# the sound of the s

Dr. Ruth Farrar

# THE SOUND OF SNOW

### PART I

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT



It is predicted the French Alps may lose up to 70% of its snow by the end of this century. Understanding R. Murray Schafer's definition of a soundmark, does this mean the sound of snow is an endangered sound that deserves to be documented and protected?

This sound art installation piece is a sonic memory capsule of Chamonix residents' reflections on snow melting into binaural snow-crunching sound walks recorded on location in France at the start of February, 2017.

Stopping and taking time to listen to the sound of snow (which is often only documented in its visual form) is an innovative invitation for the listener to consider how climate change may alter our visual and sonic terrain of the future.

### PART II

# **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Sound Art Installation dimensions 1.6. metres (length) x 1.2 metres (width).

A carved wooden sound wave visualisation of a foot carving a footprint in fresh snow recorded in Chamonix supported by a handmade pure copper frame.

The sound art installation piece may be enjoyed by one to two people at a time.

No power supply is required. Only floor space for the sound art installation.



'Making of Photographs' from the artist's workshop

### PART III

# DOCUMENTATION OF AUDIENCE RESPONSES



""A very important art statement on our climatic future."

"Creative and innovative." "Beautiful, delicate and meaningful."

"Great mesmerising idea beautifully executed. Amazing experience"

"For someone who is a lover of snowsports, I found it very interesting - I have never taken the time to stop and listen to the sound of snow. Loved it"

"Very relaxing and positive way to make more people aware of climate change"

"A wonderful thought-proving installation. Poignant"