Talking About Sound: Soundscape

The World of Sounds, part 2

Approaches of sound analysis

- Akustik / Psychoakustik

The scales of psychoacoustic quantities describe the strength of the sensation. The most common psychoacoustic parameters are the parameters loudness, sharpness, tonality, roughness and fluctuation strength.

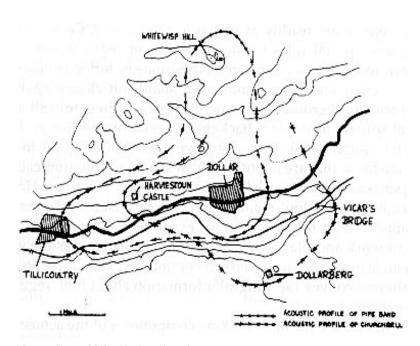
- Phenomenological: sound object (Pierre Schaeffer) Smallest completed sonic unity, stands alone,
- Phenomenological: Soundscape (Murray Schafer) Describes the "ensemble" of the sound environment as a unit

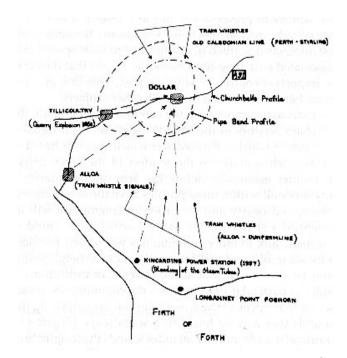
Der Hörer, klangliche Kommunikation

- "acitve Listening" and "passive listening"
 (Cocktail Party Effect / hi-fi & lo-fi surrounding)
- "Background listening" (1 2) & Keynote Sound (1 2) Example-ambient
- Types of Listen (Schaeffer, Chion, Huron):
 - Causal, everyday hearing
 - Semantic, figurative, reflexive, connotative
 - Empathic, critical
 - Reduced
- Example: how did you hear that?
- Preferences & attitudes of the listener

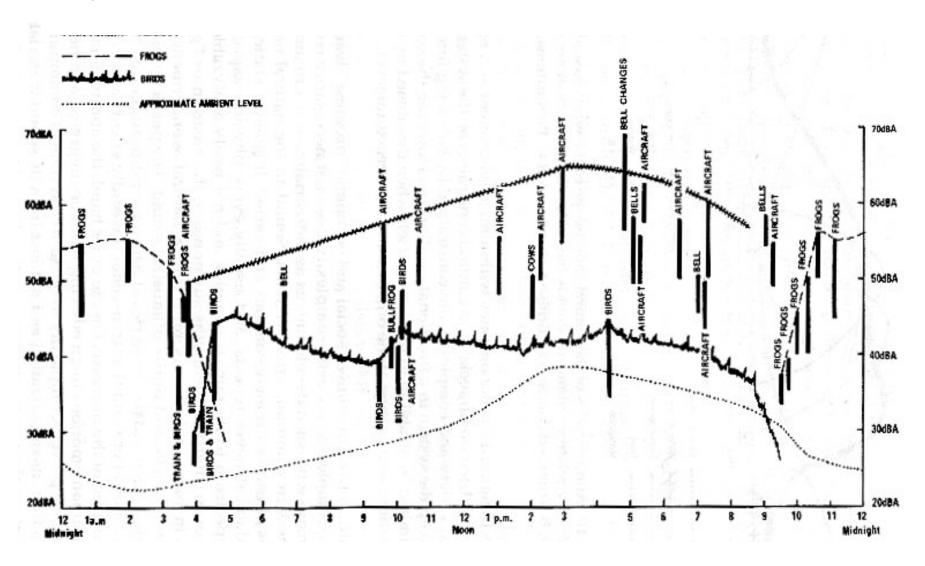
The acoustic community

- Definition: Any soundscape in which acoustic information plays an omnipresent role in the life of the inhabitants (examples?)
- Characteristics
 - <u>Acoustic definition</u> & sound signals, soundmarks, acoustic profile & horizon
 - Rhythm & cycles

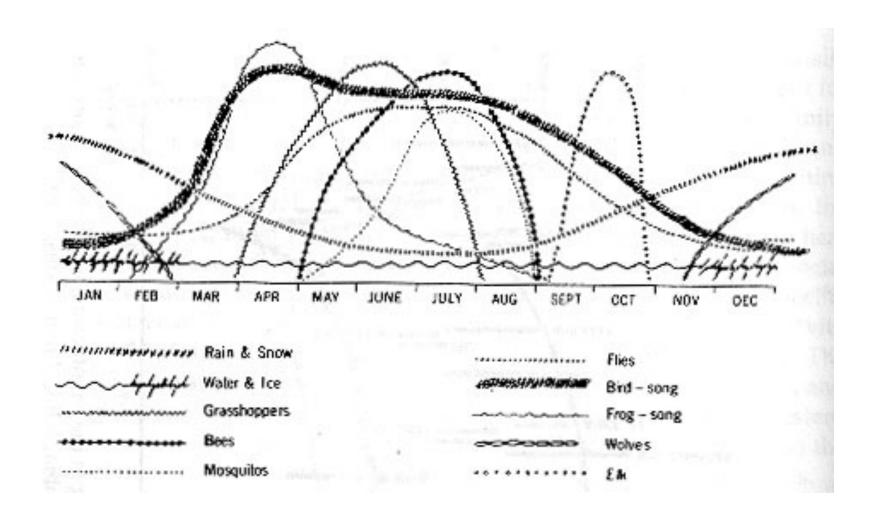




Daily routine



Yearly routine



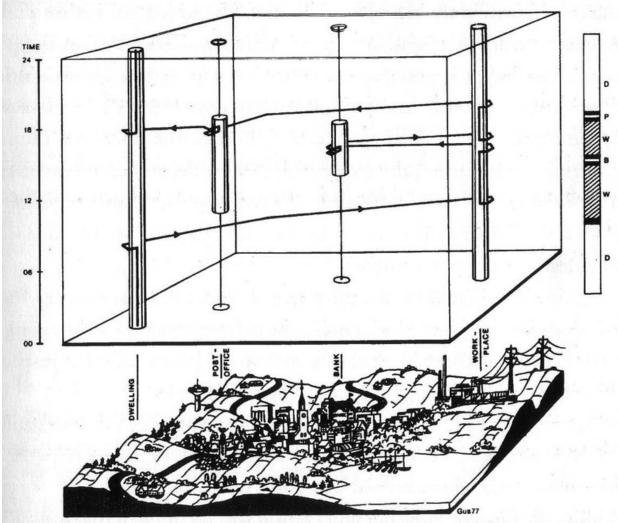


Figure 1 Example of an individual's path in a time-space coordinate system. The three dimensions of geographical space have been collapsed into two in order to make room for a time axis. The movements of the individual in space and time are depicted in a continuous and indivisible path. In the example, the individual starts from the home and visits his work place, a bank, his work place and, finally, a post office, before returning home.