

Vibe Check

Transcript of “Episode 3: *Diagrammatic Melodies*”

CFRC 101.9fm, Wednesdays bi-weekly 21 April–2 June, 4:30–5 pm

Neven Lochhead: You are listening to CFRC 101.9 FM, located in the basement of Carruthers Hall on the Queen’s University campus in Kingston, Ontario, and online at CFRC.ca. My name is Neven Lochhead, I’m an artist in Kingston, and this show is called Vibe Check. So, this is a four-part bi-weekly radio art program that was made in relation to my video-based exhibition at the Agnes Etherington called *From the Vibe Out*. That show opened in late February, and it had to close in early April due to the lockdown measures. And so, this radio project was initiated with the generous support of Dinah and CFRC as a sort of pivoted programming strategy for that exhibition, which would allow me as an artist to keep some of the threads or ideas from that work in motion and to share them with you, with a public.

So, this is episode three, and the past couple of episodes have been pretty talky. And so today I’d like to take a bit of a back seat, at least vocally, and get into some more music-driven radio making. I’m going to play a collection of music, or a mix of music that was written and recorded over a pretty immersive two-week period in Tamworth, Ontario in summer 2020. This is a collection that I’ve been naming with the wordy title of *We Consent To Maintain This Feeling In Us*. I should say that what you’ll hear are songs that aren’t really songs, they’re barely holding themselves together as songs. They attempt no hook; they offer no central or steady rhythm. Instead, the songs you’ll hear are what I think of as audio sketches, sort of provisional, time-based experimentations with sound and music, that directly informed the work that was later presented in the Agnes exhibition. So it was through making this set of non-songs that a poetics, or a set of strategies with time-based media were formed and became operational, and later got scaled up into the installation structures and videos of the show. So, maybe we can think of this show, or these songs, or this music as diagrams, as melodies with a projective or constructive capacity.

[Music]

Fieldnotes. Fieldnotes. Represents. The closing gesture. Streamed live. Represents the cumulative closing gesture of the exhibition. May 29th. Saturday. 3pm. On Zoom. Streamed Live. The exhibition. The radio show. The learning experiment. The publication. 3pm. Free. Register at agnes.queensu.ca. We now return you to Vibe Check.

[Music]

Begin slow zoom.

[Music]

Moving in on the window. Focus on the writing on the window.

[Music]

The performer writes fieldnotes in marker on the window. Pull back to see AstroTurf on the ground. The performer reaches for 1000 sheets. PDFs. Zoom in. Focus. Cut. Tilt. Shift. Zoom.

[Music]

Vibe Check, episode three.

[Music]