

“Wherever we are, what we hear is mostly noise. When we ignore it, it disturbs us. When we listen to it, we find it fascinating.”

- John Cage, *'The Future of Music: Credo'* (1937)

Soundware is a gateway to meditation. It is a tool to help you to tune in to the present. You can do this without a device, however.

Find a place in the Clarice, be it more secluded (down the hall from the sound ware booth, towards the music school) or vacuous (an auditorium) or very open (along the upper walkway across from the Soundware booth) or even go outside.

Close your eyes. Take a few deep breaths. Listen.

Find one sound. See if you can identify it, or figure out where it's coming from, and how it's getting to you. Think a little bit about it, then let it go, and find another sound. Start a sound collection in your head.

Think about the space you are in and how it is affecting how you hear the sounds. Is the sound bouncing off a wall? Can you hear echoes? Do you notice a difference in the quality of lower sounds and higher sounds?

Then, open your eyes and walk around. Notice how the sounds change as you go between spaces. Keep collecting sounds.

Try to keep this awareness with you as you move throughout the rest of the festival, and the rest of your weekend. Enjoy the the sound around you!