

## Soundwalking

A soundwalk is an opportunity to listen and consider the sonic environment. Typically conducted in silence, whether guided by a map or more improvisational in structure, the soundwalk is both a meditation on and an engagement with the sounds around you. It is an opportunity to reflect and critically consider the state and composition of the soundscape.

There are only a few guidelines:

- 1) No talking or other intentional sound making
- 2) Listen and carefully consider the sounds you hear
- 3) Make notes or mentally keep track of the types and qualities of the sounds you hear in order to discuss them after the walk

Some things to keep in mind as you proceed on the soundwalk:

Identify the sounds you hear as follows:

- What is the smallest sound you heard?
- What is the largest sound you heard?
- What is the sound you heard nearest to you?
- What is the sound you heard farthest from you?
- What is the loudest sound you heard?
- What is the quietest sound you heard?
- What is the most common sound you heard?
- What is the most rare sound you heard?
- What is the most surprising sound you heard?
- What sound did you expect to hear but did not?

In terms of sound sources, what was the overall proportion of sounds from human, animal, mechanical, electrical/electronic, motorized, mobile, stationary sources?

What is your emotional or psychological response to the soundscape?

What about the soundscape did you enjoy?

What about the soundscape did you find displeasing?

What about the soundscape would you like to change, if you could?