

# ECHO LOCATION

Wednesday 30 November 2022 7 - 11pm

49 Staffordshire Street, London SE15 5TJ

Produced by Anton Spice



[Bandcamp](#) / [Soundcloud](#)

A 14-track compilation exploring sonic landscapes of imagination, memory and place. Featuring new compositions by **Penelope Trappes**, **DJ Raff**, **Udit Duseja**, **Awkward Moments**, **K.N.A.**, **Kit Ebersbach** and **James Gardner**. Made in dialogue with original field recordings by **Anton Spice** from the Inner Hebrides in Scotland.

Echo Location began as an invitation to experience a place through sound alone. Seven musicians from across the world were sent a sample pack of field recordings made on a small island in the Inner Hebrides, Scotland. From these recordings, they were encouraged to make a track in dialogue with their own practice – an echo of the location where the sounds were originally recorded. The result is a whole new archipelago of imaginary sonic islands.

The first iteration of an ongoing project exploring interactions between sound, music and environments, **Echo Location is released on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022.**

**AUDIOGOLD**

**STAFFORDSHIRE ST**

## The Story:

The field recordings that form the source material of Echo Location were gathered over a period of 6 months living on the Isle of Muck, Scotland, during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unable to leave the island, Anton Spice began exploring its sonic characteristics, focussing on details that would otherwise go unnoticed – polyrhythms in its trickling streams, the dynamics of the rolling waves and small changes in the acoustics of its seasons. Populated by lapwings, terns, snipe, pheasants, seals, sheep, cows, horses and a handful of people, the sounds of the island slowly began to reveal themselves.

Alongside photos and embroideries created by Ignacia Ossul Vermehren, these observations were collected on a website, [www.iisles.com](http://www.iisles.com), as scrapbook of materials gathered over their time away. The work of textile artists, sound partitioners and writers such as Anni Albers, Constance Howard, Jana Winderen, Hildegard Westerkamp and John McPhee all served as inspirations.

Returning to London between lockdowns, Spice assembled a sample pack of his favourite recordings from the hundreds of hours he had captured. Once again no longer able to leave the house, he sent the sample pack to a selection of friends based around the world – from New Zealand to Hawaii – initially just to share some of that sonic experience with others also locked down and unable to travel. With it was an invitation to use the field recordings to make a single track, however they saw fit. Over the following months, eight original tracks were returned and the form of Echo Location as a compilation began to take shape.

This is not a conventional compilation, in so far as there were no real parameters guiding its creation. What has emerged however feels remarkably coherent – a collection of cinematic interpretations of a place none of the contributors had ever been. Sometimes humorous, sometimes abrasive, the music could broadly be described as ambient or experimental, but its breadth resists such categorisations. Instead, it is an atmosphere which unites the music, knitted together with short snippets of the original field recordings.

Printed on a 5-panel Maltese cross cassette box, the album's original artwork was created by London-based illustrator Emily Evans. As with the recordings, Spice shared a "sample pack" of photographs taken on the island from which to work. The resulting artwork represents Evans' interpretation of the details, vistas and perspectives of the island.

Mastered by DJ Raff, with additional digital mastering by James Gardner (tracks 7 & 12), Echo Location is released as a limited edition cassette and digital download, and is accompanied by a hand-sewn pamphlet of images and reflections that informed the project.

## **The artists:**

### **Awkward Moments:**

Awkward Moments are a London-based duo comprising of Mimi Xu – producer & electronic composer, and MAGUIRE – multi-instrumentalist and lead vocalist. They released their debut album *An Entropic Cycle* in 2020, and premiered new multimedia performance *A Strange Time*, named after their new EP, at Houghton festival in 2022.

### **DJ Raff:**

Chilean DJ and producer DJ Raff crafts lysergic, low-slung dance music to lose yourself to. A heady mix of percussive patterns and hypnotic melodies laced together with samples from across the Afro-Latin diaspora, DJ Raff's sound is rooted locally but resonates globally.

