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**sonambiente
berlin txl**
3rd festival for eyes
and ears 2021 21/8–5/9

sonambiente berlin txl

**blixa bargeld
emeka ogboh
susan philipsz
+ laurie anderson /
hsin-chien huang
+ live interventions —
performances — dj sets — talks**

**berlin tegel airport
terminal a / b
21/8–5/9**

sponsors



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txl





Save the date: press conference invitation

sonambiente berlin txl – 3rd festival for eyes and ears

Thursday 19 Aug – 11:00 – Berlin Tegel Airport – Terminal A / B

»Final Boarding Call«: sound art farewell to TXL

The idea came in 2014 – the intention was announced in 2017 – and now it's finally the time: after months of intensive preparation, the third edition of the legendary »sonambiente« Berlin festival for eyes and ears opens on Friday, August 20th at 6 pm in Terminal A / B of Berlin Tegel airport.

As festival directors Matthias Osterwold, Florian Wachinger and Georg Weckwerth point out: “»sonambiente berlin txl« offers the unique opportunity to experience the architectural icon – designed by Meinhard von Gerkan, Volkwin Marg and Klaus Nickels and opened in 1974 – one last time before the historic, now landmark-protected terminal building is rebuilt.”

The »sonambiente txl« initiators have attracted three exceptional artists to contribute world premieres – large-scale spatial interventions that will transform the airport's public address system of more than 1000 loudspeakers into an instrument: the legendary Berlin musician and sound poet **BLIXA BARGELD** – founder and frontman of Einstürzenden Neubauten –, the Nigerian artist and documenta-participant **EMEKA OGBOH** and the Scottish sound artist, Turner Prizewinner and documenta-participant **SUSAN PHILIPSZ**. Their works »HEXAGON«, »FINAL BOARDING CALL« and »AMBIENT AIR« – composed for a place of transition – evoke the former Berlin airport in very different ways.

Blixa Bargeld subtitles his 50-minute piece »Hexagon« as a “composition for an airport that no longer exists”. His sound work “opens the gates for utopian trips that have never happened and for the dream of a ‘Nowherehome’. The abbreviations for the public announcements are also composed and maybe there'll be a little bit of music too...” »Hexagon« will be audible all around the ring of Terminal A as well as at Gate 08/09.

Emeka Ogboh unites music, field recordings and public announcements in his composition »Final Boarding Call«. Sound recordings from the airport inspired him; as a compositional background, they meander through various typical airport scenarios. In the process, he creates “a journey through memory, through space and time”. »Final Boarding Call« is installed at the striking Gate B20 in Terminal B, the so-called Nebel Hall, named after the technical pioneer of rocketry, Rudolf Nebel.

Susan Philipsz's work »Ambient Air« is an homage to Brian Eno's famous »Music for Airports« from 1978. Philipsz hummed this piece in a small airplane as it circled Tegel airport. Radio transmissions during the taxi and take off, and the flight navigation, were also recorded. “Then during the flight, I began to hum parts of Eno's »Music for Airports« at irregular intervals and interrupted myself only to observe the clouds, the sun, or the ground far beneath us. The music exudes a melancholy atmosphere, because I hummed it very intimately and privately as if I were alone.” The recording will be audible in the entrance hall of Terminal A / B, where a short silent super-8 film completes the installation.

In addition to those newly commissioned works, the German premiere of the virtual reality film installation »To the Moon« by the American performance artist, musician and Grammy prizewinner **LAURIE ANDERSON** and the Taiwanese media artist **HSIN-CHIEN HUANG** can be experienced in Terminal A. »To the Moon« combines



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motifs from Greek mythology, literature and science, from sci-fi outer-space movies and politics, into a gloomy fantasy of a new moon. In the 15-minute virtual reality work, one gets shot into space, walks on the lunar surface, glides through space junk, wriggles through a DNA-skeleton and is ultimately transported to the edge of a moon-mountain, only to be hurled back down.

The third edition of »sonambiente« after 1996 and 2006 will be a unique sonic and architectural experience for all Berliners and city visitors.

In his welcome address, the Governing Mayor of Berlin Michael Müller writes: “After the Corona pandemic prevented us from saying farewell to Tegel airport, as trustworthy as it was beloved, in the way it deserved last fall, I’m very glad that for two weeks at the end of August / beginning of September, thanks to the sound art festival »sonambiente«, Tegel’s classic Terminals A and B will again be able to be toured one last time in their original, grand architectonic form, enriched by the sound art of international artists which will be aired on the original public address system. A one-time opportunity for Berliners and all visitors to our city!”

