

David Bird and Alec Hall | Artistic Directors, Qubit | [qubitnewmusic@gmail.com](mailto:qubitnewmusic@gmail.com) | [www.qubitmusic.com](http://www.qubitmusic.com)

New York, New York, May 9th 2017 — Qubit is pleased to announce *Sound, Space, Simulation*. Set over two days at The DiMenna Center for Classical Music (450 West 37th Street), the events highlight and explore the complex relationships between architecture and music. These events will feature music by David Bird, Carolyn Chen, and Alec Hall, performed by renowned soloists, Laura Cocks, Weston Olencki, Meaghan Burke, and the violin and viola duo andPlay. Architectural participants include the Boston-Based design firm WOJR, MIT Press journal *Thresholds*, and the New York-based architecture collective, : (pronounced “colon”).

**May 26:** “Myth” is the first of two events curated by Qubit New Music that highlight the intricate relationships between architecture and music. This event will explore the role of Myth and the Mythic in contemporary music, architecture, and design. The musical program features spatialized electroacoustic works by David Bird that explore the domain between found and imagined spaces. andPlay will perform “Apocrypha”, inspired by Stanislaw Lem’s 1961 novel “Solaris”, in which a team of scientists is stationed on a distant planet covered by a vast and gelatinous ocean. Meaghan Burke will perform “Spatia” for solo cello and spatialized field recordings, inspired by the acoustic and architectural qualities of the Oval Courtyard at the Château de Fontainebleau. Laura Cocks will perform “Atolls” for solo piccolo and twenty-nine spatialized piccolos.

**5 - 7pm** - Visual Exhibition from MIT’s “Thresholds” Journal

**8pm** - Music for instruments and spatialized electronics. Music by David Bird performed by Laura Cocks, Meaghan Burke, and andPlay.

**May 28, 8pm:** “Zone” is the second and final event of *Sound, Space, Simulation*, and features a collaborative multi-media installation by Alec Hall and the New York architecture collective : based on Hall’s documentary trip to factories of the Shenzhen SEZ in late 2015. Works by Carolyn Chen bookend the installation, including the US premiere of her major work, *The 24: Practicing Slow*, which features Weston Olencki on trombone. A performance of John Luther Adams’ “triadic iteration lattices” for 4 air-raid sirens will precede a panel discussion with the artists and architects following the event.

The performance, discussion, and installation will merge to theorize and aestheticize the concept of the Zone as it relates to composition, design, and architecture. “Is it possible to theorize then that the concept of a zone—which is nothing more than a set of legal statutes that describe boundary conditions for density (floor to area ratio), street wall proportions and setback widths, and a fire code for modes of egress—is actually a kind of incubation unit in which capital crystallizes into physical forms, leaving behind design choices as a residue. Once a zone is formed—in which boundary conditions are set—capital metastasizes, leaving an un-theorized aesthetic in its wake; just as malignant growths demonstrate their own biological aesthetic, so too does architectural design within a zone. What, then, do choices of sound and music mean within such a space?”

