

Artist Statement

Sculpture is the investigation of 3-dimensional space. The physical and ephemeral nature of sound articulates this investigation of space in new ways.

Considering the lenses of perception, perspective, and place, my research investigates a critical theory of sound as phenomenon and art object. The phenomenon of sound informs our perception and perspective of place. It articulates questions about how we experience and interact with the physical world. My intention is to create an experiential understanding of the physical world. The physical ephemeral cycles of nature are symbiotic with the human experience of life. Examining this relationship illuminates how we perceive, experience, and interact with the world.

My questions are further explored through the ideas of biophilia, technophilia, and sonification. The relationship between these ideas is synchronous with the idea of intimacy with place in today's world. If we listen, our preexisting ideas of what we know about our world, and our place in it, begin to shift. Our ability to interweave information about perception, perspective and place into clear points of connection, allows us greater understanding of the world and the vital relationship we each have with place and with each other.

Bio

Burke Jam was born and raised in rural Montana. He received a BA in Art in 2006, and an MFA in Sculpture in 2013 from the University of Montana. He received a Fulbright Grant in 2013/14 to Iceland where spent a year of research synthesizing the relationship between physical place, environmental sound and perceptual coherence. He is an Adjunct Professor of Art at Portland State University in Oregon. He works as a Smokejumper for the US Forest Service in the summer months.