainah  
 Jannetta Lee  
 Linda Sharpley  
 Sohail Pirzada  
 Nick Cornwall  
 Leonard Rice  
 Martin Clarke  
 Robert Scott  
 Beverly Moulding  
 Kate Macpherson  
 Helen Baker  
 Aida Downy  
 Maria Antonica  
 Malcolm Langley  
 Ian van Tempelghy  
 Martin Shenton
- Extras:**  
 Aza Greenwood  
 Kelly Briggs  
 Heather Stewart  
 Miss Coombes  
 Janna Zeltins  
 Sufyan Hussainah  
 Imogen Walker  
 Sophie Benaiguel  
 Heather Scholz  
 Hannah-Kate Dickinson  
 Carie Thacher  
 Robert Scott  
 Amy Eastham  
 Nick Cornwall  
 Stephen Harris  
 Ania Gallagher  
 Stephen Muller  
 Grace Osborne  
 Nicola Khan  
 Marsha Hall  
 Sarah Fletcher  
 Angela  
 Ben  
 Dawn Ellison  
 Sarah Armstrong  
 Liam Best  
 John Chelchay  
 Lindsay Taylor  
 Robert Halseil  
 Helen Haumstall  
 Paul Hillen  
 Daniel Iddon  
 Stephen Ireland  
 Sohyl Khan  
 Stuart Longshaw  
 Joe Mansfield  
 John Mansfield  
 Thomas Margaron  
 Scott Moor  
 Azeel Mirza  
 Zahra Farzana  
 Gavin Rae  
 Amy Rumbold  
 Emma Robinson  
 Annela Robert Clarke  
 Jane Sharpley  
 Ryan Stavley  
 Tina Tansie  
 James Tournant  
 Shane Walsh  
 Madeline Haddock  
 Sophie L Cox  
 B. R. Clarke  
 Danny Dobson  
 Camilla Haddock  
 Kate Howarth  
 Patricia Ovin  
 Ben Rutherford  
 Aidan Smart  
 Liam Taylor  
 Nastasia Allen  
 Gillian Barnett  
 Charlotte Calland  
 Julia Cartwright  
 DJ Chapman  
 Jack Coote  
 Claire Corrie  
 Ethan Coull  
 David Evans  
 Dorothy Evans  
 Paul Gunnson  
 Mike Gregory  
 Ben Green  
 Kane Halseil  
 Michelle Haskell  
 Dorothy Evans  
 Rebecca Wiley  
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 Louise Sharples  
 Aiden Smart  
 Rita Sharples  
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 Stephen Barry  
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 Sam Broadley









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