

TEST SITE OF ACOUSTIC COMMONS 1 (2019)

SOUNDCAMP



Test Site of Acoustic Commons 1 (TSAC 1) is a listening point linked to an online network of open microphones. A stream box on the edge of woodland at Wave Farm sends a live feed to a server at Locus Sonus in Aix-Marseille, from where it is publicly accessible on a real-time soundmap.

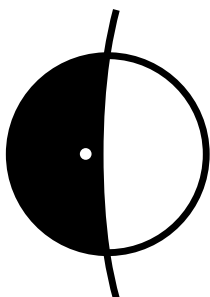
By placing such sites in the public domain, **TSAC** makes local sounds available to listeners for whatever purposes. This can be a way to pay attention to under-recognized places, to study their changing soundscapes through days, seasons and long durations, and to tune between local and planetary scales.

The listening point uses omnidirectional microphones which are open to the full range of sounds reaching the streambox. This could include stridulations of insects, wind in different kinds of foliage, birds, planes, passers-by, or flows of traffic on Route 23.

As well as being free to listen to online at any time, the site at Wave Farm is open to the public for International Dawn Chorus Day on the first weekend of May each year, and at other times by arrangement.

The Acoustic Commons is imagined as a set of places and practices that contribute to an emerging sense of environmental sounds as shared natural and cultural resources. The intersection of environmental and transmission ecologies at Wave Farm provides a home and a starting point for these exchanges. The live feed can also be a resource for other projects and improvisations.

Test Site of Acoustic Commons 1 is a project of Soundcamp.





Soundcamp is an arts cooperative based at Stave Hill Ecological Park in Rotherhithe, a district of south-east London, England. The group works on transmission ecologies from DIY broadcasting devices to public sound and radio projects. As part of the Acoustic Commons network, and in collaboration with Wave Farm, **Soundcamp** coordinates the long-form radio broadcast **Reveil** (2014—), and a series of sound and ecology events (soundcamps) on Dawn Chorus day each year.

Current projects include REVEIL 10 (May 2023); Spree~Channelsea Radio Group, a Cultural Bridge project with Radio Otherwise / Archipel Stations; and Listening Academy (London Summer 2023 edition) with Lucia Farinati and Brandon LaBelle. Soundcamp has been part of the Creative Europe small cooperation project: Acoustic Commons (2020—22) in partnership with arts organisations in Europe and Japan. Recent projects include *l a g* with Kate Donovan for Sonic Acts (10/22), *As if radio..* at COP26 Glasgow, *Meet Me On The Radio* with Hannah Kemp-Welch and the Deptford Albany, Biosphere Open Microphones (BIOM – with Leah Barclay and Biosphere Soundscapes) and *PITCH*, a portable auditorium designed and built by public works and Michael Speers.

TSAC1 was installed at Wave Farm as part of an artists residency including **Soundcamp** principals **Grant Smith** and **Sam Baraitser Smith**.

Grant Smith is an artist and writer working on sound, transmission, text, domestic and social projects in Loughborough Junction, South London. He co-founded the Soundcamp cooperative, and maintains a long term project at self-noise.net, which documents the mundane and ephemeral. Current activities include The Acoustic Commons, a project and 'wild concept' dedicated to sharing environmental sounds.

Sam Baraitser Smith is a London-based graphic designer and artist, designing publications, graphic identities, websites and installations. His practice explores improvisation, toolkits and how sound and visuals can inform one another. Current projects include working as lead designer on Acoustic Commons, a three-year project for Creative Europe; a book in collaboration with the South London Gallery; and a publication on Ecological Radio.

Read more about **Soundcamp** at soundtent.org. To join the Acoustic Commons project, and for information on adding a test site to the network, please contact contact@soundtent.org.