And Lotto Foundation Berlin executive board member Dr. Marion Bleß says: “Art and culture bring people together and open new horizons – just the way Tegel Airport had done for Berliners for years. I can imagine no more beautiful farewell to Tegel than the festival »sonambiente«.”

Sale of time-slot tickets is underway. Book them at sonambiente.berlin

Opening

20/8 • 18:00 [entry 17:00] opening + prelude to the Month of Contemporary Music Speakers • State Secretary Dr. [TORSTEN WÖHLERT](#) [State Secretary for Culture] • [GUDRUN SACK](#) [general manager Tegel Projekt GmbH] • Prof. Dr. [HELGA DE LA MOTTE-HABER](#) [musicologist] • the festival directors 20:00 [EMEKA OGBOH](#) »Afro Session 1« DJ Set

Live Interventions—Performances—DJ Sets—Talks

The exhibition-installations in Terminal A / B, which also includes video documentations of the »sonambiente« festivals from 1996 and 2006 [filmmaker Sabine Groschup], will be augmented by performances on an open air-stage on the inner ring of Terminal A as well as by live interventions, artist talks, and presentations of two publications about Berlin Tegel Airport – one of which will include the participation of architect Volkwin Marg, one of the architects of Berlin Tegel.

»sonambiente berlin txl« also invited renowned international performers to present new electronic sound and music performances:

21/8 • 18:00 [ELECTRIC INDIGO](#) aka Susanne Kirchmayr »brittle [extended]«
28/8 • 18:00 [MIEKO SUZUKI](#) »yurei [ghost]«
18:30 [SCANNER](#) aka Robin Rimbaud »Borders«
4/ 9 • 18:00 [FELIX KUBIN](#) »Entre les incidences / Sci-Fi Pop + Stolperbeat«
5/ 9 • 18:00 [DAVID MOSS](#) »Take Me Away«
19:00 [EMEKA OGBOH](#) »Afro Session 2«



Live Interventions

21/8 • 17:00 **BLIXA BARGELD** »Catastrophe-Intermezzo« – Terminal A, Ring
28/8 • 17:00 **BLIXA BARGELD** »Catastrophe-Intermezzo« – Terminal A, Ring

Artist Talks

28/8 • 15:00 **BLIXA BARGELD** [talks with Juliane Liebert, author] [zoom prerecord]
4 /9 • 16:00 **SUSAN PHILIPSZ** [talks with Tom McCarthy, author]
5 /9 • 16:00 **EMEKA OGBOH** [talks with Marcus Gammel, radio editor]

Book Presentations

22/8 • 15:00 »TXL Berlin Tegel Airport« [Park Books, Zurich] with Volkwin Marg [gmp Architekten] Jürgen Tietz [architecture critic] + Christoph Rauhut [director berlin monument authority]
29/8 • 15:00 »The Essence of Berlin-Tegel« [JOVIS, Berlin] with Peter Ortner [photographer] + Florian Heilmeyer [architecture critic]

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Installations: Blixa Bargeld, Emeka Ogboh, Susan Philipsz + Laurie Anderson / Hsin-Chien Huang

sonambiente live: Blixa Bargeld, Electric Indigo, Mieko Suzuki, Scanner, Felix Kubin, David Moss, Emeka Ogboh

Special Events: artist talks, book presentations

21/8 – 5/9 2021

Grand opening 20/8, 6 pm

Open daily

noon to 6 pm

Terminal A/B in the former Tegel Airport (TXL)

Public transport

Bus 109 and 128 to General-Ganeval-Brücke. Shuttlebus service to Terminal A/B and back. Free parking at P10 near the bus/shuttle station

Tickets

7 Euro, social ticket 3 Euro, family ticket (2 adults with children under 16) 12 Euro. Time-slot tickets are valid for 2 hours or until 6 pm closing, and include evening events

Organizer

Osterwold/Wachinger/Weckwerth GbR, Berlin

Further information and visual material available from Bluhm PR and at sonambiente.berlin

Press contact

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Cooperating partners: Deutschlandfunk Kultur • Month of Contemporary Music •
TONSPUR Kunstverein Vienna •

Re COVID-19: The airport and its terminals offer a great deal of space and areas for public circulation and therefore present favorable conditions for »sonambiente berlin txl« to take place during the pandemic. The health protection regulations currently in force will be carefully followed and will be posted and updated on the sonambiente.berlin website. Please check the information shortly before your visit.

Berlin, 12 August 2021

