Biographies:

Collins & Goto Studio: Tim Collins and Reiko Goto have developed long-term, socially engaged environmental research (SEER) that examines the cultural meaning of semi-natural ancient forest: Future Forest (2013-present); Sylva Caledonia (2015); Caledonian Decoy (2017); PLEIN AIR: The Ethical Aesthetic Impulse (2010); CO2 Edinburgh (2013); Sound of a Tree: Cologne (2015); PLEIN AIR Live at Glasgow Botanics (2017); Nine Mile Run (1997-2000); and 3 Rivers 2nd Nature (2000-2005). Outputs include artworks, exhibitions, seminars, workshops, and publications that address issues of cultural and environmental significance. They have worked with other artists, musicians, planners, communicators, writers, and technologists as well as historians and philosophers to realize work in different public spaces.

Sound Programmer: Chris Malcolm is a Scottish computer programmer and software developer with over twenty years of experience in programming, coding with user interfaces, graphics, sound and interactive systems. He has been active in the experimental music and sound art scene, and has been involved in a number of projects that involve the use of retro-computers and consoles to generate new music. His work with Collins & Goto Studio is driven by a curiosity about human relationships to technology as a tool and as an interface to bio-events. The PLEIN AIR system and software opens up new programming challenges and levels of expression not available with traditional electronic instruments and methods.

Producer: Georg Dietzler is a Cologne-based artist, author, curator, and consultant. He is recognized as an active producer of cross-disciplinary cultural projects, exhibitions, seminars, and conferences, with a focus on environmental and social issues. He is a founding member of Therapeutische Hörgruppe Köln and Frequenzwechsel, two media/sound artist collectives. Dietzler has organized numerous cross-disciplinary projects and events, including the PLEIN AIR system and software, which has opened up new programming challenges and levels of expression not available with traditional electronic instruments and methods.

Mastering/Postproduction: Dirk Specht is a sound artist, electronic and electroacoustic musician, sound recordist, and curator. He is known for his work with retro-computers and consoles to generate unexpected interactive audio and visual experiences. His work with Collins & Goto Studio is driven by a curiosity about human relationships to technology as a tool and as an interface to bio-events. The PLEIN AIR system and software opens up new programming challenges and levels of expression not available with traditional electronic instruments and methods.

Artist: Reiko Goto Collins was born in Japan and has lived in the US and UK. She is a principal in the Collins & Goto Studio, and has been a research fellow at the University of Edinburgh. She has been involved in a number of projects related to environmental and social issues. She is currently involved in the working group ‘Living Organisms and Their Choices’ at the University of Edinburgh. She is a distinguished research fellow at the STUDIO for Creative Inquiry at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Artist: Tim Collins is from the US, an artist, author, and planner. He is a principal in the Collins & Goto Studio, and has been a research fellow at the School of Social Science at the University of Aberdeen. He works across science, technology, and philosophy to develop projects related to nature, culture, and to changing ideas about ethical duty and public space. In 2017, he was the development director for the ‘Art and Action in Landscape Environment Research Today’ seminar at the National Gallery in London. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Landscape Research Group and Glasgow Sculpture Studios.

The team prepares the instrument and the recording devices at the Kibble Palace in Glasgow as an oak, and aspen and an elderberry await their performance.


To download digital sound files for personal use:
https://collinsandgoto.com/PleinAirLP/
Password: Pl31n@1r2019
Reflecting on the experience, Goto recognized this as an ‘epiphany’, a moment the sap began to rise and the photosynthesis rate went up immediately. One trees to measure photosynthesis, transpiration, and sap rise. As the scientists set the forest to test the reaction of the trees to future levels of carbon dioxide.

The idea of PLEIN AIR began in Duke Forest, while visiting the Duke University Teaching and Research Laboratory, in North Carolina. The scientists had wired the mediation of sensors and software, we hear a sound of one leaf – one tree sequestration. The experience produced by PLEIN AIR is metaphoric; through experiential interface to an important but generally invisible aspect of carbon

interrelationship we may have with trees. PLEIN AIR integrates aesthetics, Collins and Goto worked with a team of scientists, technologists, and musicians using sound to focus attention and the imagination.

experience, supporting our intention to initiate an ethical consideration of trees, one leaf on one tree. Empathy is the concept that drove the design of this project. We hoped to push the technology into the background. The sound developed through years of observations and traversing different to when the trees were under full light at mid-day. Visiting Glasgow in 2014, I had a chance to see and hear PLEIN AIR in the Kibble Palace, a historic glasshouse in the Glasgow Botanic Gardens. We could only record when the public left the building at the end of the day. The weather conditions were dramatic: a mix of sunny and rainy days, very high noise from visitors’ breathing outside the room. Light intensity and carbon dioxide from visitors’ breathing would change each tree’s responses and the sound quality. At the end of the day, tree reactions would change the music in relation to changes in light and sound.

We would listen to PLEIN AIR for hours while we made the long Cologne journey. The different venues have an impact on what we heard in the experiences and outcomes. We hope this work brings some meaning and joy to you as you listen to your trees.

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