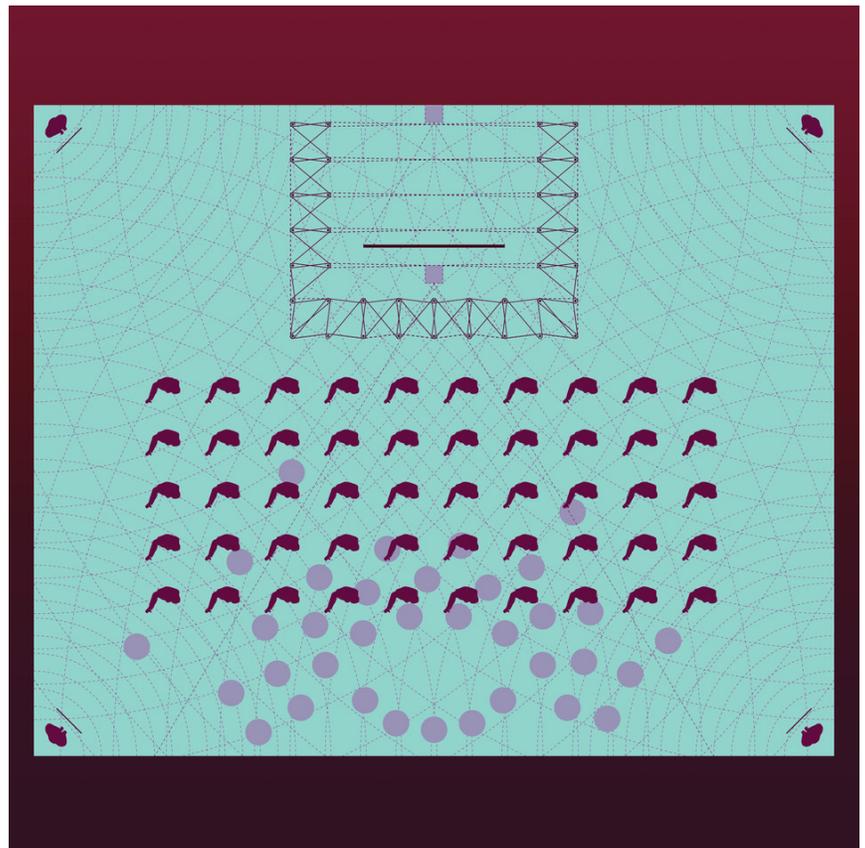
# SOUND, SPACE, SIMULATION

sample images



*preliminary installation of ZONE in Darmstadt, Germany, August 2016*

*conceptual design plan for ZONE, : 2017*



# SOUND, SPACE, SIMULATION

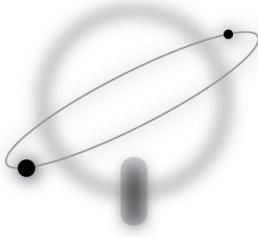
sample images



*Carolyn Chen's "The 24: Practicing Slow", Darmstadt, Germany, August 2016*



*Sculptural component of "Multiplicities" for infinitely multi-tracked bass flute by David Bird*



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Qubit is a contemporary music and performance art initiative founded in 2010 by Alec Hall and Bryan Jacobs. Its principal mission is to foster the development of emergent voices by working with young composers whose work has yet to reach wide audiences, and to explore and develop new and experimental technologies as they relate to performance practice, sonic aesthetics, and public engagement.



: is a collective workshop on architectural practices and ideas based in New York City. It is a publication and a platform that aims to carve out a space for critical reflection within architecture by interrogating the vocabulary, rhetoric, and boundaries that constitute it. : materializes this discourse into printed records, exhibitions, and architectural interventions.



Thresholds is the annual peer-reviewed journal produced by the MIT Department of Architecture, held in over 150 university art & architecture libraries around the world. Content features leading scholars and practitioners from the fields of architecture, art, and culture.

WOJR is an organization of designers based in Cambridge, Massachusetts. We consider architecture to be a form of cultural production. Our work extends across the globe and engages the realms of art, architecture, and urbanism.

Alec Hall is a composer living and working in New York City. His work attempts to re-imagine the possibilities of acoustic materials in the post-Avant-Garde musical landscape. His compositions have had been performed by such groups as the Ensemble SurPlus, Ensemble Intercontemporain, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio-France, JACK Quartet, ICE, Talea Ensemble, Either/OR, Wet Ink, Continuum, Ensemble Pamplemousse, Ekmeles, the Cecilia String Quartet, and soloists Séverine Ballon, Stephane Ginsburgh and David Broome. Alec is the co-founder of Qubit and currently serves as its co-artistic director. He holds a DMA from Columbia University, an MA from UC San Diego, and is a 2017 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial fellow.

David Bird is a composer and multimedia artist based in New York City. His work explores the dramatic potential of electroacoustic and mixed media environments, often highlighting the relationships between technology and the individual. His work has been performed internationally, at venues and festivals such as the MATA festival in New York City; the Gaudeamus Festival in Utrecht, Netherlands; the Wien Modern Festival in Vienna, Austria; the SPOR festival in Aarhus, Denmark; the IRCAM Manifeste Festival in Paris, France; the Festival Mixtur in Barcelona, Spain. He has composed and collaborated with groups like the Ensemble Intercontemporain, the Jack Quartet, the Bozzini Quartet, Yarn/Wire, the Talea Ensemble, Mantra Percussion, the Mivos Quartet, the Austrian Ensemble for Contemporary Music (OENM), AUDITIVVOKAL Dresden, Ensemble Proton Bern, Loadbang, the TAK Ensemble, and the Nouveaux Classical Project.