### **James Gardner:**

James Gardner is a composer, synthesist and researcher, based in Tāmaki Makaurau (Auckland). He co-founded the band/remix team Apollo 440, established the contemporary music ensemble 175 East, and teaches at various universities in Aotearoa/New Zealand, where his primary research topic is Peter Zinovieff and synthesiser company EMS.

### **Kit Ebersbach:**

Kit Ebersbach has spent 97% of his adult life happily playing, recording and arranging music of his own and of his friends in Hawai'i. He has founded several bands, including Us, the Tourists and Don Tiki, and released his own series of Hawaiian field recordings under his Pacific Sounds imprint.

### **K.N.A.**

K.N.A. is a collaborative project by Knut Jonas Sellevold (King Knut, Daniel O'Sullivan, ELDR) and Planet Mu affiliate Asher Levitas (Old Apparatus, Saa, Paper Dollhouse). They have informed each other's work throughout their fifteen years of friendship, weaving together their different influences, and released their debut EPs on *promise&ruin* in 2020.

### **Penelope Trappes:**

Penelope Trappes is a London-based, Australian-born vocalist, musician and ethereal soundscaper. She has released solo albums on Optimo and Houndstooth, the most recent of which, *Penelope Three*, was released in 2021.

### **Udit Duseja:**

Udit Duseja is a sound designer and a soundscape composer currently based in London. He has honed his approach to explore the intersection between sound & music, creating experimental sonic experiences which address a multiplicity of themes.

### **Emily Evans:**

Emily Evans is a London-based illustrator working with collage across multi-platform projects often including elements of design and art direction.

## Tracklisting [55 minutes]:

### Side A:

1. Penelope Trappes – Holmr
2. *Interlude I*
3. K.N.A. – Serpent's Tail
4. *Interlude II*
5. Kit Ebersbach – Spice Island
6. *Interlude III*
7. James Gardner – Woodshed Cèilidh

### Side B:

8. DJ Raff – La Isla
9. *Interlude IV*
10. Udit Duseja – To The Lighthouse
11. *Interlude V*
12. James Gardner – Träufeln Metalle
13. *Interlude VI*
14. Awkward Moments – A Strange Echo

### Credits:

- Produced by Anton Spice
- Mastering by DJ Raff
- Additional digital mastering [tracks A7 & B5] by James Gardner
- Field recordings made by Anton Spice on the Isle of Muck, Scotland, 2020-2021
- Photos by Ignacia Ossul Vermehren
- Artwork, design, and layout by Emily Evans

Echo Location is part of Isles, a collaborative project between Ignacia Ossul Vermehren and Anton Spice documenting the details of texture and sound in remote environments.

[www.iiisles.com](http://www.iiisles.com)  
ECHO001 / 2022

### About:

Anton Spice is a writer who has worked in music for twelve years, first as editor of The Vinyl Factory magazine and now as a freelancer, contributing features to Composer, Electronic Sound, Wax Poetics, Frieze and The Guardian. He is particularly interested in themes of sound, memory and place, and has just completed an MSc at UCL, where he focussed on the politics of ocean noise pollution and underwater sound recording.

For further information please contact: [info@staffordshirest.com](mailto:info@staffordshirest.com)

### Notes

Staffordshire St <http://www.staffordshirest.com>

Staffordshire St is an independent project space in Peckham, South East London. The venue facilitates arts and cultural events and provides affordable studios for artists, makers and designers. The venue was recently established as an art gallery, before then it was for many years a community centre and originally it was built as a Methodist Hall. Staffordshire St will build on the established record of these histories, opening up again to the neighbourhood and developing a welcoming interdisciplinary arts space. More information on upcoming events at : [info@staffordshirest.com](mailto:info@staffordshirest.com) or [@staffordshirest](https://www.instagram.com/staffordshirest)

**Admission: FREE**

49 Staffordshire Street, London SE15 5TJ

[info@staffordshirest.com](mailto:info@staffordshirest.com)  
[www.staffordshirest.com](http://www.staffordshirest.com)  
[instagram.com/staffordshirest](https://www.instagram.com/staffordshirest)

**AUDIOGOLD**

**STAFFORDSHIRE ST**