

**THE ENGINE ROOM  
SOUND LABORATORY  
SOUND  
FESTIVAL**

**29/11/2024 5 - 8 PM**

**01/12/2024 12 - 5 PM**

**DEE SPACE THURSO CLOSE RG30 4YH**



Supported by:



University of  
Reading

Peabody

# HAPPINESS IS LISTENING TO ROY ORBINSON WHILST I HOOVER.

The Engine Room Sound Laboratory is an ongoing investigation into how sounds, noise, ambience and (eco)acoustics affect the well-being and mental health of a community; using art and science to work in tandem to explore playful and significant research led-processes that will have a lasting affect on a community.

We would like to invite you to  
The Engine Room Sound Laboratory 'Sound Festival'

This project is led by visual artists Lisa-Marie Gibbs and Philip Newcombe and members of The Engine Room and the community up at Dee Park Estate, Reading

We are delighted to be supported by and work with The British Science Association (BSA) and alongside researchers from The University of Reading to think about and develop the possibilities of sound within the broad arena of art and science.

*Based out of Dee Park Estate in Reading, The Engine Room is an independent arts and mental health collective initiated by a group of creatives facing mental health challenges across our local communities.*

*Our approach is to create spaces for individuals to access independent, free thinking creative experiences of quality, facilitated by artists that promote empowerment, recovery and healthy human development in a nurturing safe space across our local community.*



## THE ENGINE ROOM SOUND LABORATORY

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These are just a few of our favourite things...

We have dug up the clay from Louse-hill Copse to construct a large ceramic sound vessel with holes, made by 57 pairs of hands from the residents of the estate. Recording devices have been placed inside; it has been left outside to absorb ambient soundscapes; had poetry spoken into it; allowed air to move within and through it and out again.

We have walked in the rain and slow heat and placed contact microphones and electro pic-up mics to decommissioned phone boxes, buildings, metal fences; collected these sounds and in some cases manipulated them into soundscape music.

We woke early on the longest day of the year to film the estate and tune into the sounds and images of one particular day. Each of us recording wherever we were at different times; a life in a day.

We have held an exhibition of punk drawings on the ever present blue hoardings by Dee Park resident Jimmy Yoder, that lasted as long as his playlist of 27 punk songs lasted. Then the work came down.

We have sat and listened and talked alongside the residents over coffee at 'Dee Caf' and listened to both the remembered and half-remembered stories and turned these words into text based soundscapes; a compilation of soundbites that are as heartbreaking as they are outrageously funny, these becoming posters to be placed back outside and left to battle with the elements.

We have tuned in. Slowly. Quietly at first. We have talked and laughed. We have pressed record and in those moments we have started to listen.