Kunstverein Bielefeld

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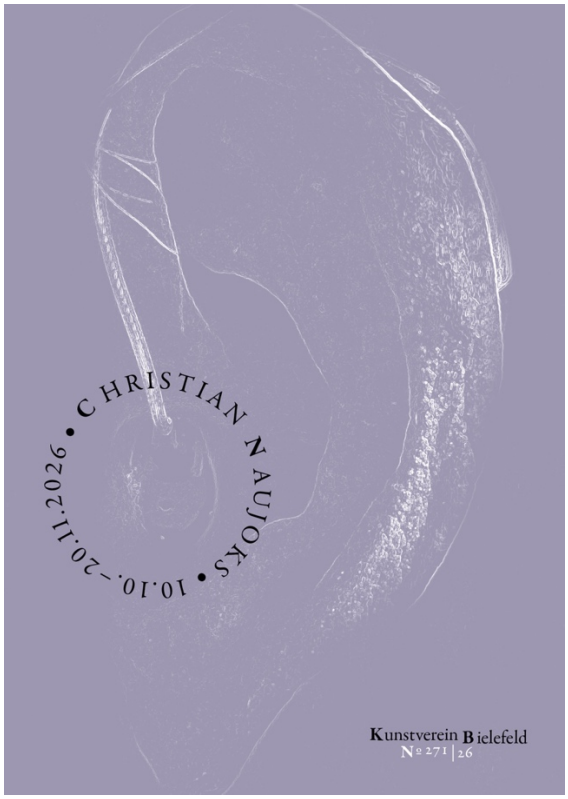
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Christian Naujoks

Can you hear yourself listening?
The movement of your eardrum?
The fluttering of the tiniest of hairs?

10.10. – 20.11.2026



Design Max Schropp

Christian Naujoks' artistic practice moves between music, visual art, and artistic research. He develops works that address the fragility of hearing and disclose experiences of body and sound as processual events. In this context, the artist approaches composition as an extended field in which spatial and social processes unfold across different media and situations. Naujoks' interdisciplinary practice encompasses sound installations, film, graphic and textual notations, sculptural works, musical compositions, as well as participatory and performative settings.

For Kunstverein Bielefeld, the artist is conceiving a new multichannel sound work along with spatial settings for expanded listening. The work explores the transition from language to music as well as the relationship between inner and outer perception. Voice, spoken texts, rhythm, and sound become compositional material, intertwining and flowing into one another. The exhibition explores how sounds settle in the body, persist in memory, and leave traces behind. Something sinks away, while something else rises to the surface; the past returns to the present as an inner hum, noise, or sensation.

Naujoks' engagement with listening and hearing begins with the diversity of individual auditory experiences and opens up a perspective on different conditions and possibilities of audibility. This perspective also finds expression in a text developed specifically for the sound installation, which follows a movement of thought that takes listening beyond its habitual understanding. Beginning with sound and the physical processes of hearing—the vibration of air, the movement of the eardrum, the fluttering of the tiniest of hairs—the text leads into the interior of auditory experience. The question "Can you hear yourself listening?" opens onto a broader inquiry into the permeability of boundaries and the transitions involved in listening.

The exhibition turns its attention to situations of shared perception and attention. A printed word can be alongside a spoken word, a way of looking can complement a sound, and a gesture can enable communication.

The exhibition continues Kunstverein Bielefeld's engagement this year with the sensory organ of the "ear" and extends its research into diverse forms of hearing and sensory diversity.

CV

Christian Naujoks' works (*1980, Lübeck, lives in Berlin) have been presented internationally in various institutional and artistic contexts, including the Kunstverein Nürnberg – Albrecht Dürer Gesellschaft, Galerie Max Mayer, Düsseldorf, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Santa Barbara, California, at Sonic Somatic, Florence, as well as at the Elbphilharmonie, Hamburg, the Royal Academy of Arts, London, at Skulptur Projekte Münster, and Münchner Kammerspiele. In 2026, he receives the Follow Fluxus Scholarship from the Nassauischer Kunstverein and the state capital of Wiesbaden, where he recently opened a solo exhibition. He presented his artistic research at the Ambient Music Conference in collaboration with the Sound Studies Lab at the University of Copenhagen. In 2019, he was awarded the Villa Romana Prize.

His collaborative projects include works and exhibition projects with, among others, Heike-Karin Föll, Erika Landström, Ei Arakawa-Nash, Sung Tieu, Ari Benjamin Meyers, Dani Gal, Ruth Buchanan, as well as with the Sky Walking ensemble and Enzo Camacho & Ami Lien.
Naujoks has released several albums and EPs on the Berlin-based label Dial Records, as well as on Staatsakt and Martin Hossbach. His releases include, among others, *Nocturne* (2024) on Dial Records / Wordandsound, *Soft Mouth Data Service* (2022) on Galerie Max Mayer / Mutter-Ey-Press(e), *Wave* (2016) on Dial Records / Rough Trade, *Your Contribution* (2015) on Martin Hossbach / Kompakt, and *Pudelprodukte 22* (2013) on Staatsakt / Rough Trade.

PROGRAM

OPENING
Friday, October 9, 2026, 7 PM

CONCERT
Friday, October 9, 2026, 8 PM

ARTIST TALK
Saturday, October 10,2026, 12 PM (noon)
Christian Naujoks in conversation with Victoria Tarak

No registrations required.
The rest of the program will be published continuously throughout the duration of the exhibition.
Stay informed about individual events by subscribing to our newsletter.

GUIDED TOURS

CURATOR'S TOUR
Wednesday, October 21, 2026, 6 PM
Sunday, November 15, 2026, 3 PM
Guided tour with Victoria Tarak (Director)

LUNCH TOUR
Wednesday, November 11, 2026, 12 PM (noon)
Guided tour with Charlotte Mergenthaler (Research Trainee – Curatorial Assistant)

SUNDAY TOURS
each 5 PM
Sunday, October 18, 2026
Sunday, November 1, 2026

*For guided tours in English, please contact us at:
vermittlung@kunstverein-bielefeld.de

For additional dates regarding our free program, please refer to our newsletters or the information on our website.

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PROJECT FUNDING

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Brillux ..mehr als Farbe

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